

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BISHOPS HULL PARISH COUNCIL
Held at The FRANK BOND CENTRE on THURSDAY 22nd JANUARY 2026

Members Present:

Cllr T Taylor – Chairman	Cllr J Hunt – Parish and Somerset
Cllr J Emmott	Cllr B Fernandes
Cllr N Fernandes	Cllr M Trout
Cllr M Turner	Cllr J Wilson

Also Present: Helen McGladdery – Clerk and RFO, one members of the public and Somerset Cllr Ellis

Have Your Say

Cllr Ellis – advised National grid will be carrying out inspections next week in Taunton and for residents to be vigilant. SC have requested extra funding from central Government or they will be forced to implement an 11% Council tax increase. Park and Bus on A38 still not operational due to developer not signing over the site to the local authority.

Cllr Hunt – Advised of a fallen tree at netherclay over the road last month and this was quickly rectified. Concerns over planning application at the Coach House, Netherclay due to potential land slip, He has spoken to Kate Brown – SC Highways about including a speed reduction at Rumwell as well, she will contact the police again, who previously blocked this. He advised it is important to report pothole so SC are aware link below:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/potholes-and-road-damage/>

Action: The Clerk to circulate to Members and add a Facebook post

Meeting starts 7.25pm

755. Co-option of new Councillor to fill vacancy

Resolved: Members voted unanimously to co-opt Malcolm Turner and the paperwork was signed

Action:

1. The Clerk to submit paperwork to SC
2. Add Cllr Turner to the website
3. Allocate email address to Cllr Turner

756. To receive apologies for absence and approve reasons given

Cllr R Reed – Work commitment

Cllr H Harper – personal reasons

757. Declaration of Interest not already recorded

None

758. To Agree Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2025

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman

Action: The Clerk to add the minutes to the website

759. Planning – To receive the planning panel report on planning applications received:

None at time of setting agenda

760. Kinglake

Update on outstanding works prior to land transfer

Tree report received and Persimmon instructed work highlighted and the hedges will be cut before nesting season ahead of transfer

To discuss any further actions or confirm acceptance of transfer

Awaiting play equipment repairs, so defer until March meeting

Action: Add to March agenda

761. Devolution –

Bishops Hull Play Park

To receive latest update on progress of land transfer of the play park from Somerset Council

No further update

Action:

1. The Clerk to request PC solicitor chase SC
2. Cllr Hunt to contact SC to escalate the transfer

To discuss any further actions or confirm acceptance of transfer

Deferred

Action: Add to March agenda

762. Financial Matters

Detail of Receipts and Payments since previous meeting

Receipts

Somerset Prepared grant	£1,000.00
Avery – CN advert	£60.00
CIL Interest	£268.68
Reserves Interest	£651.10
Bloor Homes grant (Netherclay)	£250.00

Payments

Mobile phone - Nov	£8.54
Service charge	£6.00
Mobile phone - Dec	£8.54
BH HUB hire - Dec	£28.00
Parsons - Nov	£152.26
SALC training Jane - planning	£35.00
Carly Press - Jan CN	£190.00
SC pensions - Dec	£503.73
HMRC - Dec NI and Tax	£393.91
H McGladdery December Expenses	£94.83
Service charge	£6.00
The Clerks December salary was paid in this period	

Invoices to be approved

BH HUB hire – Jan finance meeting	£15.00
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Friends of Netherclay – Bloor grant	£250.00
Friends of Netherclay grant	£500.00

To receive budget to spend monthly report - Attached

To agree to Clerk purchasing online storage to back up PC files

Resolved: To purchase OneDrive storage

Action: The Clerk to arrange the purchase and upload files

To receive the three year forecast - Attached

To confirm budget for 2026/27 - Attached

Resolved: Councillors discussed the budget in detail and confirmed the budget for 2026/27

To confirm precept request from Somerset Council for 2026/27

Resolved: Councillors approved a 2.7% increase which equates to a 12p per month increase for a band D property

Action: The Clerk to submit request to SC by 30th January

To discuss grant request from Friends of Netherclay Woodland

Resolved: To grant a support grant of £500

Action: The Clerk to arrange the payment

763.Clerks Report which will include all matters arising from previous minutes and items of interest

The Clerk's report was distributed to Members detailing minute actions. The Clerk also advised SC are introducing Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Orders – a consultation will be launched to highlight areas

Action: Add to March agenda

764.Emergency plan volunteers update

All volunteers have submitted their information for DBS checks, a list of equipment has been compiled and will be purchased, first aid course booked for 4 key volunteers. Grant received of £1000 from Somerset prepared to fund the above.

