

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on April 13<sup>th</sup> 2026

[A] Apologies were received from PCSO Hill and Somerset Councillor Wren.

[B] Issues raised by members of the public. A welcome was extended to Mr F Sherlock and the planning application at Oldway Road was discussed at the onset of the meeting. [Item 5a]

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

**Item 2:** Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record

**Item 3:** Matters arising from the previous minutes

[a] Ford Street speed indicators. We wish to thank Councillors Lane and Olive for the work involved in installing the SIDs. The units do appear to be successful with the majority of drivers. One message of gratitude has been received from a resident of Ford Street to outline the increased safety on the road. Councillor Olive mentioned that non-specific data can be downloaded and clerk mentioned the offer of funding from the Police Community Trust, which was eventually not forthcoming. The clerk has brought this up with a Police Superintendent and will be pursuing this issue when the applications reopen.

**ACTION:** Clerk to monitor the Trust and apply again when possible

[b] The clerk, as a local resident, has attended Speedwatch training and been approved again as the coordinator for Ford Street West Somerset. He awaits conformation of the online assessment carried out by four residents and once this has been received, he will invite the police to assess the two sites with a view to starting as soon as possible. The police will attend some sessions if we liaise with dates. The clerk has gathered the necessary equipment and documentation.

**ACTION:** We await confirmation of the success of online assessments

**Item 4:** Police Liaison. Thanks were extended to PCSO Hill for the report, and it was comforting to see that there had been no local issues.

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

[a] Oldway Road Planning application. Council agreed to speak at the appropriate planning meeting to present our arguments in persona. This personal presentation will add weight to the arguments already presented. Protect Wellington also plan to make a presentation and the clerk will maintain contact with them and also liaise with the Town Council. It was agreed to hold a private council meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> to finalise details.

Due to apparent bureaucratic indecision the published final submission date for the public on February 6<sup>th</sup> appears to be incorrect and recent submissions have been accepted.

**ACTION:** The Clerk and all Councillors to monitor the planning meeting agendas. When the meeting is identified the clerk will contact the planners to reserve a public presentation slot.

## Wellington Without Parish Council

**ACTION:** It was agreed to hold a private meeting hosted by the chairman at 7.00pm on May 5<sup>th</sup> to consider the final representation. Vice-Chairman Councillor Hill will act as the lead

[b] It was agreed that the council had no comment to make on the following recent planning applications 44/24/0017 at Brunton Barn and 44/26/0003CQ at Leyland Hayes

### **Item 6: Financial Issues**

[a] The Data Protection Annual fee for £47 was paid on April 2<sup>nd</sup> by direct debit. The council approved retaining this payment by direct debit and signed the appropriate transaction sheet

[b] The Initial budget for the 2026 to 2027 financial year was agreed and signed

[c] Asset update. The clerk has updated the asset list to accommodate recent purchases.

[d] VAT reclaim. The clerk will be reclaiming VAT after receipt of the audit papers.

**ACTION:** The clerk will place this on the May agenda

[e] Transaction E1 to Motalines (see item 3a above) for £26.40 and E3 for £20.99. This will be a reimbursement to the chairman.

**ACTION:** Councillors to authorise the transaction and the Clerk to process the payment

[f] The Annual Governance and Accountability Return must be completed. The accounts have been audited and the necessary documentation must be returned to PKF Littlejohn, external London auditors, by July 1<sup>st</sup> at the latest. We are exempt from a full limited assurance review because the higher of our gross income or expenditure was less than £25000 in the 2025 to 2026 financial year. The council will examine the accounts and the chair, and responsible financial officer sign the Certificate of Exemption (AGAR Form 2) at the May business meeting

**ACTION:** The clerk will place this on the May agenda

[g] It was agreed that the clerk could pay for 12 months in advance for the hire of the Lang Room

**ACTION:** Councillors to authorise the transaction and the Clerk to process the payment

[h] It was agreed that the “success” of the dog waste bin, recently installed, may require twice weekly emptying. A quote has been accepted for weekly emptying at £405.60 annually, payable quarterly

**ACTION:** The clerk to place this on the May agenda

[i] The receipt of the precept for £9000 was noted

[j] It was agreed that the annual insurance premium for £264 could be paid. There was no increase from last year’s premium.

**ACTION:** Councillors to authorise the transaction and the Clerk to process the payment

[k] It was agreed to pay the annual invoice to the Payroll Officer

**ACTION:**

Councillors to authorise the transaction and the Clerk to process the payment

[l] It was agreed to pay the auditor’s fee of £175

**ACTION:**

Councillors to authorise the transaction and the Clerk to process the payment

[m] It was agreed to contribute £25 towards the Blackdown Hills Association

**ACTION:** Clerk to arrange payment

## Wellington Without Parish Council

**Item 7:** County, District and Unitary Authority Councillors

[a] The clerk would like to thank Somerset Councillor Wren for regular information received

**Item 8:** Any other urgent business

[a] It was disappointing to see that there had been some suspicious activity in Ford Street. Parishioners are urged to contact the police should such incidents occur.

[b] Councillor Hill has installed the new notice board at Wrangway and improved its weather resistance.

**ACTION:** Councillors to forward any relevant documentation for inclusion.

[c] Councillor Hasell commented that some recent pothole repairs had not always been successful repair visits. The clerk also mentioned the forthcoming closure of Gerbestone lane for resurfacing.

[d] Councillor Frear mentioned a recent meeting with the local Community Support Officer, who with colleagues, is becoming more involved in suspicious activity on or in the vicinity of the bridge over the motorway.

**Date of the next meetings: May 18<sup>th</sup> at the Lang Room starting at 7.00pm**

**These will be the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Council Meeting followed by the  
monthly business meeting**