

Compton Bishop Parish Council

COMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 9th July 2025

Present: Councillors C Settle (Chair), E Parker, D McCarthy, G Hancock, H Dean and Alan Mortimore (Clerk).

25/07A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Councillors T Mason and D Ham.

Somerset Councillors B Filmer and T Grimes.

25/07B To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

25/07C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th June 2025 previously circulated.

It was resolved to approve the minutes. Councillor Settle signed the minutes as being a true record.

25/07D To receive Clerks Report.

1) **Financial** - The Clerk informed the members of the current financial position of the parish Council.

2) **Road Closures that affect the parish** – Such road closures are now posted “Cross Connection” section on Facebook as well as being emailed to residents not on Facebook but are on a bulk email listing.

25/07E To receive County Councillors Report.

Councillor Filmer was absent but awaiting a written report which will appear on the website.

25/07F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Jun25)	356.27
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Jun25)	89.20
Clerk	Expenses (Jun25)	49.99
CBPC	Employer National Insurance Contribution	4.27
ScribeLite Accounting for Parish Councils	Direct Debit set up for monthly payments providing a full accounting system for the Parish from July 2024.	14.40 Monthly
Lloyds Bank	Monthly Bank Charges (commenced from Jan 25)	4.25
PATA	Quarterly Payroll Services Apr- June25	37.35
Arien Signs	Signage for the Reverse of Cross Village Sign	112.80
St Andrews Church	Donation towards Grass Cutting	700.00
Cllr E Parker	Reimbursement for snacks for the Parish Open meeting	11.79
Cllr G Hancock	Reimbursement for Drinks for the Parish Open meeting	24.30
Spanglefish	Annual payment for Website hosting	108.00

The payments were approved.

25/06G To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
None		

Compton Bishop Parish Council

25/07H

To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
21/24/00006	Land North of Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare	Awaited
21/25/00006	Compton House, Compton Lane, Compton Bishop, BS26 2HE	Granted
21/25/00002	Land to the East of Manor Farm, Cross, Axbridge	Awaited

25/07I

Safe Pathway Campaign Cross Lane – update on any progress the Landowners.

The Clerk confirmed that he had replied to Tessa Munt MP with a possible date for a meeting in August to include other local representatives once a suitable date is confirmed. The MP mentioned that she was busy in London until the summer recess of Parliament on the 23rd August and the Clerk will update members as soon as a reply is received.

25/07J

To consider Councillor Training.

Councillor H Dean to attend the Essential Councillor course part 1 in August.

25/07K

To receive Councillor reports.

- 1) **Appointing a Volunteer Local Footpath Liaison Officer** – Councillor Parker informed the meeting that the person earmarked to take on the role has now declined. However, another resident has shown interest but needs to establish what this entails before deciding. There will be an update at the next meeting.
- 2) **Water Hoses across the highway** – Councillor Settle asked the Clerk to clarify the legal Requirements of water hoses across the road to fill up a plastic water bucket in a field. The Clerk will update the situation at the next meeting.
- 3) **Church Lane Bench** – Councillor McCarthy mentioned that this bench is partly covered with vegetation and may need some maintenance. Also, the bench needs to be moved forward to make it more suitable to use. The Clerk will put this item on the next agenda.
- 4) **Webbington Road Pull in** – This area needs the grass and vegetation to be regularly cut especially at this time of the year. The resident who has been maintaining the pull in is not able to continue doing it for much longer. The Clerk will put on the next agenda for discussion on the best way to maintain this area.
- 5) **Cycle Sign on Cross lane** – Councillor McCarthy mentioned that this sign is mostly covered by vegetation and suggested the council investigate a further cycle sign at the start of Cross Lane at the A38 end. The Clerk will put on the next agenda for further discussion.
- 6) **National Trust Local Ranger (Lauren Holt)** – The local Ranger has suggested that she is willing to attend a parish meeting to help sort out any issues that the members may have. Councillor McCarthy will send some dates for Lauren to consider.

