



## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting

held on November 4<sup>th</sup> 2025 at the Sampford Arundel Parish Rooms

[A] Apologies were received from Councillor Frear and Somerset Councillor Mansell. Councillor White was absent.

[B] There were no members of the public present

**Item 1:** There were no disclosures of interest by members on agenda items

**Item 2:** Notes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record. No minutes were written as the October meeting was not quorate.

### Item 3:

[1] Dog waste bin. Much progress had been made on the installation of a dog waste bin and thanks were expressed to Councillor Mansell for work carried out and two parishioners for the offer to purchase the equipment. The Parish Council agreed to cover the weekly costs of emptying the bin with a review in November 2026.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the parishioners

DONE: 5<sup>th</sup> November

ACTION: Clerk to contact the cleaning services

DONE: 5<sup>th</sup> November

[2] Defibrillator at Holywell Lake

The Parish Council praised the efforts being made to provide a defibrillator at Holywell Lake and held a telephone conversation with organiser, Debbie Eaton, who had raised over £1200 towards the target. The Council agreed to donate £500 and asked for a report on progress in January 2026.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Debbie Eaton and arrange transfer of funds

DONE: 5<sup>th</sup> November

[3] Speed indicator devices at Ford Street. This planned installation proceeds well although posts still need to be erected and knowledge of the technology and system is needed. This will involve a “familiarisation” meeting. Some residents have mentioned the increasing speed of traffic using Briscoe Lane and suggested that this might be considered in planned or future installations.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Highways Engineer regarding the installation of poles.

DONE: 5<sup>th</sup> November

[4] The list of Parish addresses seems to be incomplete, and efforts will be made to remedy this.

ACTION: Clerk and Chair to check the electoral roll

DONE: The clerk was unable to access a complete electoral roll to include those opted out

[5] SID residents’ letter. Councillor Olive offered to print sufficient letters to hand deliver to local residents explaining the location of the planned Speed Indicator Devices and giving them the opportunity to feed back to the council by December 1st

ACTION: Councillor Olive to print letters and he, the Chair and Clerk would arrange hand delivery

DONE:

## Wellington Without Parish Council

Both Councillor Olive and the Chair had attended a meeting at Rooksbridge for working on the road to instal and/or move the detectors as per our agreement with the local authority.

**Item 4:** There was no Police report

**Item 5:** Planning, Infrastructure and Development

[1] Holywell Lake notice board. The offer to use the board outside the Antiques Centre was much appreciated.

**ACTION:** The clerk to email our appreciation and offer to copy a board key if applicable

**DONE:** 5<sup>th</sup> November

[2] Old Barn Court, Wrangway. It was agreed that at present the development appears to have conditional approval and no action is required.

[3] Lorry satnav routes. Following recent incidents on Wellington Hill involving the emergency services it was agreed to contact the Highways Department and the police for advice regarding (eg) compulsory routing for lorries to avoid that road, satnav reorientation or additional signage to indicate the hazards.

**ACTION:** The clerk to contact the police and Highways Department

**DONE:** 5<sup>th</sup> November

**Item 6:** Financial Issues

[1] Pensions re-enrolment and redeclaration, Although the clerk does not draw a pension it is still necessary to re-enrol. The Payroll Officer has agreed to carry this out by the due date of January 26th

[2] Transaction E21 to the National Trust

**ACTION:** Approval of £108 including VAT for subsidised entry to the Monument

**DONE:** 4<sup>th</sup> November

[3] Transaction E22 mileage claim

**ACTION:** Approval of £25.20 claim for mileage to a course as above

**DONE:** 4<sup>th</sup> November

[4] Transaction E23 course fees

**ACTION:** Approval for £504 to TQExel Limited for a course fee

**DONE:** 4<sup>th</sup> November

**Item 7:** County, District and Unitary Authority Councillors. Councillor Wren explained that due to changes at Somerset Council he, and not necessarily Councillor Mansell, would be attending our meetings. He mentioned that the reports from Highways now come directly to the Parish Clerk and then outlined the financial position of Somerset Council explaining the issues and possible outcomes. These may include cuts in, or devolution of, services, increases in Council tax or sale of assets to avoid section 14 bankruptcy. The education deficit stands at approximately £96 million, with substantial costs being incurred in special education. The impact on parishes is at present difficult to say but the situation is not improving. Problems with roads are still causing difficulties and people are encouraged to report any road defect as soon as it becomes noticeable.

**Item 8:** There was no other urgent business

**Date of the next meeting: December 16th at Sampford Arundel Parish rooms at 7.00pm**