

Luccombe Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting held at 7:30pm on Weds 28^h May 2025 in Luccombe Village Hall, Luccombe
This was the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Present: Cllr Dascombe (Chair) (JD) (From 19:41), Cllr Harding (Vice Chair) (MH) Cllr Gande (RG) Cllr Stapleford (JS) Cllr Mullis (RM), Cllr Gummer (RG), Cllr Farmer (RF), Somerset Cllr Nicholson (FN) from 19:30, Dr Flind (Clerk)

The meeting commenced at 19:15

1. Co-option of Councillors to fill vacant seats	Cllrs Gummer and Farmer were co-opted to the Council and all seats are now full once again.	
2. Election & Declaration of Chairman	Cllr Dascombe was re-elected to the position of Chair	
3. Election & Declaration of Vice Chairman	Cllr Harding was re-elected to the position of Vice Chair	
4. Apologies & Declarations of Interest	SP Gave apologies	
5. Minutes	It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 th February 2025 be accepted as a true and accurate record.	
6. Matters Arising	Councillors discussed the site at Wychanger Orchard. The Clerk emailed and left a voicemail with NT for an update prior to the meeting but did not receive a reply. Councillors discussed access to the site (still currently locked) and the proposed bridge over the stream in the middle of the field. Clerk to contact NT for an update. No further action appears to have been taken regarding the turning spot at the top of Stoney Street. Clerk to contact Robert Manicom at NT for an update.	Clerk
7. Members Reports and Somerset Council Reports (SC carried over from APM)	The path at Church Walks has become overgrown once more, Clerk to contact ENP for an update on hedge cutting. The Clerk suggested that it may be necessary to cut the grass in this area more than once per year now the path is wider. Cllrs and Clerk to monitor situation. The cracks on the road on Stoney Street are getting worse. FN suggested that the Clerk continue to report changes to Somerset Council as the situation worsens. Councillors discussed issues with delivery vans on Stoney Street. A shared location for drop offs was suggested to reduce wear and tear on the road, but this may be difficult to implement. JS reported that a drone was spotted flying low over gardens in Luccombe recently. Concerns were raised that this was being used to survey properties prior to potential criminal activity, and it was reported to the police. The Clerk has reported issues with the Cattle Grid near Burrowhayes to SC and will monitor the situation to ensure work has been completed.	

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	FN reported that Somerset Council is continuing to struggle financially and is still considering raising money by charging for on street parking in Minehead and in car parks at Wheddon Cross and Withypool, although it was not considered that this would be cost effective due to the costs involved with collecting and enforcing payments in these areas. Devon County Council are in the process of appointing 2 members to the ENP including the Chair, which means there is currently a lot of uncertainty as a change of Chair could make a big difference to what happens in the area.	Clerk
8. Planning	i. 6/19/25/001 Proposed installation of external oil-fired boiler, oil storage tank and installation of central heating system – Wychanger Cottage, Luccombe, TA24 8TA Cllrs voted unanimously to support this proposal ii. 6/19/25/002LB Listed building consent for the proposed installation of external oil-fired boiler, oil storage tank and installation of central heating system – Wychanger Cottage, Luccombe, TA24 8TA Cllrs voted unanimously to support this proposal	Clerk
9. Review & Adoption of Parish Policy Documents	Cllrs reviewed and adopted: • Asset Register • Protocol for public participation at meetings The Clerk suggested that we also need to adopt the newer 2023 version of the financial regulations to comply with the AGAR and this will be sent round for review via email	Clerk
10. Members of the public QT	No members of the public were present at the meeting	
11. Finance	a) Receive and approve report from Internal Auditor The internal audit has been concluded with no issues raised. Cllrs approved the report. b) Receive and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return – Section 1 The Annual Governance Statement The Statement was approved by the Council and signed by the Clerk and the Chair. c) Receive and approve the Annual Governance and Accountability Return – Section 2 The Accounting Statements The Statements were approved by the Council and signed by the Clerk and the Chair d) Receive and approve Certificate of Exemption re: Annual Return The Certificate was approved by the Council and signed by the Clerk and the Chair. The period for the exercise of public rights will be from 25th June until 5th August e) Bank reconciliation - Statements signed and dated by JD	

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	f) Review and select company for insurance renewal The Clerk requested 3 quotes, one company said they were unable to insure us, one did not respond to the submitted application. Councillors therefore agreed to stick with Zurich insurance who had quoted the same price as the previous year, £214. Clerk to arrange payment. g) Approve payments and bank transfer Councillors agreed the following payments which were not on the schedule of regular payments: SALC fee of £71.68 (this was on the schedule for September but SALC have sent the invoice earlier this year, this will be amended on next year's schedule) Internal auditor fee: £25 Clerk's expenses: £3 for ring binder and dividers used for AGAR presentation. Cheques were also signed for the annual website hosting and the Clerk's wages which are on the schedule of regular payments	Clerk
12. Items for information or future agendas	All Councillors are invited to attend a resilient farming event to be held at Kitnors on 13th June. The Clerk offered to RSVP for all those interested in attending. The Somerset Bus Partnership is looking for representatives from the Council to advocate for local residents.	
13. Date & venue of next meeting	To be held at Luccombe Village Hall in Luccombe on Wednesday 27th August 2025. Meeting closed at 20:52	

Signed.....

Date.....

Signed.....

Date.....