

ST PAUL MALMESBURY WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd July 2025 at 19:00 in Crudwell Village Hall

Present: Cllr Budgen (Chair), Hatherell (Vice-Chair), Briggs, Clogg, Ingham, Jones, Maslin, Merriman, Newman and Stephens

Public: One

39 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Panting, Sorby and Smith (WC-Sherston Division)

40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

None

41 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME IN RESPECT OF ITEMS OF BUSINESS INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA

None

42 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 25th JUNE 2025

The minutes of the parish council meeting on the 25th June 2025 were adopted as a true record and signed accordingly.

43 TO RECEIVE REPORT #07.1 ON PLANNING UPDATES AND REVIEW NEW APPLICATIONS

Cllr Budgen presented Report #07.1 and expressed disappointment that two applications the council had objected to, citing highway concerns, had been approved. It was agreed Cllr Budgen would write to the relevant planning officer regarding application PL/2025/04611 requesting the reasons behind the decision. Full comments submitted by the council can be viewed online at Wiltshire Council under the relevant application reference.

Site	Reference	Comments
Cleeve House, Rodbourne, SN16 0EZ	PL/2025/05008	No objection
Land West of Milbourne	PL/2023/04996	Comment
Garden Land at River Barn, Cowbridge Farm, SN16 9LZ	PL/2025/05400	Objection
Land adjacent to 22 Cowbridge Crescent, (within Cowbridge Mill estate)	PL/2025/05446	No objection

Application PL/2025/0611 - 17 Monks Park, Milbourne had only recently been received with a submission expiry date of the 20th August and would possibly be reviewed and a submission agreed via email as per the council's Standing Orders.

Action: Clerk

44 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The RFO presented the accounts for the year to date. The bank statement dated 30th June was noted and showed balances of £21,427.88 and £32,809.18 and matched the reconciliation statement. The reconciliations and the original bank statements were signed as correct by the Vice Chair as evidence of verification.

The RFO presented the payments schedule. The schedule was approved and Cllr Budgen signed the list of payments for authorisation as per supporting evidence; Cllr Stephens first authoriser, Cllr Clogg second authoriser.

The 2025-6 Quarter 1 Transparency Code was presented and approved; Clerk to upload to the website. The change of mandate for the United Trust Bank has been successful and there are now five signatories on this account.

Payment No.	Payee Details	Reason	Amount (£)
1	Franklin's Garden Supplies	Cowbridge path vegetation clearance	£580.00
2	Steve Innes Plant Hire Ltd	Installation of post & socket and village gate (Milbourne)	£720.00
3	Crudwell Village Hall	Hall hire for July, August & September	£60.00
4	TEEC	Annual website hosting and domain fee	£194.39
5	Hathaway Landscapes Ltd	Vegetation clearance	£420.00
6	Friends of Riverside	Hall booking for Personnel Meeting	£7.00
7	Hathaway Landscapes Ltd	Waste collection July 2025	£232.50
8	Hathaway Landscapes Ltd	Grass cutting July 2025	£289.08
		TOTAL	£2,502.97

Action: Cllrs Stephens, Clogg and Clerk

45 TO RECEIVE REPORT #07.2 TO CONSIDER ADOPTING THE REPORT FROM THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION COMMITTEE (IRC) OF WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Cllr Budgen presented report #07.2 highlighting the benefits to councils by possibly encouraging a wider demographic of volunteers that presently have carer issues to undertake. The policy has flexibility and councillors can choose not to receive all or part of any allowance. Cllr Hatherell objected to the principle of the policy and believed councillors often take on the role to contribute back to their parish and that any expenses incurred are claimable. It was agreed that a councillor's decision should remain private and their wishes only be communicated to the clerk. Cllr Briggs proposed that Option 3.3 be accepted, that is to adopt the report with all elected members able to claim the same allowance but with the chair able to claim an allowance double that of elected members. This was seconded by Cllr Jones and it was resolved for adoption by 7 votes to 3. Cllr Hatherell asked for his objection to be recorded. The clerk will email councillors in due course to ask if they wish to take the allowance.

