

ST PAUL MALMESBURY WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 28th January 2026 at 19:00 in Crudwell Village Hall

Present: Cllr Budgen (Chair), Hatherell (Vice-Chair), Briggs, Ingham, Jones, Maslin, Newman, Sorby, Stephens and Smith (WC-Sherston Division)

Public: None

108 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Clogg, Merriman and Panting

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

None

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

None

111 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 17th DECEMBER 2025

The minutes of the parish council meeting on the 17th December 2025 were adopted as a true record and signed accordingly.

112 TO RECEIVE REPORT #01.1 ON PLANNING UPDATES AND REVIEW NEW APPLICATIONS

Cllr Budgen reported that consultation PL/2026/00442, Land at Newlands Farm, Rodbourne Road, Corston, was received today and would be discussed at the February meeting. Cllr Budgen presented Report #01.1. It was agreed the Clerk would contact the agents to arrange a site meeting for application PL/2026/00119. Full comments submitted by the council can be viewed online at Wiltshire Council under the relevant application reference.

Site	Reference	Comments
6, Filands, SN16 9JN	PL/2026/00011	No objection
Manor Farm, Rodbourne, SN16 0EX	PL/2026/00119	Comment

Action: Cllr Budgen & Clerk

113 FINANCIAL REPORTS

The RFO presented the accounts for the year to date. The bank statement dated 31st December was noted and showed balances of £6,957.54 and £43,065.94 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 Budgen second authoriser.

The 2025-6 Quarter 3 Transparency Code was presented and approved; Clerk to upload to the website.

Action: Cllrs Budgen, Stephens and Clerk

Payment No.	Payee Details	Reason	Amount (£)
1	HMRC Cumbernauld	Qtr 3 2025-26 Employer's National Insurance	£67.41
2	R J & S H Mellows	Reimbursement for Norton subscription & postage	£38.84
3	R J & S H Mellows	Home working allowance Q3 25-26	£78.00
4	Crudwell Village Hall	Hall hire January - March 2025	£60.00

5	Busy Fingers Printing Ltd	Vinyl SPMW stickers for 5 bins	£36.00
6	Friends of Riverside	Room hire for Personnel Meeting 2.2.26	£7.00
7	Hathaway Landscapes Ltd	Grass cutting Jan 26	£232.50
		TOTAL	£519.75

114 TO RECEIVE REPORT #01.2 ON THE LOCAL CYCLING & WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME

Report 01.2 was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Maslin reported that another meeting is planned as the local stakeholder group had meticulously assessed the proposed prioritised routes and wished to suggest alternatives that would encourage walking and cycling in the challenging location of this hill-top town.

115 TO CONSIDER REPORT #01.3 ON IMPORTANT TREE WORK IN THE CORSTON LNR

Cllr Budgen presented report #01.3 on the need to remove several trees from the south side of the pond in the LNR promptly before the amphibians return and the birds start breeding. He proposed the quote for £750 be accepted, to be funded from CIL income, this was unanimously agreed.

116 TO CONSIDER REPORT #01.4 TO INSTALL NEW SIGNAGE AT FOXLEY ROAD

Cllr Budgen presented report #01.4 to seek council support for the proposed Local Highway & Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG) solution to the potential highway hazard for pedestrians crossing Foxley Road in the vicinity of Turtle Bridge. The cost of the project will be in the order of £300 of which the council will need to contribute 30%, to be funded from council reserves. The council unanimously accepted the proposal.

Action: Clerk

117 TO CONSIDER REPORT #01.5 TO REPLACE THE EXISTING LAPTOP USED IN DOWNLOADING SID DATA

Cllr Jones presented report #01.5 to seek financial approval to purchase a replacement laptop used solely for the monthly collection of data from the council's seven Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). The existing laptop is very old and heavy and will no longer update. The Clerk confirmed that the existing antivirus software licence covered 3 devices. Cllr Briggs proposed the replacement of the laptop for a cost in the order of £550 excluding VAT, to be funded from CIL income. This was unanimously agreed.

Action: Cllrs Budgen and Jones

118 TO CONSIDER A HOUSEHOLDER REQUEST FOR A MINOR AMENDMENT TO THE FENCE LINE AT THE CORSTON LNR

Cllr Hatherell reported that an adjoining householder to the LNR wished to erect a new post and rail fence but the contractor has said this would be difficult with the established trees along the hedge line. It has been proposed moving the fence line about twelve inches towards the pond with an exchange of letters between the householder and SPMW agreeing there will be a new fence line but not a change to the legal boundary. It was agreed Cllrs Ingham and Hatherell would explore the reasons for the fence with the householder.

Action: Cllrs Ingham and Hatherell

119 TO CONSIDER THE DRAFT #9 NEWSLETTER

The draft newsletter was circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed to switch the wording around in the precept section. The Clerk to send to the email subscribers, add to the website and also for display on noticeboards.

Action: Noticeboard Monitors and Clerk

120 TO CONSIDER APPOINTING A FLOOD WARDEN TO THE COUNCIL

A Corston resident had attended Roz Savage's Flood Summit and believed that there was a strong case to put forward for having a Flood Warden role for Corston. Unfortunately the resident was not present at the meeting so it was agreed Cllr Hatherell will liaise with them and report back.

Action: Cllr Hatherell

121 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF TWO FINGER POST SIGNS FOR GRANGE LANE AND POUND HILL UP TO A SUM OF £1150 INCLUDING VAT

The council agreed to a sum of £1150 including VAT, to be funded from CIL income, for the purchase of two finger posts in Rodbourne. Villagers have requested the signs to be traditional in design, however the final option must obtain approval from the local Highway engineer.

122 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 reported that Parish Stewards are still on pothole duty. He has reported four potholes, road delamination and a blocked drain on MyWilts. He confirmed that the ditch near Kingway Bridge had been dug out in the last week. Cllr Newman requested that flooding on the A429 in front of the old police station in Burton Hill be reported. Cllr Maslin reported that the Parish Steward and the road sweeper have done an amazing job of clearing the leaves along Foxley Road.

Playing Fields – Cllr Hatherell reported that both the playing fields had been checked and are in good order. The appointed contractor has been working on the identified RoSPA items and plans to do the work at the Corston War Memorial next week.

Footpaths – Cllr Stephens reported that a resident had emailed stating that a few of the trees growing in the farmer’s field adjacent to the Cowbridge permissive path are dying and, after only a moderate wind, there were several large branches on the pathway which had fallen. It is thought the trees have Ash die back. Cllr Stephens will go and check and send photos to the Clerk. **Action: Cllr Stephens**

Patients Participation Group – the PPG is due to meet next week. Cllr Ingham reported that a Carers Tea Party is due to be held on the 26th February between 1 - 4.30 pm and any carers that belong to MPCC are welcome to attend. Posters will be displayed on noticeboards and uploaded to the website. **Action: Noticeboard Monitors and Clerk**

Personnel Committee – nothing to report.

Finance Committee

It was resolved to send a donation of £200 to sponsor Malmesbury Town Council's Malmesbury-in-Bloom 2026. It was agreed to request the floral display on the railings by the small Waitrose steps facing the pedestrian crossing. The clerk will inform the organisers and request an invoice. Cllr Briggs requested that the Clerk obtain an insurance quote from Community First, as listed in the recent WALC newsletter. **Action: Clerk**

Projects Working Party (PWP) – the next meeting is on the 11th February. Notes of the PWP meetings are available to councillors from the clerk.

Website Working Party – nothing to report.

The meeting closed at 20:13

The next meeting will be held at 19:00 on Wednesday 25th February 2026 at Crudwell Village Hall

..... Chair Dated