

Minutes of the 792nd Meeting of Barrington Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 19:00hrs

Present: Councillors – Jane Harker (Chair), Neil McLean, Peter Oakes, Teeuw Rolaff, John Sheffield (5).

In attendance: Julie Ferguson (Parish Clerk) and SCllr Roundell-Greene.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 minutes)

3 members of the public were present and subjects discussed included:

- Request for permission to fill an additional IBC container at the allotments for use by all. It was agreed that this was acceptable and Cllr Harker would monitor the use as is done for the existing IBC.
- Water flow from Shelway Lane, drains remain blocked and danger to pedestrians and cyclists when water freezes.
- Cllr Harker has requested silt drains to be cleared, Cllr Oakes has also tried to clear the drain but unsuccessful due to compact silt.
- 3 drains on Ruskway blocked. Programmed to be cleared every 2 years, request to be cleared annually. Cllr Harker to email J Nicholson and copy in SCllr Roundell-Green

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Somerset Councillors (SCllrs). A report had been circulated and Cllr Roundell Greene further reported:

- SC still trying to balance the budget, request has been made to the Government for permission to raise the Council Tax by 11%.
- SC Transformation program continuing, using experienced consultant.

19:15 – Meeting opened

25/98 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s85(1)).
Cllrs Christine Sheffield and Don Bourne were absent.

25/99 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS. None.

25/100 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the minutes of the parish council meeting on 11 Nov 25.

25/101 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Cllr Harker gave an update on outstanding Actions:

- Speed control - on the agenda.
- No concerns regarding the land down Ruskway Lane, permitted development applies and it was noted that the drain had been cleared by the landowner. COMPLETED.
- Verge encroachment action outstanding – ONGOING.
- Dog control – Facebook message had been posted. COMPLETED.
- Nursery parking – Being monitored, seems to be less of an issue currently, to be deferred to any future occurrence. ONGOING.
- Emergency Plan – initial investigations looking at other PCs, will progress over the next few months. Somerset Prepared resource. Aim to launched within the year. ONGOING.
- Cllr Oakes explained that landowners have no mandate to clear out highway ditches to take highway water. SC stated it is the responsibility of the landowners. Cllr Harker to contact SC highways to request again that the ditches be reinstated and drain covers lifted and cleared. ONGOING

Cllr J Sheffield reported that all drain covers on Ruskway Lane had been cleared of overgrowth. COMPLETED.

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 07783 475200 E-mail: clerk@barrington-pc.gov.uk

25/102 CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

- a. [Community Health and Wellbeing Programme](#)
- b. Future Flight Social Science Research: Somerset Regional Case Study Plan
- c. Letter from the Leader of Somerset Council: Reflections and Updates
- d. LCN Correspondence
- e. Ramblers association correspondence forwarded to Footpath warden.
- f. New laptop has been purchased and awaiting setup.
- g. Quotation from SC for bin emptying received.
- h. Allotment insurance is not applicable as they are not a Committee or Society, waiting for response from PC insurance to confirm cover or add as necessary.

25/103 PLANNING – Decisions **REPORT**. None.

25/104 PLANNING – Applications.

- a. Planning Appeal: 22/01389/FUL at 1 - 2 Water Street Barrington Ilminster
Cllr Harker gave an update on the Planning Appeal for the refused application on Water Street. Due to the strict timescales of the appeal, it was not possible for the PC to submit comments. It was understood that most residents of Water Street had raised objections, although nothing was present on the planning portal. Awaiting the decision.

25/105 FINANCE – To **NOTE** the receipts for December 25.

REC	RECEIVED	DETAIL	AMOUNT
1	UTB	Credit Interest	£ 277.33
TOTAL RECEIPTS			Dec-25 £ 277.33

25/106 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** the payment schedule for January 26.

