

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.00 pm
in the Lord St Audries Room, Victory Hall, Stogursey**

Minutes

Present: Councillors Sue Goss, Chris Morgan, Allan Searle, Jen Ody, Ian Corrigan, Michael Brooks, Stuart Lake, and Richard Ayres

The incoming Chair, Cllr Michael Brookes, opened the meeting and informed members of the public present that Cllr Sue Goss would serve as Vice-Chair.

Public forum

1. Concerns were raised regarding the deteriorating condition of local roads, excessive speeding, heavy farm vehicles, and motorcycle noise. Cllr S G advised that these matters would be addressed later in the meeting.
2. A further concern was raised regarding the impact of the current and planned road closures on small businesses, within the parish and asked what the Parish Council could do to alleviate the problems.

1. Apologies: Cllr S J and Cllr C F; the Council accepted their apologies.

2. Minutes of previous Parish Council meeting

Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2025 and the Parish Council meeting held on 8 April 2026 was deferred until the June meeting, due to late amendments, received immediately before the meeting commenced.

3. Declarations of interest: None.

4. Somerset Councillor report - Cllr Hugh Davies

An update was received regarding the closure of Watchet Road to pedestrians and vehicles following a landslip. It was also noted that the Government has indicated support for the multi-million-pound bid to reinstate the B3191 Cleve Hill Road, a vital route in the west of the county, and that the proposal has cleared its first hurdle. It was also noted that Cllr R Woods is currently on sick leave.

5. Long-term action list

Paddons Farm

The Clerk reported that Strongvox is close to exchanging contracts for the land transfer and has agreed to remove builders' debris before completion. In addition, Strongvox confirmed that the Section 106 monies have been transferred to its solicitors.

Action: The Clerk to request that Strongvox leaves the barriers in place until the Council has decided how the land will be used.

6. Finance and Administration

1. Bank balances and the financial statement as of 30 April were noted.
2. Invoices for payment were approved unanimously.
3. Payments will be made online or by debit card.
4. It was agreed that the Clerk's contracted hours to be increased from 14 to 16 per week.
Proposed by Cllr C M and seconded by Cllr A S.
5. It was agreed that Cllrs M B and Cllr I C be approved as additional bank signatories.
Proposed by Cllr S L and seconded by Cllr J O.
6. It was agreed unanimously that Mr Richard Young to be appointed as internal auditor.
7. New policies had previously been circulated as follows:
 - a) Data Protection, b) Data Retention and c) IT Policy. The policies were adopted unanimously.

7. Planning

No further updates were received regarding the Babbling Brook or Wick retrospective planning applications.

8. Meeting reports - Cllr C M

None given.

9. Forthcoming meetings:

1. Community Forum – 14 May 2026
2. Main site Forum – 4 June 2026
3. Transport Forum – 25 June 2026 and 12 November 2026, Cannington.

Continued.....

10 Allotments update Cllr A S

The site has recently been much improved by plot holders; Plot 5 remains available. The recent reported leak has been repaired.

11 Highways Cllr S G

Cllr S G contacted Highways regarding concerns about signage on Faringdon Lane, indicating that the road is closed despite no work currently taking place.

The closure of Shurton Road is imminent from 1 June for 10 days to allow road repairs in Stogursey and Burton.

Cllr S G has raised speeding concerns with Esther Lawson of Avon and Somerset Police, who advised that if the SID information is forwarded to her, she will notify enforcement officers, who will make regular visits.

Action: Cllr M B to consult with Cllr S G and Esther Lawson to forward SID data to the police speed enforcement team.

12 Appointment of new Maintenance Contractors

The Clerk reported that two contractors have been appointed for the 2026/2027 village maintenance contract:

Sedgemoor Tree Services will provide lengthsman services and maintain the BRPA playground.

John Foster Farm Services will maintain the closed churchyard and undertake any other ad hoc work required around the village and hamlets.

13 Public Rights of Way

The path from Shurton to Stogursey is in poor condition and needs to be reported via Somerset Council's Public Rights of Way website.

Action: Cllr R A.

Horse Rider Safety - A complaint regarding horse rider safety at the EDF emergency route entrance was received. It was noted that the spring on the gate is stiff and should be reported directly to EDF, as this is not a Parish Council responsibility.

There was some discussion concerning whether Ben Hole Lane and the EDF emergency access were Bridlepaths.

Action: Cllrs SG and MB to confirm

Overgrown vegetation at Paddons Lane, Cllr R A confirmed that both hedges on both sides of the lane had been trimmed back but still impassible. Highways had declassified it. The landowner is Faringdon Hill Farm belonging to Fairford Estates.

Action: Cllr CM to contact John Acland and report back at the next meeting.

14 Speed Indicator Devices Cllr M B

Monitoring showed that fewer than 1% of vehicles were speeding through Burton and Shurton, with most traffic travelling at 30 mph or below.

15 The date of the next meeting is 9 June 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Victory Hall, Stogursey.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Signed:

Michael Brooks - Chair