

# HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish - Helen Chadwick

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## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** - Pippa Fowler (Chair), Shaun O'Dell, Sue Wright, Annette Cox, Nick Bridle, Kevin Comer, Iwan Witt and Andy Grant (from 7.30pm) plus attendees as below

**Apologies:** - Katie Piper, Cllr Sarah Wakefield

**In Attendance:** - Ms Chadwick as Clerk plus six members of the public

### **Public Forum**

- Cllr Wakefield's update was circulated including details on the Somerset social care crisis and hardship fund allocation to Somerset.
- Concerns were raised about the stray signage left around the village from roadworks and diversions. To be reported again.
- The condition of the verges to be reported due to safety concerns
- An update re second defibrillator at the Village Hall was raised, and agreed a good idea. Potential grants and costings to be tabled at the next meeting together with any support from the Village Hall.
- The ditch in Mill Lane with the exposed cable has been fixed.

### **1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair in accordance with Standing Order 5 f**

Pippa Fowler was proposed as Chair by Annette Cox and seconded by Kevin Comer, and elected unanimously and declared her Acceptance of Office. Vice Chair to be on a rotating basis starting with Annette Cox.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Katie Piper. It was resolved that the apologies, and the reason for them, be accepted.

### **3. Declarations of interest**

None

### **4. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Parish Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were approved.

### **5. Community Updates and Councillor external contact reports**

To update Council on any subcommittee activity and external contacts since last meeting:

13<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Signed: ..... Dated.....

### **5.1 Greener Hatch Beauchamp**

Next repair cafes are on 27 June and 24 October. Quotes for solar panels on the Village Hall have been sought and grants will be investigated. Shaun to enquire on village hall electricity usage by month.

### **5.2 Neighbourhood Plan**

There will be a village referendum on 25<sup>th</sup> June to vote on whether the Plan is adopted. This will be publicised from 20 May.

### **5.3 Footpath update**

Councillors received an update from the Parish Path Liaison Officer (PPLO) on his meeting with Neroche Parish re opening up the permissive path under the A358. Thanks were expressed by Councillors for his work.

### **5.4 Community Resilience/Emergency Plan including proposal on interactive map**

No update

### **5.5 Maintenance update**

Drain survey complete and prioritised. The report and data were circulated. Trend is worsening. The Village Tidy was held on 2 May and was again successful, thanks to all involved.

### **4.6 Any other reports**

Issues of recurrent bonfires have been directed to report on Somerset Council website. Antisocial use of electric scooters reported to PCSO, who has spoken to those responsible. Any further incidents should also be reported to the PCSO. Traffic issues resulting from the closure of the A358 in March have been reported to Somerset Council in the hope that better signage/one-way systems could avoid the chaos in the lanes. The SID installation is pending works by Somerset Council to fix the necessary posts.

## **6. Insurance**

Councillors reviewed and agreed the insurance renewal in the sum of £449.53. Last year was £381.83 so this is an increase, due to the speed indicator device and a pending claim relating to damage to the Clerk's car, but 2024/25 was £431.95 so in that context the 2-year increase looks quite sensible

## **7. Updates to Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct**

Councillors approved the updated 2026 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct as circulated in advance of the meeting.

## **8. Station Road development/CIL**

Following representations from Sarah Wakefield ref agreement on uses of s106 monies without the input of the Parish Council, it was agreed to write to Mike Hicks, Planning Officer, seeking clarification and assurance that the Parish Council will be consulted. Kevin Comer to forward previous correspondence.

## **9. Archive space**

Councillors discussed archiving which is presently stored at the Clerks house. It was agreed to review this again should it start to become onerous. Historically records have been sent to Somerset Archive.

## **10. Finance**

### **10.1 Bank Reconciliation**

13<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Signed: ..... Dated.....

The Council approved the bank reconciliations.

### 10.2 Schedule of Cheques

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques. It was noted that the Bankline charges were refunded in the sum of £160.00.

Summary of Payments Due			
To pay:			
Clerks wages	6 Mar to 7 May 9 weeks	625.50	13.90 x 9 weeks x 5 hrs
Clerks expenses	paint etc for village tidy	48.25	
	exps for annual parish meeting	17.22	
	ink (50%)	11.39	702.36
Chairs expenses	exps for annual parish meeting		39.37
Somerset Council	dog bins to 31 Mar		33.55
Zurich insurance	policy YLL-2720866133		449.53
			inv 32016294
Cheques to pay:		<u>£ 1,224.81</u>	

The council in addition agreed the sum of £174.80 plus VAT for an additional dog bin.

### 10.3 AGAR

The Council reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Report subject to completion of the Internal Audit

### 10.4 Annual Review of Risks

The Council received and approved the Annual review of Risks from the Clerk

### 11. Agenda Items for next meeting

Additional defib costing, solar panel, Adopt a Drain

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2026)

The minutes reflect an accurate record of events subject to any amendments listed below.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:

Amendments:

Produced by:

**Helen Chadwick**, Clerk

hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com

13<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Signed: ..... Dated.....