765.Speed Indicator Device

To receive the latest data from both devices

Data continues to show decrease in speeding. Cllr Hunt advised he had received requests to install the SID at the bottom of Shutewater Hill for traffic entering the village.,

Action: Cllr Taylor to request this as a speed watch site initially.

To agree locations for February and March

Resolved: Councillors agreed to keep 1 SID on Bishops Hull Road and the other SID on Silk Mills Road for February and March

766.Parish maintenance:

Update on additional maintenance carried out

None in January

To agree any areas requiring additional maintenance

A quote was received to paint the steps at Gillard's from the Playing Fields of £320.

Resolved: To contact the Primary School to request this is carried out and the PC will split the cost.

Action:

1. The Clerk to write to the school
2. To add installing a hand rail to March agenda

Update on compost heap removal and to discuss any cost implications to the PC

The Church, Hub and Trust will fund the removal of the heap which will be carried out in the coming months.

767.Update on Parish Council proposal to reduce speed limits on A38

The Traffic Regulation Orders have been displayed and added to Facebook, Website and Community news. Following the consultation work will be planned for April. Cllr Hunt raised concerns that the PC and TTC will split the cost 50/50 as previously agreed.

Action: The Clerk to schedule a meeting with TTC to discuss

768.Suggested items from Councillors for inclusion in next meeting

- PSPO's
- Handrail on steps Gillard/Playing Fields
- Kinglake and Play Park transfers
- Update on A38 speed reduction and meeting with TTC

769.Date of next meeting: Thursday 5th March 2026, 7pm at The Hub

Meeting closed: 8.20pm

Cllr Tony Taylor – Chairman

Attachment:

1. Budget to spend report
2. Draft Budget
3. Three year forecast

1. Budget to spend report

RECEIPTS	Actual		Budget	Variance	
Precept	£ 74,000.00		£ 74,000.00	£ -	
Interest	£ 2,964.43		£ 1,000.00	£ 1,964.43	
Community News	£ 2,784.00		£ 2,850.00	-£ 66.00	
Allotments	£ 192.50		£ 815.00	-£ 622.50	
Loan	£ 1,835.38		£ 1,835.38	£ -	
CIL Payments	£ -			£ -	
Vat refund	£ 3,111.36			£ 3,111.36	
Total Receipts	£ 84,887.67		£ 80,500.38	£ 4,387.29	
					6 months costs
PAYMENTS					
VAT	£ 4,552.99			£ 4,552.99	
Clerks salary	£ 16,246.23		£ 30,000.00	-£ 13,753.77	-£ 6,876.89
Pension Contributions	£ 4,325.43		£ 8,400.00	-£ 4,074.57	-£ 2,037.29
Clerks allowance	£ 234.00		£ 350.00	-£ 116.00	-£ 58.00
Establishment costs	£ 611.63		£ 1,500.00	-£ 888.37	-£ 444.19
Local amenities	£ 1,201.98		£ 5,000.00	-£ 3,798.02	-£ 1,899.01
Supporting local groups	£ 317.97		£ 1,500.00	-£ 1,182.03	-£ 591.02
Allotments	£ 1,601.11		£ 1,000.00	£ 601.11	£ 300.56
Community news	£ 1,873.00		£ 2,850.00	-£ 977.00	-£ 488.50
Audit (Establishment cost)	£ 422.50		£ 750.00	-£ 327.50	-£ 163.75
Insurance (Establishment cost)	£ 503.04		£ 1,500.00	-£ 996.96	-£ 498.48
CIL funds	£ 16,060.42		£ -	£ 16,060.42	£ 8,030.21
Local services	£ 217.00		£ 6,500.00	-£ 6,283.00	-£ 3,141.50
137	£ 25.00		£ -	£ 25.00	£ 12.50
Membership	£ 1,491.03		£ 1,400.00	£ 91.03	£ 45.52
Loan	£ 1,835.38		£ 1,853.38	-£ 18.00	-£ 9.00
Training	£ 318.00		£ 500.00	-£ 182.00	-£ 91.00
Footpath maintenance	£ 217.00		£ 1,000.00	-£ 783.00	-£ 391.50
Rospa play inspection			£ 1,000.00	-£ 1,000.00	-£ 500.00
Playground repairs			£ 2,000.00	-£ 2,000.00	-£ 1,000.00
Speed indicator device	£ 550.52		£ 500.00	£ 50.52	£ 25.26
Bishops Mead	£ 3,720.44		£ 10,000.00	-£ 6,279.56	-£ 3,139.78
Bishops Hull Playing Fields Trust			£ 1,000.00	-£ 1,000.00	-£ 500.00
Community Woodland			£ 1,000.00	-£ 1,000.00	-£ 500.00
Planting	£ 63.99		£ 1,000.00	-£ 936.01	-£ 468.00
Total Payments	£ 56,388.66		£ 80,603.38	-£ 28,767.71	-£ 8,301.33
Surplus / Defecit	£ 28,499.01	£ -	-£ 103.00	£ 33,155.00	

