



OLD CLEEVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th June 2026 at

7PM

AT WASHFORD MEMORIAL HALL.

Present:	Cllr Stabb (Chairman)	Yes	Cllr Gaskin	Yes
	Cllr De'Ath (Vice-Chairman)	Yes	Cllr Johnson-Smith	Yes
	Cllr Short	Yes	Cllr Olivier	No.
	Cllr Cridland	Yes	Cllr Baker	No.
	Cllr Dutton	No.	Cllr Smith	Yes
	Cllr Strom	Yes	Cllr Eggar	No.
	Cllr Gannon	No.	Cllr Buckle	Yes
In attendance:	No members of the public.			

Minute

- 22/26 **To note apologies for absence and approve reason, where appropriate.**
- The Council noted apologies from Cllr Gannon, Cllr Dutton, Cllr Olivier, Cllr Eggar and Cllr Baker.
- 23/26 **Declarations of Interest/Dispensations in respect of matters on the agenda at this meeting.**
Cllr Cridland declared an interest in item 6(a).
Cllr Strom declared an interest in the whole of item 6.
- 24/26 **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2026.**
RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.
- 25/26 **Public Participation**
Cllr Cridland spoke to the meeting as a resident of the Parish. Cllr Cridland raised right of way issues relating to land near his home and ownership issues surrounding the piece of land to be considered under item 6(a).
- 26/26 **Somerset Councillor: To note the report from Cllr Strom (Somerset Council)**
Cllr Strom provided a verbal update to the meeting. It was noted that a written update would be included with the minutes when available.
- 27/26 **Planning: To agree a response to the following Planning Application(s):**
- a) **3/26/26/008 on Land adjacent to The Smugglers, Blue Anchor Road, Carhampton, TA24 6JS.**
The Council considered the application and raised concerns about possible future residential use if permission were to be granted. The Council noted that no supporting evidence had been provided to demonstrate the business need for the development and was cautious about the motives for the application due to the lack of evidence in support of business need.
RESOLVED: It was agreed by a majority, with one abstention, to object to the application on the grounds that the site is within a flood zone, there is no access, there are concerns that the development could be converted to residential use, and there is no supporting evidence of business need.
 - b) **EXM/26/120/HH Woodside, Roadwater Road, Roadwater, Watchet, TA23 0RG.**
The Council noted that this was a retrospective application.
RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to support the application.
 - c) **To consider any planning applications after the agenda has been issued.**
No further planning applications had been received.
- 28/26 **Finance**
- a) **Bank Reconciliation: to receive and note the bank reconciliation statement of 31st May 2026.**
The bank reconciliation was received and noted.
 - b) **To receive and note expenditure against budget for the year to date.**
The expenditure against budget report was received and noted. A few queries were raised regarding budget and coding matters, which Cllr D'Ath will take up with the RFO.
 - c) **To resolve to make the payments shown on the schedule.**
RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the payments shown on the schedule, totalling £19,597.27.
 - d) **To consider the costs for Councillor training.**



OLD CLEEVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th June 2026 at
7PM

AT WASHFORD MEMORIAL HALL.

The Council noted the SALC planning training cost of £25 per councillor, but the proposed date did not work due to a meeting clash. Cllr Strom reported that she had spoken to the Lead Member for Planning, who would email details of the planning training available. The Council agreed to consider this further in due course, as it may be more cost effective.

e) To consider the quotations for a replacement bench in Old Cleeve.

Cllr Stabb had obtained three quotations.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to accept the quotation from Glasdon for £608 including delivery. Cllr Stabb will arrange the order. Cllr D'Ath reported that he would try to fix and restore the old bench and place it in another location.

f) To consider the quotation for the tree condition survey for Puthills Copse.

The Council considered a quotation of £580 from SJM Tree Services for the survey. The Council noted that, as landowners, it had a duty to ensure safety. Councillors were asked to send local contractor contacts to the Clerk so that two further quotations could be sought.

RESOLVED: This item was deferred to the next meeting.

g) To consider the quotation report for a picnic bench at Belle Vue play area.

The Council noted that the Parish Council does not own the land. It was agreed that the Council should write to Somerset Council to seek permission to install a picnic bench. Cllr Strom will make enquiries.

h) To consider the quotation for an "at your own risk" sign at Puthills Copse.

Cllr Stabb reported that a quotation had been obtained from Active Signs in Minehead. Further clarification was required on how the sign would be fixed to the pole.

RESOLVED: It was agreed that this item could be approved under delegated authority once confirmation of the fixings had been received.

i) To receive a grant application from Roadwater Cricket Club.

The application was considered. The Council raised concerns as the cricket club cuts the grass on behalf of Roadwater Village Trust. It was suggested that the application should come from Roadwater Village Trust as the body directly responsible for the grass cutting. It was further suggested that a three-year Service Level Agreement with the Village Trust would be preferable to ensure the grass cutting can be undertaken. The Council noted that the application as submitted did not meet the grant criteria.

RESOLVED: This item was deferred pending further information.

