

MINUTES OF HAMBRIDGE AND WESTPORT PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL 2025
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, HAMBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

25/1257 PRESENT:

Cllr. S. Denley (Chairman), Cllr. R Meecham (Vice-Chair), Cllr. R Maidment, Somerset Cllr Adam Dance & Mrs. L. Brooks (Clerk). There were no members of the public present.

25/1258 APOLOGIES:

Cllr G. Hill

Cllr. P. Masters

Somerset Cllr. Jo Roundell-Greene

25/1259 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report

25/1260 MINUTES:

The Minutes from the March meeting had been circulated. They were agreed to be an accurate account of the meeting and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Meecham

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously.

25/1261 PUBLIC TIME

25/1261 Public Time:

Nothing to report

25/1261/b Unitary Councillor report:

Somerset Councillor Dance was present at the meeting. He updated the Parish Council with the latest from Somerset Council. He advised the clerk to speak to Rebecca Vaughn at Highways regarding the 20mph area outside the school. He reported on the new banking hub at Crewkerne and suggested the Parish clerk write to Sarah Dyke MP requesting her support for pushing a banking hub forward for Langport. **Action: Clerk**

25/1261/c P.C.S.O. Report:

See Matter Arising

25/1261 MATTERS ARISING

25/1261/a Parking – PCSO meeting report:

On the 27th March, Cllr Meecham and Cllr Maidment met with the PCSO for a site meeting with regards to the ongoing parking issues that have been reported outside both schools at drop-off and pick-up times. The following discussion points were noted from the site meeting and both councillors felt that the situation had slightly improved since the issue was first reported.

- There were a lot of the School Taxis parked in the Overflow Car Park. They transferred one at a time to the Car Park at the new school.
- A lot of the cars slowed down while we Stood at the entrance to the Village Hall car park.
- It was suggested to hold a meeting with the County Council Highways department, both schools and interested villagers. If possible, the PCSO would also attend.
- Replace the Polite Notice signs attached to both Gate posts – consider additional Polite Notices on the Road site.

Discuss the following with Highways department;

- Add 20mph Road signs.
- Site the CID camera on both sides of the schools.
- Extend the No Parking Road markings outside the school towards the entrance to the Village Hall road entrance.
- Consider Double Yellow signs both sides of the road.
- Use no parking road cones outside the Village Hall.
- Consider Traffic Calming, based on Merriott style.
- Consider regular communications with Parents of both schools about considerate parking.

The clerk will get in touch with Rebecca Vaughn from Highways and see what can be done about relocating the flashing amber light sign below the progressive school entrance, so traffic is warned about both schools before

entering the village. The clerk would report back at the next meeting. Cllr Meecham felt that a meeting with both Head teachers from each school may be beneficial. **Action: clerk**

25/1261/b Defib for pub – purchased via London Hearts

The clerk reported that she was now in receipt of the new defibrillator and cabinet, to be installed outside the village pub. She gave the defibrillator and cabinet to Cllr Meecham, who would arrange installation and registration. The defibrillator and cabinet are the property of the Parish Council who will be responsible for the replacement of batteries and pads when required. The pub will arrange installation and will pay for the electricity supply to the cabinet. **Action: Cllr Meecham**

25/1261/c Restoration of railings by the war memorial

The Chair Cllr. Denley reported that he had applied for grant funding for the railings but felt it might take a while to get a response. He would report at the next PC meeting if there had been any progress.

Action: Chair Cllr. Denley

25/1261/d Adoption of The Risk Assessment Policy:

The clerk had circulated the Risk Assessment Policy to all the Parish Councillors. This was adopted at the Parish Council meeting.

Proposed: Cllr. Meecham Seconded: Cllr. Denley Agreed unanimously.

The Parish Councillors also signed the General Protection Awareness Checklist for Councillors regarding GDPR regulations. The clerk to upload the file onto the website. **Action: Clerk**

25/1261/e BT price increase:

The Chair reported that BT had informed them of a price increase for the Wi-Fi at the village hall. The Chairman had successfully negotiated another year at the 2024-25 price. This is paid for by direct debit.

25/1261/f Ranger type jobs

Nothing to report.

25/1261/g Speed Sensor:

The speed sensor was reported as working. Cllr Denley and Cllr Meecham will locate it at the entrance to the village from the Westport direction and rotate it to face the other direction every two weeks.

Action: Cllr Denley/Cllr Meecham

25/1262 PLANNING:

25/1262/a Matters for report:

Planning breaches: Ongoing.

The Chairman had reported to our Unitary Councillors a complaint he had received regarding a property in the village. Unitary Councillor Dance had responded to Cllr Denley's request, and it was being looked into.

25/1262/b Decisions Notified:

Application Number: 24/02469/FUL

Location: 2 Playes Green Hambridge Langport

Proposal: Demolish existing double garage and erection of a new dwelling

The clerk reported that she had checked the SC planning portal - Somerset Council had refused this application.

25/1262/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report

25/1263 FINANCE:

25/1263/a Matters for report

Budget – monthly update: The clerk gave a monthly update to the Parish Council on income and expenditure to date.

End of final quarter accounts: The clerk had circulated to all the Parish Councillors the final quarter accounts for 2024-25, for their perusal. The final accounts have now been prepared and were given to Cllr Maidment to pass onto the internal auditor, to allow him to check and sign off plus complete the relevant Annual Internal Audit report on the AGAR 3 form.

The Parish Council accepted the accounts as being an accurate record for the year.

Proposed: Cllr. Maidment Seconded: Cllr. Meecham Agreed unanimously.

25/1263/b Matters for Resolution

Nothing to report.

25/1263/c Cheques Payable:

All paid via Unity Trust Bank – direct online transfer.

PAYMENTS DUE		
Louise Brooks	Democratic services – March 2025	£ 716.84
HMRC	Employee NI & PAYE & Employer NI to pay – March 2025	£ 14.45
Louise Brooks	Home Office Monthly Allowance – March 2025 - Government set	£ 26.00
Louise Brooks	Mar Office supplies – Includes paper, ink and other office consumables, postage.	£ 15.40
PATA	Payroll & pension management Jan – March 2025 (£15.82 per month)	£ 47.46
Max Von Tyszka	Rec grass cutting March 2 x cuts @ £150 per cut	£ 300.00
Max Von Tyszka	Churchyard grass cutting March 2 x cuts @£125 per cut	£ 250.00
SALC & NALC	Affiliation fees 25/26 based on 433 electorate	£ 248.28

Proposed: Cllr. Meecham

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously.

25/1264 CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk reported that all correspondence received had been forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

25/1265 FOOTPATHS:

The clerk reported that she had contacted the new RoW Officer for H&W – Glyn Edwards. She had asked for a progress report to the proposed footpath diversion (L9/22) and also requested that Somerset Council be responsible for the first strim of all footpaths and the Parish Council would fund the second cut later in the year. The clerk would report back to the Parish Council as soon as she had had a response. **Action: Clerk**

25/1266 MEMBERS' REPORTS/ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Nothing to report

25/1267 Items for next Agenda:

Highways response re 20mph school sign

War memorial railings - funding

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7th May 2025 at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

The Annual Parish Council meeting will take place BEFORE the monthly meeting starting at 7.15pm