

WESTONZOYLAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 6 JULY 2026 AT 7:40 PM

AT THE VILLAGE HALL, WESTONZOYLAND

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Fisher (Chairman - in the Chair), Mrs Parfitt (Vice Chairman), Mr Dingwall, Mrs Newham, Mr Pearce, Mrs Timmins, Mr Turnbull

APOLOGIES: Messrs Bullock and Rodrigues (County Councillor)

13/26 Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11.05.26

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Council held on 11.05.26 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to corrections as advised to Min 05/26 in relation to work of the Head of the Rural Crime Team and of the Environment Agency in respect of waste tipping, Min 07/26.4 spelling of defunct, Min 10/26 to confirm that Councillor Rigby had suggested contact with Bill Cotton and to clarify that the Burbidge land is separate from other items referred in terms of the Planning Application.

14/26 Matters Arising

- i. **Website Update including Approval of Audit Recommendations in line with Practitioners Guide and .Gov.UK for Council Business** - all personal email addresses and home addresses to be deleted in favour of Westonzoyland Parish Council email addresses, apart from Councillor Dingwall's Somerset Council email address to be retained alongside Westonzoyland Parish Council email;
- ii. **(Min 04/26ii) Traffic Matters, Speeding, etc** – Councillor Dingwall to check proposed locations etc for two planned SIDs at the School and Monmouth Road; pursuance of 20mph requests and an addition renewal of 30mph sign to be replaced;
- iii. **(Min 04/26iii) Procurement of Highway Works**- response still awaited;
- iv. **(Min 04/25 - APPM) Retirement of Councillor Alder** – acknowledgement of long service and contributions to Village life and Clerk request for advert for resulting Parish Council vacancy;
- v. **(Min 12/26) SCRAPP – Update on Membership** – agreed not to be pursued at this time;
- vi. **(Min 12/26) Power Cuts in Village** – confirmed recent power cut due to incident with road digger.

15/26 Ward Member Reports and LCNs Update, including Working group - Highways/Active Travel (Min 05/26)

Councillor Dingwall commented on the circular on Somerset Council information which had been circulated by County Councillor Rodrigues, with particular reference to finances update, the CIPFA one star allocation, upcoming election year and budget comments, and reference to the Local Plan Consultation currently

underway, details of which had also been circulated.

Councillor Parfitt reported on the LCN meeting of 28.05.26 and the attendance of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Members agreed to support the Community Health and Wellbeing Project put forward by Cllr Parfitt with reference to Active Travel a map was displayed showing linking of sites, although it was confirmed there was no further movement of footpath links. In terms of footpath maintenance Cllr Mrs Timmins offered to follow up and establish ownership on the path/right of way disputed off Liney Road. (Right of way across Musgrove land.)

Also notification at LCN meeting on deferment of roadworks at Burrowbridge to beginning of August. Reference also made to work on the nature recovery launch.

16/26 Police/PCSO Report

Documents as received had been circulated, including reference to attendance at LCN.

17/26 Finance Update – Accounts for Payment, Paid and Receipts

Notice and submission of AGAR to External Audit and update on Audit of Accounts to 2025-26 and confirmation of approval of Policies Min 12/26.2 (previous Min 75/25 items 8 and 9). The Clerk submitted the financial report, including bank statements and reconciliation as at 01.07.26 and expenditure and income, and completion of the Internal Auditor's work for submission to External Audit.

Resolved: That the information as set out above be confirmed.

18/26 Play Area, Sovereign (5-Year) Scheme for Future Maintenance Service – Gate Springs etc and Inspections, Including Annual RoSPA Inspection

Discussions continued with Sovereign to secure the proper operation of the gate springs whilst other necessary inspections had been concluded, together with minor works carried out. The possibility of funding for additional goals was still being pursued through the Football Association (in the meantime request had been made to Middlezoy Rovers to continue use of the existing two smaller goals).

19/26 Village Hall Playing Pitches, Footway Around Ground and Track Maintenance and Repair Options and Quotations

The Chairman had been in contact with Kielys, pursuing the possibility of funding from their Community Fund for the path renewal, highlighting specific areas including the footway entrance to the Carnival Shed.

20/26 Battlefield Memorial

The Chairman was able to confirm that the strip of land adjoining the tree line had not been offered by the land owner as had been suggested.

21/26 Planning Applications

Towens SCC/4048/2023 – Documents had been added but it was found some had not been dealt with, with confirmation awaited on responses from Natural England, Environment Agency, Environmental Health, and noise assessments. Other factors included dust, Somerset Levels and Moors impact, habitat regulation assessment – remaining to be completed. Reference was also made to Durston activities on site and further impacts from Cannington Enterprises (RocketGro updates with comment on the lawful Development Certificate awaited and no further evidence from Somerset Planning.

Kielys - still ongoing with no clarity.

47 Liney Road – Parish viewpoint submitted.

Application 53/26/00007 – Reeds, 47 Liney Road – change from gym to beauty salon - points submitted in terms of Council in application as above, and issues raised in terms of svalidity of some responses.

Solar Power Panel Training Site off Load Lane – examination of activities continuing.

Application for Runway, East of Manor Farm, Liney Road (Mr Bawden) – approved

22/26 Publications and Correspondence

Resolved: That the items recorded in the report dated 01.07.26 and notified be noted and actioned where appropriate:

1. Somerset Council - monthly briefings and newsletters ;
2. (Min 75/25 items 8 and 9) Model Councillor Code of Conduct and Policy on Audio/Visual Recording and Photography at Council Meetings – **approved** (notices displayed and to be referenced at commencement of meetings);
3. England Coastal Path – 10 year anniversary;
4. Information Commissioner - £47 renewal of Data Protection fee;
5. Events, Safety and Management – information received;
6. Towens HGV and Driving Standards Log (available as produced by Cllr Timmins) - no references to date;
7. Magazines, Newsletters, Posters including MP contact, and Product Information;
8. Reference to Issues Referred and to be Pursued on Behalf of MP Office by Mark Weston;
9. Road Closure/Repairs - notices issued;
10. Register of Interests – forms submitted;
11. Request by Cllr Timmins for SALC contact – to be provided.

23/26 Issues Raised from the Public

1. Battlefield – reminder trees planted 100 years ago in 2027 and stones 100 years old in 2028 – Battlefield Group considering celebration with possibility of sculpture at the Battlefield.
2. Community Health and Wellbeing Project – as referenced above . Cllr Parfitt pursuing application for Healthy Living Wellbeing Fair - £1500.
3. Benches – as referred above for track round ground to be obtained (3 in number).
4. Request for Bigger Bin at Corner of Main Road.

The meeting finished at 9:15 pm

By Resolution in the absence of the public and press, issues via Cllr Mrs Parfitt:

1. Email addresses, addresses and GDPR (as referred above).
2. Procedural consent reference need for AGM and APPCs meeting to be separate agendas.
3. Ongoing issues with Parish Council website to chase updates.
4. Councillor roles within the Parish Council operational areas – to be clarified.
5. Decision making process/voting – to preference voting on all items.

6. Input from Somerset Councillors – noted.
7. Order of PC meetings to include public question time – as exemplified and current practice.

The meeting finished at 10.15 pm

Signed
Chairman