

Compton Bishop Parish Council

COMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 13th August 2025

Present: Councillors C Settle (Chair), E Parker, D Ham and Alan Mortimore (Clerk).
Somerset Councillor B Filmer.

Tess Gill and Tessa Munt MP (relating to item 25/08I only).

25/08A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Councillors T Mason, D McCarthy, G Hancock and H Dean.
Somerset Councillor T Grimes.

25/08B To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

25/08C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th July 2025 previously circulated.

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

25/08D To receive Clerks Report.

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

2) **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** It was resolved to use the remaining £1092 of the total £3240 received in 2019/2020 (for the Springfield Wildlife Site) on the funding of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) and its maintenance as the SID is a parish asset. Please see item 25/08F below relating to Nichols Facilities Management.


25/08E To receive County Councillors Report.

Councillor Filmer gave a brief report on the latest update from Somerset Council and the monthly briefing note will be displayed on the website.

25/08F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Jul25)	356.47
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Jul25)	89.00
Clerk	Expenses (Jul25)	39.99
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
Cross Memorial Hall	Extraordinary meeting 28 th July 2025	20.00
Tracey Brownlow	Reimbursement for Defibrillator Pads	75.18
Nichols Facilities Management	36-month agreement for the Speed Indicator Device to move every 2 weeks to the 3 locations along with data reports and battery charging. This 3-year contract was agreed at the Parish Council meeting 10 th July 2024 item 24/07N.	2400.00

The payments were approved.

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25/08G

To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
21/25/00007	Coombe Croft, Coombe Lane, Compton Bishop	Erection of a single storey extension to the South elevation (front) of the property including a dormer window to the west elevation. It was resolved to make no observations or comments on this application. Full details are on the Somerset Planning Website.

25/08H

To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
21/24/00006	Land North of Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare	Awaited
21/25/00002	Land to the East of Manor Farm, Cross, Axbridge	Awaited

25/08I

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

Tess Gill from the Safe Pathway Campaign together with Tessa Munt MP were both invited by the Chair to join the debate on a way forward to get the two Landowners in some sort of preliminary discussions on upgrading the footpath. It was resolved that Ms Munt as the local Member of Parliament would contact the Landowners to ascertain if they would be willing to meet local representatives to try to make with some initial progress to resolve the current impasse. Ms Munt will report back to the parish Council on any developments by the October meeting.

25/08J

To consider Councillor Training.

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

25/08K

To receive Councillor reports.

1) **The Footpath/Verge by the A38 from Cross to Weare** – Councillor Settle noted that although Somerset Highways had cleared back some of the vegetation, the concrete/tarmac footpath was very narrow with the overgrown grass and turf encroaching on the path itself. The Clerk to ask Highways if the path could be properly cleared and widened to its proper width to make it easier for footpath users including pushchairs and wheelchairs. The Clerk to report the issue to Somerset Highways.

25/08L

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 had contacted the Environment Agency (EA) on this particular issue and had received an acknowledgement and reference number and stating that they hoped to respond by 22nd August. Depending on the response it was suggested that for such water flow problems it may be more beneficial to contact The Drainage Board rather than EA. The Clerk will make appropriate investigations.

25/08M

Appointing a Volunteer Local Liaison Officer.


Councillor Settle advised that both herself and Councillor Dean were willing to undertake this Volunteer Liaison role on a joint basis. Councillor Dean has been in contact with Somerset's Footpaths Officer for more information on what this liaison role entails. There will be an update at the next meeting.



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- 25/08N Update on any progress with the National Trust (NT) filling in the potholes near the NT signage and Rackley Lane junction.**
The Clerk and Councillor McCarthy will follow up with the Local NT Ranger to establish if there will be any surplus stone/hardcore available from other NT repair work. There will be an update at the next meeting.
- 25/08O To consider moving forward the Church Lane Bench.**
It was resolved that the Clerk along with Councillor Ham will investigate the condition of the Bench and whether it would be possible to move it forward away from the hedgerow and will Report back at the last meeting.
- 25/08P To consider investigating a further Cycle sign at the beginning of Cross Lane by A38.**
The Clerk will contact Somerset Highways to establish if they would consider installing a new sign at the bottom of Cross lane. This was suggested as the cycle sign at the top of Cross Lane at Townsend is very often covered by vegetation. Councillor Filmer suggested that if this was reported on the Somerset Website under "Report a Problem/Roads, Travel and Parking", this part of the website seems to work well with action being taken to resolve such problems.
- 25/08Q Update on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.**
The Clerk advised that information has been received from the Environment Agency (EA) confirming that they have made two visits to the site and ongoing investigations. There is limited information they can share at this stage due to corrective measures being underway which may go to formal enforcement. An update may be available at the next meeting.
- 25/08R To consider if any action is required due to overgrown vegetation on road signed and benches.**
This has been covered by 25/08O as well as under item 25/08P.
- 25/08S Update on the Licensing Application for a Pizza Van in the Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in by Crook Peak.**
Somerset Licencing confirmed that the Licensee has had to withdraw his application due to the fact that the Parking Area/Pull in is unregistered land and, as such, does not form part of the Highway. Licensing can only issue permits on land which is Highways responsibility.
- 25/08T Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in – To consider re-investigating the ownership of this piece of land along with the cutting back of vegetation and maintenance of the Car Park/Pull in.**
Referring to Item 25/08S as this piece of land is unregistered it was unanimously agreed that the registration process should go ahead but agreed to wait until a fuller number of Parish Councillors was present to ratify the decision. It transpires that another local parish council has also registered some land in their parish. The Clerk to make initial enquiries with The Land Registry as well as contacting the clerk of the parish for advice on how they proceeded to register land. Regarding the cutting back of the vegetation and maintenance of the area it was suggested by Councillor Hancock at the last meeting that he knew someone who would consider looking after the site on a regular basis. Councillor Parker mentioned that her husband would be willing to trim around the area in a few weeks' time if necessary.
There will be an update at the next meeting.
- 25/08U To approve the purchase of replacement Defibrillator Pads.**
It was resolved to approve the purchase of replacement Defibrillator Pads.
- 25/08V To approve the investigating of the return of the Rubbish Bin at Rackley Lane Pull in on the Webbington Road with a request to "Somerset – Clean Surrounds" to empty when requested.**
The Clerk to ascertain the situation regarding this bin with "Somerset – Clean surrounds" and report back at the next meeting.
- 25/08W To approve a Locum Clerk to cover for the month of November when the Clerk will be away.**
It was agreed that approve a Locum Clerk for the month of November when the Clerk is away on unpaid leave.


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25/08X 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 Volunteers as Joint Local Footpath Liaison Officers.
- 5) Update on the moving forward of the Church Lane Bench.
- 6) Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in – Update on re-investigating the ownership of this land along with the cutting back of vegetation and maintenance of the Car Park/Pull in.
- 7) Update on 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 return of the Rubbish Bin at Rackley Lane.
- 10) Update on any action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.
- 11) Update on any action taken due to overgrown vegetation on road signs and Benches.
- 12) Update on any action taken on overgrown vegetation on road signs, benches and Footpaths.
- 13) To formally request that Somerset Council simplify their website in respect to logging complaints relating to “Fly Tipping” as the present system is too cumbersome and unnecessarily complicated.

Next Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 10th September 2025 at 7pm.

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