

25/26/ 152 **PRESENT** - Cllrs Barnett (in the Chair), Pople, Salter, Thompson and Hall.

25/26/ 153 **ALSO PRESENT** - 12 members of the public and SClIr Munt.

25/26/ 154 **IN ATTENDANCE** - The Clerk to the Council.

25/26/ 155 **APOLOGIES** - none received.

25/26/ 156 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY DISPENSATIONS REQUIRED** - Cllr Pople declared an interest in the Play Area as she is the Council's representative on the committee. Cllr Thompson declared an interest in the CVA as he is the publicity officer.

25/26/ 157 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** - were confirmed and signed.

25/26/ 158 **UPDATES ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND NOT LISTED** - none.

25/26/ 159 **SOMERSET COUNCILLORS' REPORTS** - SClIr Munt reported on several things including finance and EV charging points. It was suggested that a charging point at the village hall might be beneficial.

25/26/ 160 **LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCN)** - 7th January 2026 and AGM on 2nd July 2026 - This was online only because of poor weather. Because it was not in person a chair could not be elected.

25/26/ 161 **HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP (HWG)** - has not met since our last meeting. Next meeting on 24th February. Venue to be confirmed. Time 10:00-12:00.

25/26/ 162 **HIGHWAYS:-**

- a. Road markings and road signs - the Clerk had chased this up prior to Christmas but has not heard back yet.
- b. Collapsing road near Nydon Bridge - this is holding up but the road is in a very poor state from there on until the bend.
- c. Any other highways updates -
 - i. Langlands Lane - Cllr Barnett reported that some potholes have now been repaired.
- d. Any Highway problems arising - no new ones.

25/26/ 163 **RIGHTS OF WAY/FOOTPATHS** - Cllr Thompson reported on gates being tied shut by unknown persons. They are using string which is easy to cut. The Council has received a communication from the Ramblers Association regarding forgotten footpaths. Cllr Thompson would look into this and report back to the next meeting.

25/26/ 164 **PLAY AREA REPORT** - Cllr Pople said the insurance is due to be paid with a slight increase in cost.

25/26/ 165 **KING WILLIAM INNE** - it was confirmed that a council representative would be there really so that the Council could be kept fully informed. It was described as an informal link. Cllr Thompson offered to undertake this.

25/26/ 166 **PLANNING:-**

- a. 14/24/00002 - Erection of 2 holiday lodges - granted with many conditions.
- b. 14/25/00005 - Replacement dwelling and garage - 8 Lippetts Way - no update.
- c. 14/25/00006 - erect 1 self build dwelling & new vehicular access - land West 8 Lippetts Way - no update.
- d. 14/25/00009 - change of use and associated works - The Crown, 1 The Nydon - no update.
- e. 14/25/00004 - erection of 5 dwellings and conversion of barn into 1 dwelling plus access and landscaping at The Barn, 23 Manor Road - listed as a major application - There were several points raise several of which were not legitimate planning concerns. The Clerk and Cllr Salter would write to the planning department outlining that whilst the council did not object to the application there were points that

should be considered including drainage, s.106 agreement regarding land, work noise and parking of work vehicles. The agents would be written to in order to clarify s.106 concerns and the condition of the Lleylandii trees and wall.

f. Any other planning matters - none.

25/26/ 167 **PARISH PLOT** - Mr Porter's invoice has been received.

25/26/ 168 **CVA DEFIBRILLATOR** - The electricity supply had been more difficult to set up than anticipated. However it is hoped that the matter will progress more rapidly from now on. The defibrillator is currently temporarily installed at a home address in Catcott and available for use if required. The ambulance service know where it is and have already accessed it once but fortunately did not need to actually use it.

25/26/ 169 **FINANCE**

a. Accounts check - sheets and statements were provided and approved.

b. Cheques for signature - were approved as follows:- Chq.727 Clerk (salary and expenses) £451.18; Chq. 428 SLCC (half subscription) £100.00; Chq.429 Porter Plant (Parish Plot work) £1,008.00; Chq.730 St Claire (electricity for Christmas tree lights) £60.00.

c. Precept setting - The Clerk had provided forecast sheets to the end of the current financial year and to cover the whole of 2026-2027. The Council is in a good position financially but there are uncertainties in the future particularly regarding Somerset cutbacks and the possible loss of RPA funding for the Parish Plot as the future of that is still not known.

d. Any other financial matters - none.

25/26/ 170 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION, CIRCULATION, DISTRIBUTION** - nothing not previously circulated.

25/26/ 171 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING(S)** - NALC new financial regs and NALC new Standing Orders.

25/26/ 172 **URGENT CORRESPONDENCE** - none.

25/26/ 173 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.10pm