29/26 **Parish Plan: to review progress and agree any actions (Cllr Dutton)**

In Cllr Dutton's absence, it was agreed that this item would be moved to the next meeting.

Cllr Strom suggested that the Parish Preparedness Survey was an important issue, particularly as grant funding for flooding is becoming available.

30/26 **Highways: To note any updates on this matter.**

a) To consider parking issue in Roadwater.

The Council discussed ownership of the grass areas where parking is taking place and causing obstruction to parishioners. Cllr Strom will investigate.

31/26 **Washford Recreation Ground**

a) To receive an update on the MUGA project.

The Council noted that the project cost was approximately £38,000 and that arrangements would be made to pay the 25% deposit. The Sport England grant of £7,500 had been received, the Norman Family Charitable Trust had awarded £2,500, and Hinkley Point C had awarded £10,000. This provided £20,000 towards the MUGA project.

The Council noted that, as a result, approximately £45,000 to £50,000 remained available towards additional projects. Thanks were given to the RFO for obtaining the grants.

b) To consider any actions required for the practicalities of the MUGA project.

The Council discussed booking the area at the back of Washford Hall and liaising with Washford Hall regarding costs. It was noted that there may be a need to pay a little more for a water source/bowser. The Council also discussed the management of bookings, noting that the Chair of Pickleball had some ideas and equipment, including tennis nets, for future consideration. The likely start date was noted as



OLD CLEEVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th June 2026 at
7PM

AT WASHFORD MEMORIAL HALL.

mid-August and local residents should be informed.

c) To receive correspondence from a resident regarding the dog waste bin.

Cllr D'Ath confirmed that he had sorted the litter bin.

32/26

Speed Indicator Device (SID) and road safety matters.

a) To consider any updates in relation to the installation of new SIDs.

The Council noted that the SID at Chapel Cleeve was now in place and that data should be shared publicly. The Clerk will chase Cllrs Eggar and Dutton for what3words references and photographs for the outstanding areas. The Bilbrook location is still being investigated.

b) To discuss possible speed reducing measures at The White Horse Inn, Washford.

Concerns were raised regarding speeding in this area. Cllr Strom will investigate signs. The owners of The White Horse Inn are to be advised to identify an appropriate location for a SID, as they have expressed interest in funding one.

33/26

Environment Committee:

a) To receive the ecology survey for Puthills Copse.

The ecology survey was received.

b) To set a date for the next meeting of the Environment Committee to discuss the Ecology Survey.

It was agreed that a meeting date for the Environment Working Party would be arranged between members in early July to consider the report and next steps.

c) To receive an update on the Land at Belle Vue Play Area in Washford.

Cllr Strom reported that she had taken this matter on and that the position had been made clearer. Due diligence remains to be carried out and the Council is waiting to hear from the landowner.

d) To consider the Licence Agreement in relation to the school playing field.

The Council noted that there is a draft agreement and that HCR Law had quoted £600 to review it. Cllr D'Ath expressed the view that the Council should charge the School for the legal costs. Cllr D'Ath had requested a maintenance agreement, but no response had been forthcoming. The Council could not ask Darren to price the maintenance until that information had been received. The Council noted that it needed the School's agreement in respect of legal costs. The Clerk had chased this and will chase again.

e) To consider the concerns raised around feeding corvids and seagulls.

Cllr Stabb confirmed that this had been included in the Parish Magazine and would also be placed on the Parish Council's website.

f) To note the felling of four protected sycamore trees at 74 Cleeve Park.

This was noted.

g) To consider the formal concern relating Fire Risk Management and Safety Oversight - Steam Railway (Somerset).

Cllr Strom provided an update and confirmed that concerns had been raised formally and also raised with the MP. The Council agreed that the Parish Council should write to the relevant contacts, which the Clerk holds and will send to Cllr Strom. The Council will ask what risk assessments have been carried out and what mitigation works have been undertaken prior to the summer. The Council noted that it was taking the matter seriously.

34/26

Reports for information only - no decisions to be made

a) To note the Clerk's Report.

The Clerk's Report was noted.

b) To note the date of the Finance Training for all Councillors.

The Council noted that finance training would be held on 8th July 2026 from 6pm to 8pm at Washford Hall, run by the RFO. The RFO had sent through training documents. It was noted that there would be a Finance Committee meeting that evening. The Locum Clerk will send out a formal



OLD CLEEVE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th June 2026 at
7PM

AT WASHFORD MEMORIAL HALL.

agenda, but the meeting will be clerked by the RFO.

c) To receive an update on the situation with Tregenna.

Cllrs Strom and D'Ath will arrange a meeting to visit the site and speak with those involved to ascertain what can be done to assist the situation. Cllr L Buckle will also attend.

35/26 **Items for future agendas.**

No items were received.

36/26 **To note that the next meeting of Old Cleeve Parish Council will be held on Monday 20th July 2026 at Roadwater Village Hall at 7pm.**

This was noted by the Council.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 20:13.

Signed.....

Dated: