

Compton Bishop Parish Council

COMPTON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 10th September 2025

Present: Councillors T Mason (Chair), C Settle, E Parker, D McCarthy, H Dean, D Ham and A Mortimore (Clerk). Somerset Councillor B Filmer.

25/09A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.
Councillor G Hancock.

25/09B To receive any declarations of interest.
No declarations of interest were received.

25/09C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th August 2025 previously circulated.

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

25/09D To receive Clerks Report.

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

25/09E 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.

25/09F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Aug 25)	356.27
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Aug 25)	89.20
Clerk	Expenses (Aug 25)	37.99
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
SALC	Councillor Essential Training Part 1	25.00
PATA	Payroll Charges July to September 2025	37.35
Clerk	Annual Renewal of Microsoft 365 Office	84.99

The payments were approved.

25/09G To consider the following Planning applications

Planning application number	Location	Proposal
21/25/00008	Wrangles, Old Coach Rd, Cross, BS26 3EH	Erection of Stables. This application was withdrawn on the 8 th September 2025 so no discussion was necessary.

25/09H 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
21/25/00007	Coombe Croft, Coombe Lane, Compton Bishop	Granted

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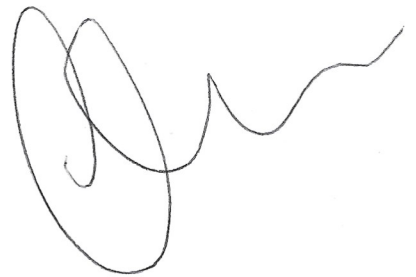
- 25/09I Safe Pathway Campaign Cross Lane – update on any progress the Landowners.**
It was resolved at the August meeting that Ms Munt as the local Member of Parliament would contact the Landowners to ascertain if they would be willing to meet local representatives to try to make with some initial progress to resolve the current impasse. Ms Munt agreed to report back to the members at the October so this item will be carried forward until the next meeting.
- 25/09J To consider Councillor Training.**
Appropriate Training Courses will be considered when a fresh set of courses becomes available.
- 25/09K To receive Councillor reports.**
1) The Footpath/Verge by the A38 from Cross to Weare – Councillor McCarthy mentioned that Somerset Highways has still not widened the concrete/tarmac footpath of overgrown vegetation and grass encroaching on the path itself. This needs to return to its proper width to make it easier use for users including pushchairs and wheelchairs. The Clerk to contact Somerset Highways for an update on when this will be undertaken.
2) The Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Councillor McCarthy informed the meeting that the SID is working well and being moved regularly to the three locations that was agreed with Somerset Highways and achieving its objective in helping to reduce speeding traffic though the parish. The Speed Watch Co-ordinator has asked if the council could help in requesting more volunteers in the Speed Watch Group and councillors will give some consideration on more individuals involved in this group. The Clerk to forward any suggestions to the Speed Watch Co-ordinator.
- 25/09L 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 received a letter from the Environment Agency (EA) advising that the Landowner had agreed to cut back the vegetation himself in the Autumn once the nesting season is over. The Clerk to monitor the situation and report back to EA if necessary.
- 25/09M Appointing Volunteers as Joint Local Liaison Footpath Officers.**
Councillor Dean confirmed that she has completed the necessary application form and will be interviewed via Zoom by the Rights of Way Volunteers Trails Officer of Somerset Council. Councillor Settle has agreed to help Councillor Dean as a Volunteer Footpath Officer and will also attend the Zoom course without the need to complete an additional application form.
- 25/09N To consider options for the Church Lane Bench.**
Councillor Ham has investigated the bench which is set in a concrete base and so cannot be moved forward to avoid the growing vegetation over the bench. At a previous meeting Councillor Hancock stated he had contacted a contractor who is willing to help clear the vegetation around the Webbington Road Car Park/Pull In on a regular basis and it was agreed that the contractor should be asked to cut back the hedge behind the bench as well as the overgrown vegetation around the nearby Bus shelter. Please also refer to item **25/09T**.
- 25/09O Update on any progress with the National Trust (NT) filling in the potholes near the NT signage and Rackley Lane junction.**
Councillor McCarthy advised that she is still awaiting a response from the NT Local Ranger regarding repairing the potholes with aggregate from another NT site. There will be an update at the next meeting as the Ranger is willing to attend a council meeting to discuss any problems with the NT area within the parish.
- 25/09P Update on a further “Cycle” sign at the beginning of Cross Lane by A38.**
Somerset Highways stated this section of road is not an official cycle route and as such a sign would not meet the required criterion for use.
- 25/09Q Update on the return of the Rubbish Bin at Rackley Lane/Webbington Road Pull In.**
Somerset Council confirmed that this bin was installed as a temporary measure and would not be considered again as there is concern it could encourage “fly tipping” around the bin.

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- 25/09R Update on the action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.**
A reply has been received from the Environment Agency (EA) confirming that they are still monitoring the situation after agreeing corrective measures with the individuals concerned. At this stage of the investigation there is limited information that the EA can share until a follow up inspection has been undertaken and any further measures agreed and undertaken.
- 25/09S Update on any action taken on overgrown vegetation on road signs, benches and footpaths.**
Being in a very rural area, the parish suffers from overgrown vegetation covering road signs and other equipment. Often, it is the owner's responsibility to cut back such overgrown vegetation rather than Somerset Highways. There is a template letter produced by Somerset Council to ask owner's to cut back such vegetation which can be used in appropriate circumstances. The council will monitor the situation and act as needed to remove such overgrown vegetation.
- 25/09T Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in – To progress obtaining the ownership of this piece of land along with the cutting back of vegetation and maintenance of the Car Park/Pull in.**
It was unanimously resolved at this meeting to proceed with obtaining ownership by registering this parcel of land with The Land Registry. Legal advice is necessary to proceed with such an application. The Clerk to contact another local parish council which has also recently registered land to ascertain details of the legal ramifications and processes.
Cutting back the vegetation and maintenance of the area - please refer to item 25/09N when it was resolved that the contractor would be asked to clear and maintain the car park as well as the other areas agreed in item 25/09N. Councillor Hancock to contact the contractor and will confirm details at the next meeting.
- 25/09U To formally request that Somerset Council review their website regarding the "Fly Tipping" section as the current system to report fly tipping is onerous and complicated.**
It was resolved that the Clerk will write to the appropriate department of Somerset Council for a review of the section into a more simplistic system to report "fly tipping" problems.
- 25/09V Request an update from Somerset Highways about water flowing across the road by the Webbington Hotel.**
The Clerk to contact Somerset Highways on how they intend to resolve this issue which has been ongoing for a couple of years, with the last communication being more than three months ago.
- 25/09W To consider how to improve communication between the Memorial Hall Committee and the Parish Council.**
The Parish Council is concerned at the lack of communication between the Council and the Hall Committee. Councillor Parker agreed to supply a list of questions for the two Parish Councillor Representatives on the Hall Committee (Councillors Dean and Mason) to be raised at the next hall Meeting. There will be an update after the next Hall meeting.
Next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 8th October 2025 at 7pm.
- 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 causing problems with overflowing water and has negative impact on the wildlife habitat.
 - 4) Confirmation of Volunteers as Joint Local Footpath Liaison Officers.
 - 5) 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
 - 6) Update on any progress with the National Trust (NT) filling in the potholes near the NT signage and Rackley Lane junction
 - 7) Update on any action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.

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- 8) Update on any action taken on overgrown vegetation on road signs, benches and Footpaths.
- 9) Update on improving communication between the Memorial Hall Committee and the Parish Council.

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