46 TO CONSIDER A DONATION TOWARDS THE RUNNING COSTS OF THE SIGNPOST

Information regarding the viability of the Signpost publication was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. The number of copies printed each month has increased in recent years because of the number of additional houses in the area, consequently printing costs have increased as well as general increases in the cost of production. The council agreed to increase its donation to £150.

47 UPDATE REGARDING THE COMMUNITY LED CAMPAIGN FOR SHERSTON SURGERY

Cllr Smith was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following information: To enable Roz Savage MP to raise this matter in Parliament and voice the huge concern of the community with Ministers, it's very important that local residents sign the online petition: <https://www.rozsavage.uk/campaigns/sherston-surgery> Cllr Stephens enquired how wide a consultation there was in the local community. Cllr Ingham will find out from the next Patients Participation Group meeting. The information is listed in Lib Dem publicity material.

48 TO CONSIDER A MINOR HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT REQUEST FOR FOXLEY ROAD

A Minor Highway Improvement request for Foxley Road was circulated prior to the meeting. This raised safety concerns for pedestrians when crossing the road near Turtle (Truckle) Bridge to access the path leading to Daniels Well. Cllr Maslin recommended the addition of a white line to follow the curve of the bend when approaching from Foxley Road. The council agreed to support this request and to forward it to the Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG).

- 49 TO CONSIDER A QUOTE TO PLANT UP THE FOXLEY ROAD/COMMON ROAD TRIANGLE WITH DAFFODIL BULBS

This will be a future agenda item as quotes are awaited.

- 50 TO RECEIVE REPORT #07.3 ON THE LHFIG MEETING ON 15th JULY

Cllr Budgen reported that the request for low-level lighting along the footpath by the River Avon at Cuckingstool Mead and towards Parliament Row would be closed at present with a review of the need planned in the darker winter months.

- 51 VERBAL UPDATE ON THE MALMESBURY AREA BOARD (MAB) MEETING ON THE 8th JULY

Cllr Hatherell reported that the speeding enforcement team had visited 12 locations between Sherston and Ashton Keynes on the 17th June. Between 09:00 and 14:30 across these locations they caught around 50 drivers speeding. The drivers will receive either a speed awareness course or a fine and points depending on the speed and previous convictions. The locations from the Sherston Division (which included Filands) were chosen by Cllr Smith based on input from residents. WC Councillors are encouraging the speeding enforcement team to continue this initiative by targeting speeding hotspots. The MAB agenda and minutes can be found on the Wiltshire Council website.

- 52 TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORTS ON HIGHWAYS, PLAYING FIELDS, FOOTPATHS, PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP, PERSONNEL COMMITTEE, FINANCE COMMITTEE, PROJECTS WORKING PARTY & WEBSITE WORKING PARTY

Highways - Cllr Hatherell detailed the recent tasks undertaken by the Parish Steward and asked councillors to let him know of any jobs for the next visit on 28th July. Cllr Newman reported that the damaged road surface at Arches Lane had been repaired very quickly. Cllr Hatherell has reported a pothole at Parsloe's Farm on MyWilts and is now following this up with the Water Board. He was also requested to report on MyWilts a sinking drain cover opposite the petrol station on the A429. **Action: Cllr Hatherell**

Playing Fields – Cllr Hatherell reported that both playing fields had been safety checked and no issues found. The mowing has been done closer to the boundary edges as requested.

Footpaths – nothing to report

Patients Participation Group – Cllr Ingham reported that the PPG AGM will be held at Malmesbury Primary Care Centre on 5th August at 6.30pm. Minutes from the recent meeting are available in the 'news' section of the website: <https://www.stpaulmalmesburywithoutparishcouncil.org.uk>

Personnel Committee – nothing to report

Finance Committee – nothing to report

Projects Working Party – Cllr Hatherell reported that the PWP had identified the footpath between Corston and Burton Hill as the next project and a report has been sent to the local Highway Engineer for consideration. Cllr Budgen thanked Cllr Hatherell for producing the comprehensive report.

Website Working Party – a meeting is to be arranged.

The meeting closed at 20:07

The next meeting will be held at 19:00 on Wednesday 27th August 2025 at Crudwell Village Hall

..... Chair

..... Dated