

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH JANUARY 2025 AT BROADWAY HILL
METHODIST CHURCH, HORTON.

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PUBLIC FORUM No members of the public were in attendance at the meeting.

- 4275 ATTENDANCE** Councillors Barry Mosley – Vice-Chair, Ann Winter, Mike Schmidt, Julie Layzell, Peter Babbington, Andy Johnson, Jack Martin and Robert Hutchinson
- 4276 APPROVAL OF APOLOGIES** None.
- 4277 DECLARATION OF INTEREST** None.
- 4278 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON/VICE-CHAIRPERSON** Cllr Barry Mosley was nominated and unanimously elected Chairman of the Council. Cllr Andy Johnson was nominated and unanimously elected as Vice-Chair of the Council. The positions of Chair and Vice-Chair will be reconsidered in May 2025.
- 4279 COMPLETION OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE FORMS** Clerk to provide necessary forms to be completed and signed.
- 4280 PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY - CO-OPTION** Somerset Council notified as part of the Co-Option process. The required number of days have since passed and Somerset Council have not been in contact to advise an election has been called, therefore, the parish council will continue with co-opting a new member. Cllr Andy Johnson to advertise the vacancy on social media.
- 4281 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (NOVEMBER)** The minutes of the meeting held in November having previously been circulated were approved, seconded, and unanimously agreed upon.
- 4282 PLANNING APPLICATION(S)/APPEAL(S) UPDATE**
- 6.1 Ref. APP/E3335/W/23/3324775 (20/03277/FUL) Land north of Broadway Hill, Horton – Appeal Decision – Appeal Allowed
- The Council noted the recent appeal decision. Councillors resolved to monitor all discharge of conditions applications when submitted and to ensure all pre-commencement conditions are complied with. Cllr Jack Martin to monitor Somerset Council’s website.
- 4283 CHARGE FOR DOG & LITTER BIN COLLECTIONS 2025-2026** 4 bins are located locally, 1 of the bins is not within the parish of Horton. 2 of the bins are located on land owned by Somerset Council, 1 bin on land by Horton Parish Council.
- A letter has been issued by Somerset Council outlining the cost of emptying bins not owned by Somerset Council, £7.82 + VAT per bin per collection however the Letter does not stipulate how often the bins would be collected. The Cllrs discussed the cost and outlined their options:
- Option 1. Dispose of the one bin in the parish council’s control.
 - Option 2. Reduce the number of bins
 - Option 3. Request bins are not emptied weekly and are left longer between collections.
- Action: Clerk to resend information on bins in the parish. Highlight which bin is in Donyatt parish, and confirm the location of Horton’s bin two remaining bins are owned by Somerset Council.*
- 4284 HIGHWAYS**
- 10.1 Village Gateway Sign – Cllrs Barry Mosley and Peter Babbington to provide what3words location on the proposed location of the sign.
- Action: Clerk to confirm location and wording to Somerset Council Highways. Clerk to order sign, text to be same as SC email.*
- 10.2 Footpath Between Goose Lane and Paulls Lane/Trotts Lane – A letter of complaint has been received by the parish council outlining concerns over the condition of the footpath. Cllr Mike Schmidt has spoken with the owner of Bullen Court, the boundary is not within their ownership, it is owned by Somerset Council. Cllr Julie Layzell reported via Somerset Roam in September 2024 issues on the footpath, but no response to date. Cllr Robert Hutchinson confirmed to the Cllrs that Somerset Council have devolved works to footpaths to parish/town councils and therefore will speak with two local maintenance contractors to provide a quote to clear the footpath and cut back hedgerows.
- Action: Clerk to send email residents email to Cllr Sue Osbourne and see if she can make enquiries within Somerset Council concerning the conditions of the footpath and works required.*

10.3 Road Closures:

10.3.1 Date Change - Temporary Road Closure: Station Road Roundabout and Station Road, Ilminster - The new date for the works to commence is 9th January 2025 and is expected to last until 9th January 2025 between the hours of 18:30 - 23:30 – Noted

10.3.2 Temporary Road Closure: ttr0107147S - Hare Lane, Broadway - The works are expected to commence on 13th January 2025 and last for 5 days (24 hours closure) to enable Wessex Water to renew a stop tap – Noted.

4285 PLAYING FIELD – UPDATE

11.1 Audit Report – Findings/Actions Required – Cllr Andy Johnson has visited the playing field, no urgent issues to report. Cracks were identified in the skatepark tarmac which will need fixing in the future.

4286 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE – UPDATE

12.1 Pottery Road – New Device – Order to Mills Engineer confirmed and payment made.

Action: Cllr Andy Johnson to contact Mills Engineering and request a timeframe for delivery.

