



MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday **15th September 2025** at 7pm at Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall, Bristol Road, Biddisham.

Present

Cllrs Body (Chairman), Beynon, Mahoney, Shaw, Spooner and Vining. Also in attendance was the Parish Clerk. 0 members of the public were present.

125/25 Apologies: Somerset Councillors Filmer and Grimes, had another meeting to attend.

126/25 Declarations of Interest None.

127/25 Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting** held on Monday **21st July 2025**

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

Minutes of the **Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council** held on **Monday 18th August 2025.**

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

128/25 Co-option to fill the vacancy for a Parish Councillor No applications had been received.

129/25 Somerset Council Report Councillor Filmer had sent a report that had been circulated. A copy is held in the Minute Book

130/25 Matters arising from the Minutes: It was noted that **the grant application for the village gateways was due to be considered today.** It was noted that the **new .gov.uk website address** is active and **the new email addresses** are being taken up.

131/25 Green Matters:

Resolution: To adopt the environment policy as drafted.

132/25 Community Matters: Funding for the Badgworth defibrillator:

Unfortunately a fund raiser had been cancelled, members are to ask a local business for a contribution, the Chairman offered to hold a BBQ to fundraise in the spring; request for support for a small scale tree planting project for 25 trees off Biddisham Lane, the matter was not pursued as there had been no response from the applicant; Cllr Spooner had submitted the Parish Preparedness survey, Cllr Beynon is to draft an outline **emergency plan** for consideration.

133/25 The Somerset Association of Local Councils: no one was available to attend the Somerset Parishes conference.

134/25 Local Community Networks Cllr Spooner is to attend the next meeting.

135/25 Highways matters: The speed limit on the A38: The Parish Council were delighted that the TRO to make the temporary 40mph speed limit in the Parish permanent has been issued, the notice will be circulated. The **traffic lights on the A38** for the National Grid reinstatement work are still reported as unmanned and long tail backs are being experienced. Cllr Shaw is to follow this up.

136/25 Jubilee Field: the draft consultation on land use:

Resolution: If necessary to upgrade the Office software to host the survey. The Clerk is to host the drafted survey.

Quotes for legal expenses for the transfer of ownership of the Jubilee Field to the Parish were discussed, including the budget and fundraising. It was decided to investigate fundraising opportunities including contacting residents of Badgworth and to consider an item in the budget to cover costs; **Brambles in the Jubilee Field** will be cut back with the annual hedge cutting; **The goalposts** will be reviewed when the

survey results have been received; The Clerk is to request that some **overhanging branches** are cut back; **the annual inspection report** was reviewed and the cost of the required signage was considered, it was agreed that **laminated signs will be used in both fields**, It was noted that the repair to the **Fence in Jubilee Field** was a good job.

Memorial Field: the quotes to replace the fence in the Memorial Field were discussed, an amount will be included in the budget to carry out the work next year; **the surface of the field** was discussed following a discussion with the grass cutters that large cracks and holes were present, a sign will be posted closing the field and explaining that the issue should resolve itself, the Clerk is to check this approach with the Association of Local Councils.

Following the sudden news that West Country Groundcare has ceased operating, an alternative contractor was approached.

Resolution: To agree contract for a year at the current rates. Grass cutting will be resumed in the Memorial field when the surface has improved.

137/25 Crime report and policing update: Crime figures in the Parish were updated.

138/25 Planning: The planning report was reviewed, Somerset Council's **critical action plan to reduce the planning backlog** was noted as being in place until mid-October.

139/25 All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council.

140/25 Finance:

- i. **Resolution:** The **August Finance Statement and bank reconciliation**, having been previously circulated, was approved as a true record.
- ii. **Resolution: The Payments Schedule** was approved.
 - i133 H Marshall Salary & Expenses August £477.86
 - i134 HMRC PAYE August £139.85
 - i135 Badgworth Schoolroom Management Committee Inspection Report £14.40
 - i136 West Country Groundcare Ltd Cuts April to July £396.00
 - i137 Jon Sealey & Sons Ltd Fence repair £288.00
 - i138 West Country Groundcare Ltd Cuts August £132.00
 - i139 SLCC Affiliation fees at 50% £120.00
 - i140 H Marshall Clerks Expenses (phone padlock postage) £67.53
 - i141 PATA (UK) quarterly payroll £37.35
 - i142 H Marshall Salary and Expenses September £472.05
 - i143 HMRC PAYE September £139.43
- iii. **Resolution:** The Local Government Pay Agreement for 2025/26 was approved and will be backdated to April. The Clerks salary is to be increased to scale point 17 in April 2026 and will be considered in the budget.

141/25 Members Points of Information: No matters were raised.

142/25 Items for the Parish Magazine/social media No matters were raised.

143/25 Date of next Meeting: Parish Council Meeting 20th October 2025 Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall.

Meeting Closed at 9.10pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date 20.10.25