

PUXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Puxton & Hewish: in the North Somerset Council Ward of Congresbury & Puxton

Clerk: Donald Hill - 18 Mitford Slade Court, Mendip Road, Yatton, North Somerset BS49 4JG

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Minutes of the Meeting Held at 7.30pm on Thursday January 8th 2026

All meetings are held at 7.30pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise

Although under no obligation to, Dan Thomas, our NSC Ward Cllr, attends when possible

Present: Cllrs Jim Corbett (Vice-Chair & Meeting Chair), Christine MacFie, Clayton Penfold, Peter Penfold, Helen Riddell

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 0

001/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Mel Ellis, Lynda Redding, Ward Cllr Dan Thomas

002/26 DECLARATIONS: (*Dispensations apply to Cllrs re precept setting, and Village Hall matters*)
None

003/26 PUBLIC SESSION (*15 minutes - contributions limited to 3 minutes: they should be concise and to the point*)
None

004/26 LAST MEETING MINUTES

December 4th minutes were agreed and signed.

005/26 PLANNING *Details at <https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/>*

i. **New:** None

ii. **Decisions Due:**

- a. **22/P/3067/OUT:** Haybow Village (Banwell PC).
- b. **25/P/1418/FUL:** (Kingston Seymour PC) Solar Farm at Yew Tree Farm.
- c. **25/P/1098/FUL: Dolemoor L Solar Farm** (Congresbury PC).
- d. **25/P/1709/FUL:** Stable View change of buildings to Class E (commercial).
- e. **25/P/1932/FUL:** Flavours Building North - Change of use from C3 (garden area) to Class E display of retail goods

- iii. **Refused:** **25/P/0246/FUL:** New Orchard Farm Change from agricultural to business use.
- iv. **Appeal:** 24/P/0143/FUL - gypsy/traveller site adjacent to Heathfield Park.

006/26 FINANCE

- i. **2025-26 Accounts:** Accounts to date were reviewed and reconciled against the bank statement.
- ii. **Budget for 2026-27:** Final review of the budget as presented at the December meeting was agreed and is attached below as an annexe to these minutes. **Clerk to complete precept paperwork.**
- iii. **Payments approved:** ALCA Assertion 10 training course for all Councillors £132.00 **Clerk to pay.**
- iv. **Bank Mandate:** to be processed by Clerk.
- v. **Bank Deposit Account:** An account is now available to run with the charity current a/c.
Items iv. and v. To be progressed at February 5th meeting.

007/26 PARISH MATTERS

- i. **SpeedWatch:** St Annes SpeedWatch scheme. Dates for training awaited.
- ii. **Matters re the NSC Highways Portal:**
 - a. **Highway Verge Erosion on Puxton Lane:** Responses awaited from two NSC online reports. These works require engineering support to shore up the verges. With curb breakup having become a serious issue around the lanes across North Somerset during the heavy rains this year, it is unlikely that we will see these projects being dealt with any time soon.
 - b. **Wick Lane Request for 30mph Limit:** NSC response awaited.
 - c. **NSC's 20mph strategy for vulnerable roads:** For Puxton this revives the aspiration for Maysgreen Lane and the Village section of Puxton Road to be 20mph zones. NSC advice, suggests that an application via the Highways Portal was the way forward. **Clerk will revise original paperwork.**
 - d. **A370 Central Refuges:** re bus stops at The Full Quart, Moorland Park, Puxton Lane. Progress on hold.
 - e. **Old Post Office Lay-by:** Cllr P Penfold reported the Central Refuge as damaged. **Details need to be established and reported to NSC.**
- iii. **NSC Parish Visits:** NSC are keen for the Leader and other cabinet members to attend meetings in parishes: Clerk confirmed our interest and awaiting response.
- iv. **Wick St Lawrence SID Hire:** Update.
- v. **Potholes in Maysgreen Lane:** Cllr Corbett told the Clerk who reported it to NSC via their online system. The work was done within 12 days. Thank you NSC Area Engineer?
- vi. **NSC Shared Cost Parish Maintenance Trial:** NSC sharing verge maintenance costs with PCs. We will watch the trial and study the outcome.

008/26 GOVERNANCE

- i. **Preparing for Assertion 10:** (AGAR 2025/26). Clerk progressing paperwork as part of 2026-27 Governance review. Under the new Assertion 10. Best practice suggests that the Clerk and the Chair both have parish email addresses: it was therefore agreed to add the Chair to the council email list at an annual cost of £20.00. **Clerk to progress**

- ii. **ALCA Certified Training Course on Data Protection Principles:** Course booked.
- iii. **Clerk's 2 Courses re Assertion 10:** These are £35.00 each. 1 to be paid for by Walton-in-Gordano PC: the other to be paid for by Puxton PC. Courses booked.
- iv. **ALCA's Essential Councillor Course:** Cllr MacFie will attend this Zoom course.
- v. **Updated Accessibility Statement:** An updated statement is needed from VisionITC; cost circa £200 inc VAT. A programme for fixing any reported shortcomings must then be put in place. It was agreed that our website provider, VisionITC should be asked to conduct this work. **Clerk to progress.**

009/26 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Riddell: Fly-tipping continues along Puxton Lane and has been reported.

Cllr Corbett: The off-highway verge by the Cheese Factory continues to be filled with tarmac chippings which last but days before turning into a quagmire again. A give-way system was suggested by Cllr MacFie. *(Clerk's note: bearing in mind it is on a bend, this may be costly. The original plan to extend the highway into the area to form a passing place was never progressed due to financial constraints).*

Cllr P Penfold: Members will want to mark a tribute to the recent passing of former Councillor Chris Redding, who has committed so much to the Council and to the community over many years. He will be sorely missed. **Cllr Riddell undertook to organise the flowers and will be reimbursed via the Clerk.**

010/26 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 5th February 2026 at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at 7.55pm