2. Draft budget 2026/27

BUDGET 2026/27	
ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	Budget 26/27
Precept - Received from Somerset Council (Residents element of Council tax bill) Every additional £1000 increases residents cost by 81p per year	£ 76,000.00
Other Somerset Council Grants - previously received from SW&T Council and honoured for this year by Somerset Council, very unlikely to be paid in future. (£1,700 - Trust and £320 Footpaths)	£ -
Community News - Payment received from advertisers in the Community News. Cost calculated to cover printing costs (rates £60 annual box and £6 mini monthly advert)	£ 3,055.00
Allotments - rental income received from plot holders, aims to cover land rent from Somerset Council, Insurance, maintenance and water fees (rent £30 half plot, £15 quarter plot, £20 large raised bed and £15 small raised bed)	£ 815.00
Bank interest - Variable based on interest rate, currently 2.75% on CIL and Savings, current account does not attract interest	£ 1,000.00
Bishops Hull HUB Loan repayment - PC took out loan to enable the completion of the HUB in May 2020, total loan £50,000 for a 49 year term. The HUB agreed to pay this loan back and sends the repayment fees to the PC twice a year. Outstanding loan £48,715.12, annual repayment £1835.38	£ 1,835.38
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 82,705.38

ESTIMATED PAYMENTS	Budget 26/27
Basic payments	
Clerk's salary inc NI contributions - Clerks salary is based on a job evaluation for the role the Clerk carries out, based on duties required for the role. Budget to increase clerks hours to 20 per week based on extra duties from Kinglake, Play park and devolved services	£ 31,500.00
Pension contributions - The Clerk is in the Local Government pension scheme, the same as Somerset Council employees and the employer contributions this year are reduced to 17.9%(from 22.3% in previous years) of the Clerks salary, so this payment will increase with any pay increase or increase in hours for the Clerk	£ 5,638.50
Clerk's allowance - This is the HMRC set amount for working from home as an office, use of light heat, WIFI, storage of files etc	£ 350.00
Establishment costs - Hall hire, stamps, paper, printing, mobile phone	£ 1,000.00
Membership - SALC and SLCC Membership, enabling the PC to obtain advice for free, document templates etc. and training at reduced costs	£ 1,750.00
Litter/Dog Bins - The Charge Somerset Council applies to empty the 3 dog bins owned by the PC at Kinglake, Netherclay and Mountway Road. Any new bin installed would incur a weekly charge of £7.33 to have it emptied (twice a week)	£ 4,000.00
Allotments - SC rent £150 per year, insurance £130, Water £250	£ 1,000.00
Audit fees - Internal audit £120, external audit £500, the more income the PC has the higher the charge	£ 750.00
Insurance - This will increase due to taking on Kinglake and play park in village	£ 1,500.00
Footpath maintenance - to cover additional work required on the ROW network	£ 1,000.00
Community News - Printing costs for 12 editions and 2 inserts	£ 3,055.00
Bishops Hull HUB Loan - Repayment of loan to build HUB (£50,000)	£ 1,835.38
Training - To cover training for Councillors and Clerk	£ 500.00
ROSPA/Play inspections - The Play areas will require monthly inspections, which can be outsourced to Somerset Council and annual inspections by ROSPA	£ 1,000.00
Playground repairs - This is just for the village play park, as Kinglake commuted sum can cover any Kinglake repairs	£ 2,500.00
Speed Indicator Devices and volunteers - Any PPE or additional items required	£ 500.00
Legal fees - Bishops Mead paid and Persimmon cover Kinglake costs	£ -
Bishops Mead - Grass cutting and tree maintenance	£ 8,000.00
Elections - contingency in case an election is called in the Parish	£ 1,250.00
Local services - Verge cutting/ hedge cutting/gully clearing/leaf clearance	£ 6,500.00
Sub Total	£ 73,628.88
Optional payments for consideration	
Supporting local groups/donation - Poppy wreath/Citizens advice or local groups requiring support	£ 3,000.00
Planting in the village - To add to bulb planting already carried out	£ 300.00
New Play equipment - play park - to replace broken equipment that was removed	£ 5,000.00
sub total	£ 8,300.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 81,928.88
Deficit/Surplus	£ 776.50
Earmarked reserves	
New play equipment	£5,000