12.2 Warranty Extension – Extended warranty contract offered by supplier of SIDS. *“Our extended warranty contract allows you to extend your initial warranty under the same conditions.*

For your information, if your equipment is not under contract: the diagnostic estimate is £196 without taxes.

The warranty extension contract allows you to optimize your expenses and plan your budget.

For an EVOLIS radar, the price is £199 without taxes per year and per radar. (Without sim card subscription in case of connected radar)

To ensure full continuity of services, please return the enclosed contract by e-mail, signed and stamped, as soon as possible.

This contract will cover the following services for an unlimited period of 3 years:

REPAIRS

- *Collection and return of the product(s) for return to our workshops.*
- *Evaluations and diagnostics.*
- **REPAIRS - all parts and labour.**
- *Priority treatment of your device(s) upon return.*

SUPPORT

- *Phone technical assistance for the use of your EVOLIS radar.*
- *Help to install and use the software.*
- *Help with configuration and software update if necessary.*

TRAINING

- *Training in the use of the radar (daily management).*
- *Training in the use of the software.*
- *EVOCOM/EVOMOBIL/EVOGRAPH “statistical” training if necessary (also for new employees).”*

The Council voted to unanimously approve the purchase of the extended warranty.

Action: Clerk to confirm the order with Elan City.

12.3 General SID Update – Cllr Jack Martin has downloaded the software required to download SID data and will download data soon and forward it to Cllr Peter Babbington.

4287 DEFIBRILLATOR – UPDATE

13.1 SSE Energy Solutions – Update – No response to clerks emails querying costs. More bills have been received, but the Council did not authorise payment for outstanding and current invoices.

13.2 Utility Aid – Energy Broker – The Clerk has been in communication with Utility Aid who works with Local Government departments and Councils to find the best deals for utilities. Clerk awaiting quotes for energy contract.

13.3 Shelter – Cleaned before Christmas, in good working order.

13.4 Village Hall - Cleaned before Christmas, in good working order.

4288 MAINTENANCE AROUND THE VILLAGE – UPDATE All required works have been carried out by GD Spiller. Invoice received, payment authorised. Somerset Council have confirmed they will carry out one cut per year on Hanning Road, 1m in from the road. The rest of the maintenance is to be carried out by town/parish councils.

4288 HORTON PROJECTS 2024/25

15.1 Bus Shelter – The Council’s approved Standing Order states that works under £25,000 do not require work/contract to be put out for tender. The parish council unanimously approved Woodram Construction to carry out all work required for the bus shelter, as per the quote received.

Action: Cllr Peter Babbington to confirm Woodram's appointment and arrange a meeting on-site to discuss works and details.

15.2 Grant Funding Request – Broadway and Horton Cricket Club - Additional Information from the Cricket Club, the shortfall in funding has been confirmed as £2,500. The Cllrs voted and unanimously agreed to offer funding to cover the shortfall.

15.3 Memorial Bench – Following the passing of the former chair of Horton Parish Council, Cllr Ray Buckler, the Council has approved, in principle, to purchase a bench that is to be located at the playing field.

Action: Cllr Barry Mosely to speak with Cllr Buckler's family and ask for their ideas on design and exact location.

15.4 Requests/Ideas – None.

4289 FINANCE

16.1 Proposal – To approve the following:

16.1.1 2024/25 financial statement - Unanimously Approved.

16.1.2 To consider Budget 2025-2026- Unanimously Approved.

16.1.3 To consider Precept 2025-2026 - £16,400 was Unanimously Approved.

16.2 Proposal – To approve the following cheques:

16.2.1 C Duff – Wages and expenses - £733.03 – Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00920.

16.2.2 Blubook Limited – Payroll - £144.00– Unanimously Approved – Cheque No. 00921.

16.2.3 GD Spiller – Village Maintenance - £210.00 – Unanimously Approved - Cheque No. 00922.

16.4 Payments Issued Under Scheme of Delegation

16.4.1 ICO - Data Protection fee (Direct Debit)

4291 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

17.1 Boundary Review – Email from Cllr S Osborne – Noted.

4290 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIRMAN

18.1 One pothole was fixed on Broadway Hill Road. Other potholes not fixed, Cllr Julie Layzell to report unfinished works again to Somerset Council.

18.2 Suggs Lane - Request for a dropped kerb. Cllr Andy Johnson to provide the suggested location to the clerk. Clerk to contact Somerset Council with the request.

18.3 Mud opposite Suggs Lane – Cllr Robert Hutchinson to look into.

18.4 Approved contractors - Clerk to contact Ilminster TC and ask if they have a list.

18.5 The parish council website needs reviewing/updating.

4293 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 13th February 2025 commencing at 6.30pm.

Meeting Closed: 20.37