

BADGWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk: Mrs Helen Marshall 3 Barrows Park Cheddar Somerset BS27 3AZ

MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday **16th February 2026** at 7pm at Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall, Bristol Road, Biddisham.

Present

Cllrs Vining (Meeting Chairman), Beynon, Mahoney, McLaren, Shaw and Spooner. Also in attendance were Somerset Cllr Filmer and the Parish Clerk. 0 members of the public were present.

19/26 Apologies: Somerset Cllr Grimes sent apologies due to ill health

20/26 Declarations of Interest None.

21/26 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **January 19th 2026** Copies having been circulated, the Minutes were taken as read and approved as a true record.

22/26 Somerset Council Report Somerset Cllr Filmer gave a report including the following matters: the 4.99% Council tax limit; plans to appoint a chief financial officer; sale of assets; potholes and the increased cost of gritting; benefits and changes under universal credit; the National Planning Policy Framework and plans for more decisions to be made under delegated powers, a discussion followed regarding training sessions on the local plan and feeding the NPPF into the local plan. The Vice Chairman thanked Somerset Cllr Filmer.

23/26 Matters arising from the Minutes: It was noted that the Clerk had confirmed the inclusion of the 2 fields County-wide Public Spaces Protection Order for Dog fouling; 2 field information signs and the defibrillator 'thank you' signs have been ordered.

24/26 Green Matters: Cllr Spooner is to write a **biodiversity action report** for the Annual Parish Meeting.

25/26 Community Matters: The report on **bleed kits** was discussed including access timings and local need.

Resolution: Not to purchase bleed kits, but to review if the matter is raised nationally again.

The cabinet lock on the Biddisham defibrillator has been adjusted following an access issue and after repeated checks it was considered that the issue has been resolved. Cllr Beynon is to adjust the lock on the Badgworth defibrillator to prevent a similar issue.

26/26 The Somerset Association of Local Councils: No matters were raised.

27/26 Highways: Progress on the **village gateways** has been delayed while new procedures are arranged at Somerset Council, members discussed a proposal to purchase the gateways and store them at the highways depot until installation could be arranged.

Resolution: To delegate the purchase of the gateways and signs to Cllrs Mahoney, Shaw and the Clerk to progress the project within the boundaries of the grant and to arrange for storage at the highways depot.

28/26 Jubilee Field: a request from the scouts to use the Jubilee field in May for a camp and a plant fair and a further camp in August was discussed, members had no objections but the Clerk is to request a copy of the risk assessment for the plant fair and confirmation that public liability insurance is in place, to send a copy of the conditions of use, and note the public pathway; **transfer of ownership of the field:** Cllr Beynon updated recent quotes for the legal costs, Members will ask if there are any conveyancers in the village who might assist; The Schoolrooms Committee have

arranged for a **blocked pipe** below the access to the field to be cleared, the Chairman of the Schoolrooms Committee is investigating the location of the title deeds to clarify boundaries and landowner responsibilities.

Memorial Field: Rolling the ground: further quotes are to be sought.

The analysis of the **field survey data** was deferred to the next meeting.

29/26 Crime report and policing update: Crime figures in the Parish were updated.

30/26 Planning: The planning report was reviewed.

Application 49/25/00019, Beech Tree Farm, Badgworth Lane, Weare, Axbridge, BS26 2QU Proposed change of use of existing hard standing area to form an airport parking area for 15 spaces and 4 x spaces including provision of an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging point for existing dwelling at Badgworth Arena/Beech Tree Farm was considered.

Resolution: To object. Unanimously agreed. Basis: reference to consultation with the Council, impacts on local roads, noise and disturbance, access, character of area, lack of facilities at the site, lighting and security, sustainability of shuttle, amenity of local residents, intensification of use, hours of use. The Clerk is to contact Weare Parish Council to let them know of the response. If the application is referred to Committee, the Parish Council will lobby the Councillors to visit the site.

31/26 All correspondence was brought to the attention of the Council. **Isle of**

Wedmore Good Neighbours AGM, no members were able to attend; **Flood Mary: Flood Warden** the online Session Thursday 19th Feb was noted; **Somerset Council consultation on Green Lane proposals**, members did not wish to repond.

32/26 Finance:

- i. **Resolution:** The **February Finance Statement and bank reconciliation**, having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record.
- ii. **Resolution: The Payments Schedule** was approved.
 - i162 H Marshall Clerks Salary and expenses January £486.63
 - i163 HMRC PAYE February £145.98
- iii. **The Council's data and digital documents were reviewed including the data map and the IT Policy.**

Resolution: The updates to the **Document Retention and Disposal Policy; the Retention of Documents: Appendix A list of documents for retention or disposal; Freedom of Information Policy; and the Publication Scheme** were approved. The website will be reviewed for accessibility on an ongoing basis. The Clerk is to resend the set-up instructions for the Councillors .gov.uk email addresses.
- iv. **Grant requests** were discussed, including the available funds, benefits to the community and previous grants.

Resolution: to award Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance Service £50 towards equipment, and Friends of St John the Baptist Church £50 towards bell ropes.

33/26 Members Points of Information: The Council Whatsapp Channel has been set up and will be added to the email signature.

34/26 Items for the Parish Magazine/social media to circulate information on the **Whatsapp Channel.**

35/26 Date of next Meeting: Annual Parish Meeting 16th March 2026; Parish Council Meeting **20th April 2026** Badgworth and Biddisham Parish Hall.

Meeting Closed at 9.32pm

Signed

(Chairman)

Date 20.4.26