INV	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
1	K M Dike Nurseries	Ground Maint Dec25 2415,2416	£ 266.76
2	Jimmy Flynn Web Services	Annual web support hosting/email & domain	£ 225.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS			£ 491.76

25/107 FINANCE – Q3 Summary

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the Q3 Summary (App.1).

25/108 FINANCE – Budget 26-27

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the 2026-27 Budget (App.2).

25/109 FINANCE – Precept Request

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the 2026-27 Precept request of £23,100.

25/110 FINANCE – To **CONSIDER** the next steps for installation and purchase of a SID, to include Budget.

It was agreed to purchase at least one SID in the next financial year, also to arrange for SC Highways approval of location and installation of posts (subject to lead times) and the Memorandum Of Understanding to be in place with SC. Cllr McLean to provide a map indicating potential, desirable SID post locations for SC approval.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a budget of £3000 for purchase and installation of a SID.

ACTION: Cllr McLean & Clerk

25/111 REPORTS – To receive any Parish Councillor reports.

Cllr Harker – reported that there was a redundant Barrington PC Facebook page, agreed to try to get it taken down.

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Footpaths – 2 local lads completing their Bronze DoE working on the footpaths. Request for funds for maintenance. Approved but would need receipts for reimbursement.

25/112 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Meeting dates for the 2026-27 year inc. APM

25/113 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – 10 Feb 26 (all agenda items to the clerk by 30 Jan 26).

20:20 – Meeting closed.

APPENDIX 1

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL 2025-26 - Q3 SUMMARY

Receipts and Payments Summary for the year ending 31st March 2026

	Last Year	This Year	Budget	Remaining	Remaining	Variance
	2024-25	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26	between yrs
RECEIPTS						
Precept	£ 21,180.00	£ 22,196.00				£ 1,016.00
Deposit Interest	£ 190.69	£ 552.10				£ 361.41
Allotment Fees	£ 137.50	£ 90.00				-£ 47.50
Grants	£ -	£ -				£ -
VAT repayment	£ 1,481.79	£ 402.22				-£ 1,079.57
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 22,989.98	£ 23,240.32				£ 250.34
PAYMENTS						
Salaries	£ 6,112.02	£ 5,622.03	£ 6,100.00	£ 477.97	8%	-£ 489.99
Administration	£ 2,054.25	£ 1,773.95	£ 1,800.00	£ 26.05	1%	-£ 280.30
Ground Maintenance Contract	£ 2,630.24	£ 4,514.21	£ 4,500.00	-£ 14.21	0%	£ 1,883.97
Ranger	£ 352.09	£ -	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	100%	
Village Hall Hire	£ -	£ 168.00	£ 180.00	£ 12.00	7%	£ 168.00
I/T & Website	£ 828.53	£ 217.57	£ 500.00	£ 282.43	56%	-£ 610.96
Subscriptions	£ 198.55	£ 212.16	£ 160.00	-£ 52.16	-33%	£ 13.61
Insurances	£ 886.13	£ 735.99	£ 950.00	£ 214.01	23%	-£ 150.14
Training	£ 75.00	£ -	£ 200.00	£ 200.00	100%	-£ 75.00
Footpath Maintenance	£ -	£ -	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	100%	£ -
Grants (inc. PCC & VH)	£ 1,250.00	£ 350.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,150.00	77%	-£ 900.00
Asset Management	£ 513.94	£ 373.28	£ 1,000.00	£ 626.72	63%	-£ 140.66
Field Lease (Allotments)	£ 506.00	£ 520.00	£ 506.00	-£ 14.00	-3%	£ 14.00
Defibrillator	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	0%	
Parish Bins	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	100%	£ -
VAT incurred	£ 692.18	£ 1,071.92				£ 379.74
RESERVES CONTRIBUTIONS			£ 1,200.00			
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 16,098.93	£ 15,559.11	£ 22,196.00			
Exc of Recpt over Paymts	£ 6,891.05	£ 7,681.21				
plus balances b/fwd	£ 34,481.74	£41,372.79				
Balances c/fwd	£ 41,372.79	£ 49,054.00	CASHBOOK BALANCE			
Reconciliation with bank accounts as at 31 Dec 2025						
Unity Trust Current Account		£ 1,019.00				
Unity Trust Instant Access Account		£ 48,035.00				
Total balances at bank		£ 49,054.00	STATEMENT BALANCES			

