

HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 11th June 2026 @6.30pm at Broadway Methodist Church, Horton.

Present: Cllr B Mosley, Chairman, Cllr A Johnson, Vice Chairman, Cllrs J Martin, P Babbington & M Schmidt.

Eight members of the public were present for the first part of the meeting(item 26/30 only)

26/30 Public Forum: Members of the public expressed their extreme concern regarding the proposed development off Broad way Hill for up to 150 houses. The planning meeting is scheduled for the 16th June @ 2pm at the Council Offices in Yeovil and residents including Parish Councillors can attend. It was noted that a robust and comprehensive response had been submitted to the Planning department in January 2026 from the Parish council and this report covered all the points raised by the public in attendance. Noted that although the ward Councillor had been emailed, no response had been received. The latest notification noted that a contribution from the developer under a S106 agreement to fund extra educational facilities has now been removed as neighbouring schools have capacity for the anticipated uptake in places. It was noted that the public considered that this development could still be refused even at this stage and that representation by the Parish council could influence the planning decision. It was agreed that the council would discuss this proposal during the formal meeting. It was subsequently agreed that the planning consultants would be contacted and a three-minute response from the council provided to the member of the public who had registered to speak. Cllr Mosley noted that the Parish council currently has three vacancies for Councillors and encouraged residents to join the council, Cllr Johnson noted that the time commitment for Councillors was limited to an hour or two 10 times a year. Noted that further information is on the PC website or through the Clerk.

26/31 Somerset Councillor Report – no report was submitted

26/32 Apologies for absence- Cllr Massey sent apologies – accepted

26/33 Declaration of Interests – none noted

26/34 Approval of minutes

- **APCM April 09th 2026 – approved and signed**
- **APM 09th April 2026 – approved and signed.**

26/35 Finance:

- To approve and sign the Bank statements** – April 2026 to date – approved and signed.
- To approve and minute payment requests.** See Appendix A – approved and signed
- To approve and sign bank reconciliations** April 2026 to date – approved and signed
- Note application to Natwest to update mandate.** Noted that documentation has been submitted to Natwest
- Request to set up DD to HMRC (Clerk's salary is variable due to CiLCA training)** – to be submitted at the next PC meeting

26/36 AGAR & Audit report:

- **To consider internal auditors report – report tabled and accepted with thanks to the internal Auditor. The accessibility report has been submitted to the website host company.**
- **To confirm submission of documents to external auditors. – Documents have been submitted, response time is before 30th September 2026.**

26/37 Parish Council Insurance – to note current agreement with Gallagher LTA end date of 12th June 2028. This arrangement predates the current Clerk, the PC were not aware of the restriction. Noted that the Clerk had notified the current provider that the policy will not automatically renew.

26/38 Grant applications:

To approve grant £120 to Neroche School – approved, clerk to contact Cllr Massey/Neroche School for payment details.

26/39 Playground

- **To consider proposed new and replacement play area equipment.** – Ongoing - Cllr Johnson will report to future meeting
- **To consider current play area and discuss plan for future development.**- ongoing

26/40 Update re Village sign – ongoing, Cllr Martin will report to future meeting.

26/41 Note annual playground inspection. The annual playground inspection has been authorised, Cllr Johnson requested to attend the inspection – Clerk to notify service provider.

26/42 Standing items.

- **Monthly updates:**
 - i. Highways/Village maintenance: Gutter clearance Hanning Road – Clerk update. The gutters have been swept but a significant amount of vegetation remains. Clerk to contact SC & ascertain if Suez provide road cleaning services
 - ii. Consider annual schedule of grounds maintenance. Cllr Johnson requested to meet current provider to discuss grass cutting on the playing field.
 - iii. Speed Indicator Devices – both are now operational – Cllr Martin will download data for future meeting
 - iv. Bus shelter refurbishment/decoration. – ongoing – Cllr Massey will report to future meeting.

The Council is recommended to resolve that under section 1, paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

26/43 To consider quotes to provide and service recreation area refuse bin.

- **Bin collection – recreation ground.** Noted that Biffa have acknowledged termination of contract, the bin is still in situ – Clerk to contact Biffa again.
 - a. **LCN recommended companies have been contacted to request a quote.** Noted that the w3w reference was sent to all the companies listed with a request for service as per previous contract. Fortnightly collection for general waste/food scraps.
 - i. **Suez – quote attached.** – It was resolved to accept the quote from Suez – Clerk will revert to Suez accordingly.
 - ii. **J Witt Waste Recycling** – no response.
 - iii. **RTS Waste** – unable to quote – cannot service address.

Meeting closed at 19.51hrs

Date of next meeting: July 16th 2026 6.30pm Broadway Methodist Church.