

Date of Meeting:	Thurs 9 th July 2026	Time:	19:30
Location of Meeting:	Hembry Room, Westfield Church Hall		
Present:	Cllr. John Vassalli, Cllr. R. Leighton, Cllr. J. Johnstone, Cllr. G. Mansfield,		
In Attendance:	Tammy Roper (Clerk),		
Apologies:	Cllr. F. Smith		

Ref:	Topic of Discussion
1-9/7/26	Chairman's Comments
	None.
2-9/7/26	Public Question Time
	None. No Members of the public present.
3-9/7/26	Declarations of Interest
	No Declarations of Interest were declared.
4-9/7/26	Minutes of Last Meeting
	<u>May Annual Parish Council Meeting</u> Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Leighton, seconded by Cllr. Mansfield. All agreed. <u>May Annual Assembly</u> Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Leighton, seconded by Cllr. Mansfield. All agreed.
5-9/7/26	Update on Actions from Previous meeting
5.1	<u>Vacancy</u> – There has still been no interest, from persons eligible to become a councillor in the parish. Continue to push on website, social media and by word of mouth. Included in the draft Newsletter, to be printed and distributed when we know about planning application for new school.
5.2	<u>Grass cutting & Bin emptying</u> – Councillors are still happy with the grass cutting and bins are being emptied regularly.
5.3	<u>Durleigh Hill Drains</u> – Cllr. Leighton reported that the drains seem to be working OK at present. Coped with the really heavy downpours a couple of weeks ago.
5.4	<u>Durleigh Hill Road Safety</u> – No further update has been received from Somerset Highways.
5.5	<u>Illegal Land Encroachment Luxborough Road</u> – Communicating with Ellis Belkes. Proposal for new fence line received, which was discussed and compared to the original planning application. Concerns raised that still not giving us back the full area, but after further discussion, and bearing in mind costs of legal action (which would have to be recovered through precept), it was decided to accept the proposed new boundary line, subject to ensuring that the fence is constructed in a manor that it does not come beyond this.

	Action: Clerk to respond to Ellis Belkes, but insist that we are given date for moving the fence, to ensure that we can attend and inspect; to confirm we are in agreement, before works completed.																			
6-9/7/26	Matters Arising (Including Consultation Responses)																			
	Publication of Councillors’ Home Addresses – There has been a change to legislation and from 29 June 2026, local authorities will no longer be required to publish elected or co-opted member’s home address in public registers of interest or on council websites. This means that we have to take action; either to remove the home addresses from the council’s website and public register of interests by default, or obtain consent from councillors to continue to publish home addresses. Councillors discussed and concluded that all addresses are to be removed. All in agreement.																			
7-9/7/26	Financial Matters																			
7.1	The Clerk reported that the Bank balance at 30th June 2026 was £18,563.40 Expenditure since then totals £244.09 <table><tr><td></td><td></td><td>Net Amount</td><td>VAT</td><td>Total</td></tr><tr><td>1/7/26</td><td>Zoom – Annual Subscription</td><td>£118.91</td><td>£23.78</td><td>£142.69</td></tr><tr><td>9/7/26</td><td>Somerset Council – Bin emptying</td><td>£84.50</td><td>£16.90</td><td>£101.40</td></tr></table> This takes the bank balance down to £18,319.31							Net Amount	VAT	Total	1/7/26	Zoom – Annual Subscription	£118.91	£23.78	£142.69	9/7/26	Somerset Council – Bin emptying	£84.50	£16.90	£101.40
		Net Amount	VAT	Total																
1/7/26	Zoom – Annual Subscription	£118.91	£23.78	£142.69																
9/7/26	Somerset Council – Bin emptying	£84.50	£16.90	£101.40																
7.2	The Clerk referred to the Finance Reports up to 30 June 2026 (Appendix 1), sent to all councillors prior to the meeting, which includes the cashbook showing expenditure, the actual expenditure against budget and the bank rec @30Jun. There were no questions or queries in regards to the finance reports and they were approved as accurate and complete. Proposed by Cllr. Vassalli, Seconded by Cllr. Leighton. All Agreed.																			
7.3	There are currently no payments waiting to be made. It was explained that all other payments that have been made are either all preapproved on the ‘Schedule of Payments 2026-27’ authorised at the March meeting, or are within the levels for delegated authority as detailed in the Financial Regulations. Therefore, these do not need further approval, but are just to note.																			
8-9/7/26	Increase to Mileage Rate																			
	The Clerk referred to the ‘NALC Chief Executive’s Bulletin’ received on 18 June 2026 (forwarded to Councillors 23/6/26), which included reference to an increase in mileage rates, by HMRC, up to 55 pence per mile. NALC are advising that this new rate is adopted by parish and Town Councils. This is to take affect from 1st April 2026. Approved by Cllr. Leighton, Seconded by Cllr. Johnstone. All in agreement																			
9-9/7/26	Grant Donations																			
	No suggestions of charities/organisations were given.																			
10-9/7/26	Planning Matters																			
Items for Discussion:																				
	None																			

Items for Update:	
23/26/00001	Land to the West of Broadlands Lane and North of, Spaxton Road - Request for EIA Screening Opinion for a new 7-form entry secondary school (replacement of the existing 7-form entry Haygrove School) which is up to 5,500sqm Gross External Area (GEA) of education space (Use Class F1). This will include a sports hall detached from the main school building, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), sports courts and pitches, and a hardstanding social area including seating areas, a car park, and vehicular and pedestrian access. The Proposed Development will be up to 2 storeys (up to 12m from FFL). No further update. Councillors will be attending the Public Consultation at the school on Tuesday 14th July.
11-9/7/26	Local Community Networks
	Cllr. Vassalli reported that the AGM was held in June at Spaxton. Cllr. Vassalli was unable to attend so gave his apologies. Only 3 of the 16 parish councils were represented and therefore were not quorate and could not appoint Chair or Vice Chair. Cllr. Vassalli attended the Highways Sub Committee at Stogursey on 30th June which was much better attended. Lots of talk about culverts flooding. Cllr. Vassalli raised about Skimmerton Lane being very busy as being used as a rat run.
12-9/7/26	Meetings Attended
	None
13-9/7/26	Items for Next Agenda
	1. Salt bins / Dumpy Bags
14-9/7/26	Date & Venue of Next Meeting
Date / Time:	Thurs 10 th September 2026
Venue:	Hembry Room, Westfield Church

Meeting Closed at:	21.00
---------------------------	-------

Minutes Signed by: Date:
(Chairman)