25/07L

Update on the installation of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) around the Parish.

This has now been fitted with the first position being on the Vernon Lane Post. Now awaiting the invoice for the 3-year contract (previously agreed and in the minutes) from the contractor to move and maintain the SID over the three pole positions around the parish.

25/07M

Update on cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.

The Clerk confirmed that he has not had any response from the Landowner who still needs to cut back the vegetation, even though a further letter was sent to the Landowner. The landowner originally contacted the Environmental Agency (EA) back in December 2024 after the initial letter from the parish council. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the EA and ascertain the delay in getting the situation resolved.

Compton Bishop Parish Council

- 25/07N Update on any progress with the National Trust (NT) filling in the potholes near the NT signage and Rackley Lane junction.**
Councillor McCarthy will follow up with the Local NT Ranger to establish if there is going to be any surplus stone from another project to fill in the potholes as mentioned above. Councillor McCarthy will report back at the next meeting.
- 25/07O Update of the fitting on the back of the village sign in Old Coach Road (towards Weare).**
This has now been fitted, and the invoice payment authorised.
- 25/07P To consider a formal request to Somerset Council (SC) on the issue of water flowing across the road by the Webbington Hotel.**
It was resolved to monitor the situation for the time being and take prompt action should water start flowing across the road again.
- 25/07Q To consider what action should be taken on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.**
The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from the Environment Agency confirming that the complaint has been formally logged onto the National Incident Reporting System (NIRS). A member of Environmental Agency's waste team will arrange to attend the site and carry out an inspection. They will then assess any activities taking place and further review them against existing waste exemptions, permits or waste carrier authorisations. The review will include any runoff into the River Yeo. The Clerk to update at the next meeting.
- 5/07R To consider if any action is required due to overgrown vegetation on road signed and benches.**
1) **Footpath adjacent to A38 (between Cross and Weare)** – The footpath is totally overgrown with vegetation and grass. Although this has previously been reported to Somerset Highways (SH) no action has taken place. Councillor McCarthy has provided the Clerk with photographs of the overgrowth for forwarding to SH and ask for urgent action on this issue.
- 25/07S To consider a formal request to SC on what action has been taken to repair the drains damaged by Gigaclear.**
It was resolved that the Clerk contact Somerset Highways (SH) for a formal update on the problem of the damaged drains and how SH intended to solve the problem before the winter season sets in.
- 25/07T To formally request an update from Wessex Water on the investigation of the overwhelming of the Pumping Station by surface water.**
In previous correspondence Wessex Water were waiting for wetter conditions before being able to fully investigate. It was agreed to carry forward for the time being.
- 25/07U To request an update on the River Cheddar Yeo footbridge installation date.**
The Clerk confirmed that he had contacted the Somerset Council's Rights of Way Warden for an update on the Footbridge and was now awaiting a response.
- 25/07V Items for the next agenda**
1) Safe Pathway Campaign – update on the meeting with Tessa Munt MP.
2) To consider Councillor Training.
3) Update on Cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.
4) Appointing a Volunteer Local Footpath Liaison Officer.
5) To consider moving forward the Church Lane Bench.
6) To consider the cutting and maintaining of the Webbington Road Pull in.
7) To consider investigating a further Cycle sign at the beginning of Cross Lane by A38.
8) Update on any progress with the National Trust (NT) filling in the potholes near the NT signage and Rackley Lane junction
9) Update on the issue of water flowing across the road by the Webbington Hotel.
10) Update on any action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.

Compton Bishop Parish Council

- 11)** Update on any action taken due to overgrown vegetation on road signs and Benches.
- 12)** Update on the formal request to Somerset Council on the action taken to repair to the drains damaged by Gigaclear.
- 13)** To formally request an update from Wessex Water on the investigation of the overwhelming of the Pumping Station by surface water.
- 14)** Update on the installation of the replacement footbridge over the River Yeo.

Next Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 13th August 2025 at 7pm.

DRAFT