

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on February 12th 2026 @ 6.30pm in Broadway Methodist Church:

ATTENDANCE. Cllrs Barry Mosley, Chair, Mike Schmidt, Peter Babbington, Andrew Johnson, Ann Winter. Z Bougourd, Clerk.

- 4420 Public Forum.** A Councillor from Broadway PC attended and outlined a scheme they are piloting to compile a register of volunteers for Parish events and other minor Village maintenance issues. The group is set up through WhatsApp and is open to individuals who may wish to join the list. The council were broadly supportive of this initiative, Cllr Johnson volunteered to act as liaison between the Horton PC and Broadway PC.
- 4421 Somerset Councillor Report.** No report received.
- 4422 **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Massey & Cllr Martin.
- 4423 Approval of minutes January 15th, 2026. The minutes were tabled, approved and signed.**
- 4424 Finance:**
- Bank reconciliations to date. Approved and signed, clarified that the invoice from M Salaman is for the playing field grass cutting.
 - Bank Statements to date. Approved and signed
 - To consider grant Application from St Peters Church. Noted that in financial year 2025/6 the grant allocation in the budget had been spent without including the Church grant. Clerk outlined difference between grants awarded under legislation and s137 grants. See Appendix A. Grant application of £750 approved and will be paid in two instalments in line with the precept payments from Somerset Council. Clerk will write to Church noting the above.
- 4425 **Planning: Adjacent Parish:**
Proposal: Erection of a detached double garage/store and a detached pool house subordinate and ancillary to the main dwelling
Location: Overstream Paulls Lane Broadway Ilminster Somerset TA19 9QY
Applicant: Mr & Ms A & L Turton and Lintern
Application Type : Householder Application
Application Number: 26/00172/HOU
Noted as adjacent Parish application – no comment required.
- 4426 **Council matters: IT Policy** – to consider and adopt IT Policy in accordance with Assertion 10 (AGAR). Proposed Cllr Winter, seconded Cllr Mosley. Approved unanimously.

4427 Council Matters Procurement Policy & Purchase Order – to consider and adopt Procurement Policy & Purchase order in accordance with Procurement Act 2023 & Procurement Regulations 2024. Proposed Cllr Winter, seconded Cllr Johnson. Approved unanimously.

4428 Asset List – review and update. The asset list was tabled, agreed to remove items which were either duplicates or no longer in council ownership. Noted that Parish council assets do not depreciate – they remain noted at purchase cost. Clerk will note location of playground assets on the asset list.

4429 Standing Items:

- a. Monthly updates:
 - i. Highways/Village maintenance: Ongoing
 - ii. Consider annual schedule of grounds maintenance. Ongoing.
 - iii. Playing Field. Check Biffa invoices. One collection has been completed - clerk will continue to monitor contract
 - iv. Speed Indicator Devices – Cllr Mosley has received the location pole and will arrange installation.
 - v. Bus shelter refurbishment/decoration. Decoration ongoing. Clerk has received an invoice from SSE, which has yet again been referred to a debt collection agency without prior notification. Complaint has been raised with SSE, awaiting response.

**4429 Additional agenda item:
Update from Chairman.**

- a. **Broadway Hill Planning Application.** A reply has been submitted to Somerset Council planning department from the developer. Planning hearing is on 23rd February 2026. All objections made by the Parish Council have been refuted by the developer. Clerk noted that Somerset Council agreed in December 2025 that for development over 150 houses, the Planning Department would either approve or dismiss application without any obligation to consider representations from Parish councils or residents.

4430 Payment requests to 12th February 2026. Payments were approved, Cllr Johnson queried overtime hours – these were pre-approved by Cllr Mosley. Hours worked are in excess of those claimed by a significant amount.

Clerk	CiLCA	January	199.17
HMRC	CiLCA tax	January	49.79
Clerk	Overtime	10 hrs	124.48
HMRC	Clerk overtime		31.12
M Salaman	Grounds maintenance		195.00
SLCC	Subs 2026	Apportioned	70.40

Meeting closed at 20.00hrs.

Post meeting note: Cllr Johnson is looking into replacing some play equipment – Clerk will send relevant contacts to Cllr Johnson

Cllr Johnson suggested setting up a WhatsApp group for council communications. Clerk noted that meeting paperwork will be sent through the gov.uk email addresses which have now been sent to all Cllrs and will be used from the date of this meeting.