

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on September 14th 2026

[A] Apologies were received from Somerset Councillor Wren, Parish Councillor Worth and PCSO Hill

[B] No members of the public were present

Item 1: There were no disclosures of interest by members

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

Item 4: Police Liaison. The clerk thanked PCSO Hill for the police report and his advice after a road traffic incident at Ford Street.

Item 5: Planning, Infrastructure and Development

[a] Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA). Attention was drawn to the website (address below) and there was some discussion over land identified as suitable for development within the parish.

<https://placemaker.somerset.urbanintelligence.co.uk/p/document/4/>

[b] Possible boundary changes [CONFIDENTIAL UNMINUTED DISCUSSION]

[c] Rural Broadband meeting. Thanks were extended to Councillor Olive for attending the meeting. There was an interesting discussion re the situation and alternative provision. Although there is no definite route to an outcome it was noted that our MP Gideon Amos is very much helping to lead the way.

[d] Oldway Road development. Pegasus are almost certainly to appeal against the refusal of development at Oldway Road, but it is understood that Somerset Council will contest this should it occur. It was noted that the site has been downgraded from grade 1 farming land to grade 3, and that it appears on the HELAA website (see above)

Item 6: Financial Issues. The following transactions were approved for payment.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange payment

[a] Transaction E16 Krystal Limited annual website domain renewal. Website contract renewed from August 10th for twelve months

[b] Transaction E17 Q2 clerk's salary

[c] Transaction E18 Q2 PAYE

[d] Transaction E19 Q2 clerk's administration allowance

[e] Transaction E20 Planning Course fee

[f] The renewal of the Payroll Contract with DM Payroll Services was agreed.

Item 7: County, District and Unitary Authority Councillors

[a] Thanks were expressed to Councillor Wren for Highways updates

Item 8: Any other urgent business

[a] Receipt of the Parish Information Sheet was acknowledged- Best Value Notice for Somerset Council

[b] Speedwatch has restarted in Ford Street to reinforce the speed indicator devices. The number of those speeding was low, which may indicate a positive effect of the devices, although it appears that the volume of traffic has significantly increased. This level includes more lorries, despite the advisory signage indicating the road's unsuitability.

[c] <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/polling-review> Electors are encouraged to access this polling station review website to comment on the suitability of the location for access etc.

[d] On August 18th there was a road traffic incident involving one commercial vehicle on Ford Street where the vehicle, after hitting a tree, was a total write-off.

[e] Medequip Somerset provides the Community Equipment and Wheelchair Service for Somerset. This service plays an essential role in helping people live independently, with equipment provided at no cost at the point of delivery. The service works best when equipment is returned once it is no longer needed, so it can be cleaned, recycled and reused by someone else who may be waiting for support. Unfortunately, across Somerset some equipment is not returned, is retained unused, or is offered for sale online, even though it remains the property of the local authority. The Parish Council has been asked to support the return of equipment by asking residents to ring 01823 211699 or email somerset@medequip-uk.com to arrange collection.

[f] Planning course. Thanks were extended to Councillor Olive for attending the meeting and for forwarding the slides to all councillors.

[g] No councillor will be attending the AGM of the Somerset Association of Local Councils.

ACTION: Clerk to forward apologies

[h] Councillor Frear passed compliments regarding recent resurfacing in the vicinity although some damage has been caused to a bridge. She has contacted the appropriate authorities.

[i] Councillor Hasell was grateful for the work of the Woodland Trust and discussed issues surrounding access and security. He will contact the appropriate authority to seek a replacement padlock key. He also drew attention to a significant amount of fly tipping that had taken place on his land, and illegal fly tipping which still occurs at the layby by Perry Elm/Beambridge. The public are requested to contact Somerset Council should such instances occur. <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/how-to-fight-fly-tipping/>

[j] Councillor Hasell mentioned the work being done in Stawley to maintain the Somerset fingerposts, which are a significant feature of the County, and provided details of a suitable contractor. This will be discussed in a future meeting.

Date of the next meeting: October 12th at the Lang Room at 7.00pm