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MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday **23rd June 2025** at 7pm at Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall, Bristol Road, Biddisham.

Present

Cllrs Body (Chairman), Beynon, Shaw, Mahoney and Vining. Also in attendance were Somerset Cllrs Bob Filmer and Tony Grimes; and the Parish Clerk. 0 members of the public were present.

83/25 Apologies: Cllr Spooner, leave.

84/25 Declarations of Interest Cllr Mahoney declared a personal interest in item 97/25 iii, as she is friends with one of the contractors.

85/25 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **May 19th 2025**.

Copies having been circulated, the Minutes were taken as read and approved as a true record.

86/25 Co option to fill the vacancy for a Parish Councillor No applications had been received.

87/25 Somerset Council Report Cllr Filmer gave a report including the following matters: Finances and a £101m shortfall, fewer reserves spent than expected in last financial year, further sale of assets, restructuring of pay and conditions; waste and rubbish collections; the boundary review. Recent correspondence regarding the decision to position police speed vans in Weare and locations outside of the Parish was discussed. Cllrs Filmer and Grimes will raise the matter further. Cllrs Beynon and Spooner are to raise the issue at the next Highways LCN meeting.

88/25 Matters arising from the Minutes: Defibrillators: The Clerk is to send recent costs to Cllr Vining to support a grant request toward the Badgworth defibrillator replacement; **Biddisham Bridge** highways have now agreed to collect the stone and plan to rebuild the bridge themselves, due to a lack of response from the contractor who had offered to repair the damage that he caused.

89/25 Green Matters: No matters were raised.

90/25 Community Matters:

Badgworth Dog bin A missed collection has been reported; Cllr Shaw offered to be the **Somerset Bus Partnership representative**, the Clerk is to recirculate the **bus timetable**; **consultation on draft recommendations for division boundaries in Somerset**.

Resolution: To respond in support of the proposal.

Resolution: The proposed **meeting dates for 2026** were approved.

Cllr Spooners **report on the Local Community Network meeting**, having been previously circulated, was noted.

91/25 The Somerset Association of Local Councils: no matters were raised.

92/25 Highways matters: The speed limit on the A38: No further information had been received, but a response is expected late Summer.

93/25 Jubilee Field: A missed cut will be discussed with the Contractor, it is understood that this was due to a machinery breakdown. **Draft consultation on land use:** The questions were discussed, and an amendment will be made.

Members supported the consultation. An item will be submitted to Contact magazine.

Online survey providers are being investigated. **Proposal to purchase the Jubilee Field** it was noted that a new devolution officer will be joining Somerset Council, an ex-Councillor had offered to contribute to the cost of purchasing the field, contact will be made with lawyers once a heads of agreement has been received; **Hedge Cutting** members considered the quotes received, further clarification is being sought. It was noted that unknown to the Parish Council, the Scouts had planted saplings in the field which had subsequently been cut down by the grass cutter. Cllr Spooner has contacted them and will also include them in the land consultation.

Memorial Field: No additional matters were raised.

94/25 Crime report and policing update: Crime figures in the Parish were updated.

95/25 Planning: The planning report was reviewed. **Possible unauthorised development to the rear of cottages in Tarnock adjacent to the A38**, it had been verified that there were no outstanding planning matters relating to the location.

Resolution: To raise the matter with Somerset Council for investigation.

Land to the rear of the field adjacent to Yew Tree Farm in Tarnock; it had been verified that there were no outstanding planning matters relating to the location.

Resolution: To raise the matter with Somerset Council for investigation.

A footpath to the rear of the Jubilee Field had been raised by a resident. The Clerk is to report the blocked footpath, as the regulations had been brought to the attention of the landowner.

EN0210004 Hinkley Point C Connection Project Material Change - EIA Scoping Notification and Consultation

Resolution: Not to submit a response.

96/25 All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council. It was discussed that members should refresh planning guidance. Somerset Cllr Filmer noted that new regulations will come in the Autumn, and it was agreed to review training available after that. A request for enforcement issues was raised, Somerset Cllr Filmer is to feed back outstanding enforcement at the Castle Mills site.

97/25 Finance: It was noted that the cost for the Information Commissioners Office data protection fee has increased to £52 and the Microsoft subscription has increased to £84.99.

- i. **Resolution:** The **May Finance Statement**, having been previously circulated, was approved as a true record.
- ii. **The Payments Schedule** was approved.

i123 Rector and Churchwardens Biddisham Grant Churchyard Upkeep £100.00

i124 H Marshall Clerks Expenses £35.74

i125 PATA UK Payroll £37.35

i126 H Marshall Clerks Salary and Expenses £493.97

i127 HMRC PAYE £141.71

i128 CPRE Membership £36.00

- iii. The quotes for **.gov.uk email and website domains** were discussed. Cllr Mahoney did not take part in the decision.

Resolution: To award the contract to Wuffles Design for the basic provision.

98/25 Members Points of Information: Debris left on the pavements will be reported to Highways.

99/25 Items for the Parish Magazine/social media The Land Use Consultation will be promoted in Contact Magazine.

100/25 Date of next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting 21st July 2025 Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall.

Meeting Closed at 9.20pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date 21.7.25