APPENDIX 2

BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL 26-27 Budget

Budget Line	FY25-26 Budget	Projected total expend FY25-26	APPROVED Budget FY26- 27	NOTES
Clerks salary (Gross)	£ 6,100.00	£ 9,824.07	£ 7,500.00	
Admin & expenses	£ 1,800.00	£ 2,473.95	£ 1,500.00	
Fees & subscriptions	£ 160.00	£ 212.16	£ 220.00	
S137/ grants	£ 500.00	£ -	£ 500.00	
Village hall hire	£ 180.00	£ 333.00	£ 180.00	
IT & website	£ 500.00	£ 367.57	£ 300.00	
Training	£ 200.00	£ 75.00	£ 100.00	
Field lease (Allotments)	£ 506.00	£ 1,080.00	£ 560.00	
Parish maintenance & grass cutting	£ 4,500.00	£ 6,014.21	£ 4,000.00	
Asset management	£ 1,000.00	£ 373.28	£ 1,000.00	inc. play inspections
Insurance (PC & allotment)	£ 950.00	£ 735.99	£ 950.00	
Defibrillator	£ -	£ -	£ -	
Ranger scheme (rename/remove?)	£ 2,500.00	£ -	£ -	EoY to DRAINS RESERVE
Parish bins	£ 1,000.00		£ 1,000.00	NEW (2 bins/yr + 1 new)
Parish/highway safety (NEW)			£ 2,500.00	
Footpath maintenance TO RESERVE	£ 100.00		£ 100.00	RESERVE
Fitness equipment TO RESERVE	£ 500.00		£ 500.00	RESERVE
Highways & drainage TO RESERVE	£ 500.00		£ 500.00	RESERVE
Defibrillator TO RESERVE	£ 100.00		£ 100.00	RESERVE
IT replacement TO RESERVE	£ 100.00		£ 100.00	RESERVE
St Marys PCC (Grant)	£ 750.00	£ 1,100.00	£ 750.00	
Village hall (Grant)	£ 250.00	£ 250.00	£ 250.00	
Total	£ 22,196.00	£ 23,911.15	£ 22,610.00	

Reserves	Reserves at 31/3/2025	Additions current yr	Spend from reserve	Reserves at 31/3/2026	Notes
*IT replacement fund (ring fenced)	£ 680.13	£ 100.00		£ 780.13	
Defibrillator replacement fund (ring fenced)	£ 613.67	£ 100.00		£ 713.67	
Footpaths Reserve (ring fenced?)	£ 2,974.73	£ 100.00		£ 3,074.73	
Outdoor Fitness Fund (ring fenced)	£ 3,428.07	£ 500.00		£ 3,928.07	
Highways & Drains	£ 4,144.82	£ 3,000.00		£ 7,144.82	Ranger surplus add at EoY
*Election costs (ring fenced)	£ 350.00	£ -		£ 350.00	
*Enhanced PC Website (ring fenced)	£ 250.00	£ -		£ 250.00	
Winter Warmer Fund	£ 1,500.00	£ -		£ 1,500.00	
Legal Expenses	£ 500.00	£ -		£ 500.00	
Admin reserve - 50%-75% running costs	£ 26,931.37	£ -		£ 30,880.58	
Total Reserves	£ 41,372.79			£ 49,122.00	Predicted

Projected total reserves = £41373 (carried forward) + £22196 (Precept) + £1000(Receipts) - £ 15447 (projected total expenditure) = £49122

Ref: Precept Request FY25-26 = £22196