3. Three Year Forecast

	Estimate 25-26	Forecast 26-27	Forecast 27-28	Forecast 28-29
RECEIPTS				
Precept from SC	£ 74,000.00	£ 76,000.00	£ 80,500.00	£ 93,000.00
Additional grants	£ 1,100.00	£ -	£ -	
Allotment rents	£ 815.00	£ 815.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Bank interest	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Community News	£ 2,850.00	£ 2,850.00	£ 3,000.00	£ 3,000.00
Bishops Hull HUB loan repayment	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38
Total receipts	£ 82,100.38	£ 82,500.38	£ 96,335.38	£ 108,835.38
PAYMENTS				
Clerk's salary inc Employer NI	£ 25,000.00	£ 31,500.00	£ 35,866.00	£ 40,671.00
Pension Contributions	£ 6,000.00	£ 5,638.50	£ 6,420.01	£ 7,280.11
Clerk's allowance	£ 312.00	£ 350.00	£ 370.00	£ 400.00
Establishment costs	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,100.00	£ 1,200.00
Memberships	£ 1,491.03	£ 1,750.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,250.00
Local Amenities (Noticeboard/Bench/Bin/Dog bin)	£ 2,400.00	£ 4,000.00	£ 4,500.00	£ 5,000.00
Allotments	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,350.00
Audit fees	£ 422.50	£ 750.00	£ 900.00	£ 1,000.00
Insurance	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,600.00	£ 1,700.00
Footpath maintenance	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,500.00
Community News	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,850.00	£ 3,200.00	£ 3,500.00
Bishops Hull HUB Loan	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38	£ 1,835.38
Training	£ 300.00	£ 500.00	£ 600.00	£ 700.00
ROSPA/Play Inspections	£ 450.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,500.00
Playground repairs	£ -	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
Speed Indicator Device	£ 750.00	£ 500.00	£ 500.00	£ 3,000.00
Kinglake and Bishops Mead legal fees	£ 1,207.00	£ -	£ -	£ -
Bishops Mead maintenance	£ 5,000.00	£ 8,000.00	£ 9,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Elections	£ -	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,250.00	£ 1,250.00
Bishop's Hull Trust	£ 250.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Community woodland	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Supporting local groups & donations	£ 100.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Local services	£ 3,000.00	£ 6,500.00	£ 7,500.00	£ 8,500.00
Planting	£ 63.99	£ 300.00	£ 400.00	£ 500.00
New play equipment play park		£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Total payments	£ 57,581.90	£ 86,723.88	£ 96,291.39	£ 108,636.49
Surplus/Deficit for the year	£ 24,518.48	-£ 4,223.50	£ 43.99	£ 198.89
Opening balance of PC Funds	£ 71,409.52	£ 95,928.00	£ 91,704.50	£ 91,748.49
Estimated closing balance of PC Funds	£ 95,928.00	£ 91,704.50	£ 91,748.49	£ 91,947.38