



Minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2026 in the Memorial Hall at 6.30pm

Present: Jon Abbott (Chair), John Bridges, Nikki Hutchison, John Scadding, David Stone and David Wilson.

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk) and 8 members of public.

Public Forum

The Chair welcomed members of the public. PCSO Natalie McKintosh introduced herself to the meeting as the new PCSO for the area. The meeting heard from Abby McGuire regarding local elections for the Mendip Hills.

1	<p>Elections, membership arrangements, adoption of policies</p> <p>1. Election of Chair David Wilson proposed and John Scadding seconded Jon Abbott for Chair. There were no other nominations and the meeting elected Jon Abbott unanimously.</p> <p>2. Election of Vice-Chair Jon Abbott proposed and David Wilson seconded John Bridges for Vice-Chair. The meeting elected John Bridges unanimously.</p> <p>3. New Committees The meeting appointed no new committees.</p> <p>4. Councillor Responsibilities The meeting agreed to the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground Management – Jon Abbott• Village Clean Ups - Clerk• Payroll & HMRC reporting – Cath Law / Clerk• Cemetery Safety Management – John Scadding• Binegar Bottom – Nikki Hutchison• A37 Safety – Jon Abbott• Health & Wellbeing – Cath Law• Quarterly Reconciliation – John Bridges• Project – Interpretation Boards – Clerk• Local Community Networks (LCN) – Chair and/or Vice-Chair• LCN Active Travel Working Group – TBC• LCN Highways Working Group – Jon Abbott / John Bridges• Clerk annual review – Chair/Vice-Chair <p>5. Training Needs The meeting discussed and agreed that there were no immediate requirements for training.</p>		
2	<p>Apologies for Absence The meeting received apologies for absence from Cath Law.</p>		
3	<p>Chairs Announcements The Chair thanked those that had helped with the Annual Parish Meeting and Spring village clean-up.</p>		
4	<p>Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.</p>		
5	<p>Minutes It was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes of the 7 April 2026 meeting as a correct record.</p>		



6	Local Government Reports The meeting noted that the Clerk had not received any Local Government reports from Somerset Council.		
7	Local Community Networks The meeting noted that the Chair and the Clerk attended the LCN meeting on 29 April (on-line). Presentations were made by: Devon & Somerset Fire Services; Connect Somerset – (Youth Services/Provision); and Adult Social Care.		
8	Planning applications The meeting considered the following planning application: Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Proposal: Change of use of land to extend Gypsy / Traveler site to provide 2 additional Gypsy / Traveller pitches and associated works comprising 2 No mobile homes, 2 No touring caravans, 2 no sheds and hardstanding Location: Woodlands Retreat Turners Court Lane Binegar Radstock Somerset Applicant: Ms J Cullen Application Type: Full Application Application Number: 2026/0612/FUL After discussion and noting comments from members of the public the meeting voted to recommend refusal.		
9	Financial matters 1. Financial Position The meeting noted the financial position to date. 2. Receipts noted since the last report: £906.50– P Coombs – Land rent £130.00 – JJ Saunders – Land rent £7,250 – Somerset Council – Precept – (50%) £18.81- C & G Collections – Textile Bank 3. Standing order payments noted since the last report: £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – April salary payment 4. Online banking payments noted since the last report: £xxx.xx – HMRC - Salary £29.20 – D Abbott Expenses – Refreshments Annual Parish Meeting £29.20 – D Abbott Expenses – Drainage piping – Binegar Bottom leaky pond £25.00 – SALC – Training – Councillor Essentials – N Hutchison £763.27 – Clear Council – Annual Insurance £340.00 – Dawson Steeplejacks – Church repairs		
10	Financial year end arrangements – 2025-2026 Statement of accounts The meeting received and RESOLVED to approve the 2025-2026 statement of accounts.		
11	Bank Signatories The meeting noted that signatories needed amending for the NS&I account. The meeting RESOLVED that John Bridges, Nikki Hutchison, John Scadding be added as signatories.		
12	Insurance The meeting noted that the annual insurance was at the end of the first year of a three-year agreement and was due for renewal on 1 June 2026. The Clerk informed the meeting an invoice had been received today and would be added to the payments.		



13	Playground The meeting received the playground report it was noted that more playground inspectors were needed. The Chair informed the meeting he had spoken with Rick regarding maintenance works to the back fence. Work was also needed to repair and paint the wall and the support under the slide.		
14	Clerks Appraisal The meeting noted that the Clerk's Appraisal was due. John Bridges undertook to carry out the Clerks' appraisal supported by David Wilson.		
15	Annual Parish Meeting The meeting reviewed the Annual Parish Meeting and noted the single suggestion - to support a village fun run to raise funds for the play park. The meeting agreed to support.		
16	Parochial Church Council Grant The meeting agreed to support the repair of the Holy Trinity flagpole as discussed in the March meeting and RESOLVED to pay 50% of the cost.		
17	Events Attended The Clerk and the Chair had attended the LCN meeting on 29 April (on-line).		
18	Parish Maintenance It was agreed to purchase suitable grass seed for the new leaky dam in Binegar Bottom and to arrange a walk around the church yard.		
19	Dates of future meetings 2026: 2 June, 7 July, 1 September, 6 October, 3 November, 1 December – 6.30pm.		

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.38pm