



Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2026 in the Memorial Hall at 6.30pm

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

In attendance: Diane Abbott (Clerk).

1	Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence.		
2	Chair's Announcements The meeting noted the following announcements: • Old Down Caravan Park Concern has been raised that polluted water is coming from the Old Down caravan park into the pond at the top corner of Parish land causing algae to grow and noticeable vegetation die back. It was agreed to seek advice from the Parish land agent) and if necessary request a water test by the relevant water authority. • Grit Bin The Parish have received an email from Highways East requesting status of our grit bin at Nevilles Batch. • Somerset Chair's Award for Community Service 2026 There were no nominations for this year's award.		
3	Declarations of Interest John Scadding and David Stone declared an interest in Item 11 – Church Flags.		
4	Minutes It was RESOLVED to sign the Minutes of the 2 June 2026 meeting as a correct record.		
5	Local Government Reports The meeting noted that no government reports had been received.		
6	Local Community Networks Highways Working Group The Chair gave an update on the meeting held on 9 June: • Burntwood Crossroads Work is due to commence on Monday 13 July. • AI Cameras The authorities are making increased use of these more powerful cameras across the county. • Dashcam Information Police are making increased use of public dashcam information. • A371 The road between Draycott and Hilliers Garden Centre will be closed for 6 weeks commencing in September. Main LCN The meeting noted that the next Local Community Network meeting would be on Monday 13 July at 6.30pm at Wells Golf Club and would be the Annual General Meeting.		
7	Planning applications There were no planning applications for consideration.		
8	Financial matters 1. Financial Position		



	The meeting noted the financial position to date. 2. Receipts noted since the last report: £8.17 – C & G Collections – Textile Bank 3. Standing order payments noted since the last report: £xxx.xx – Parish Clerk – June salary payment 4. Online banking payments noted since the last report: £83.60 – Binegar & Gurney Slade Memorial Hall – Room Hire £84.99 – D Abbott expenses – Microsoft Office 365 annual subscription. 5. Quarterly Bank Reconciliation The meeting noted that the quarterly bank reconciliation was due. John Bridges undertook to carry out the reconciliation.		
9	Playground 1. Monthly report The Chair thanked John Scadding, David Wilson and Diane for their help in clearing back vegetation growth. The meeting noted the monthly report and the Chair updated on the following areas: • Rear Fence – Temporary repairs have been carried out to the rear fence. The far right-hand top bar has since broken. • Swings – Sourcing a new top bar has not been successful to date. • Shelter – More of the roof boards are missing, general concern regarding the condition of the structure. • Wood – Wooden structures have suffered with the recent extreme heat conditions. 2. Annual Playground Inspection The meeting noted the Annual RoSPA Playground Inspection was due to be carried out in June but was still to take place.		
10	Bus Diversion – Burntwood Crossroad Works The meeting received an update on a meeting between Somerset Council and First Bus the results of which have been published in the Parish magazine. There has been no confirmation on the location of the temporary stop on the A37.		
11	Church Flags The meeting considered, and agreed to, the shared purchase of a Union and St George's Flag with the Parochial Church Council.		
12	Somerset Local Plan The Chair and David Wilson attended the On-line Local Plan Briefing. The Clerk has circulated the notes and details of the Public Scoping Consultation. The Chair highlighted the following: • Binegar and Gurney Slade are classed as 'Open Countryside' i.e. do not have 4 of 6 key services. • An expected 4-5% growth in housing stock. • Interim Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) Report is available and identifies several sites within the Parish which have previously been classed as unsuitable. • Main work on the plan looks likely to be carried out next year.		
13	Nature Information Boards The Clerk shared a quotation for the production of the Hall Conservation Area interpretation board along with styles and designs.		
	Events Attended LCN Highways Working Group meeting on 9 June attended by the Chair. On Line Local Plan Briefing 10 June attended by the Chair and David Wilson.		



14	Parish Maintenance No new comments were raised.		
15	Dates of future meetings 2026: 1 September, 6 October, 3 November, 1 December – 6.30pm		

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.19pm.