

EVERCREECH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lynn Crisp

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Minutes of meeting Tuesday 1st July 2025

Present: Lesley Parham (Chair), Rob Reed, Roy Williams, Gail Wakeford, Murray Stewart, Bethan Stanley.
Lisa Pool (Locum Clerk) & 3 members of the public.

i)	Public Open Session The EDIS vacancy had been circulated to Councillors but there had not been feedback to date. The Bus representative was present but would wait for the relevant item (010a). Glastonbury Festival traffic was acknowledged as being largely effective.	
ii)	Somerset Councillor Report A report was received and circulated from Cllr Claire Sully with multiple relevant articles. It referenced helicopter activity at Glastonbury Festival as an issue already raised in a debrief note to both Somerset Council and festival organisers. Cllr Reed requested the issue of helicopter disturbance was added to the next agenda. LP raised a question about information received from Somerset Council regarding enhanced highway maintenance programme (EHM): it was to be explored further in Item 010i.	
	Meeting open time : 7.05pm	
001	To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1)) Apologies received from Cllrs D Sharp and C Sellar.	
002	Declarations of interests. Council members to declare any interests, including any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations) None declared.	
003	To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1)) RESOLVED: to accept the Minutes presented and confirm they could be signed at a later time, (There are 2 versions: one for a closed session, one for public circulation.)	
004	Actions List This item would be carried over to the next meeting.	

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005

Finance

a. To APPROVE the Payment Schedule for July 2025.

JULY 25 Payment Schedule			
Inv.	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	Evercreech Village Hall	INV 18615 Hall Hire	£ 64.00
2	Three Counties Landscaping	INV TBC MG, Cem Maint & Street Clean	tbc
3	Alvian	INV 1216 Play Inspection	£ 54.00
4	Ben Dufton	Reimburse Bus Shelter Art	£ 149.50
5	Idverde	INV 10941533 Play Inspections	£ 40.16
PAYMENTS FOR REPORT			
	Staff	Salaries and expenses	£ 736.01
Month Payments TOTAL		Jul-25	£ 1,043.67

Resolution:

b. To REPORT income received in May 2025.

MAY 25 Receipts for REPORT			
	Received	Particulars	Amount
1	Various	Burials/Memorials	£ 1,459.00
Month Receipts TOTAL		May-25	£ 1,459.00

a) To APPROVE the Payment Schedule for July 2025

It was agreed to investigate the reasons for both Alvian & ID Verde invoices for *monthly* reports, and to confirm at the next meeting. The other payments were agreed.

Proposed: Roy Williams. Seconded: Bethan Stanley. **APPROVED**

b) To REPORT income received in May 2025.

As above

c) Nominate 2 Cllrs to authorize BACS payments

It was agreed that LP & GW were authorized to make BACS payments.

d) To APPROVE a budget of £200 for Evercreech in Bloom

LP asked whether a) councillors agreed to the payment, and b) whether it should be included in the future budget. It was noted that the Council could only contribute for supplies, as the group was not a registered charity. The representative had been invited to attend but no response. The Council felt that the amount of £200 needed justification / breaking down for what was being planted and where. More information was required so the item is carried forward to the next meeting. The item led to reference to the overgrown vegetation at the Greencore site.

e) CONSIDER a donation of £6,665 towards Village Cross repair (Appendix 1)

LP had been in communication with Nic Wall, SW Heritage, who explained that the most recent quote had increased due to timelapse. The Council had already funded the security fence & architect fees to the sum of £1800. Therefore, agreed to £5000.

The question of ownership is still unresolved, although a possible 'lease' for 21 years was possible but unviable by the parish Council. Reserved funds in the Village Project Fund could contribute. Having repairs done by Christmas 2025 was well supported.

RESOLVED: to provide £5000. To match donation granted by St Andrew's Conservation Trust. South West Heritage Trust Somerset Council conservation grant funding of the balance needed £8330

Proposed: LP Seconded: GW **APPROVED**

006

Planning

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 – Plans List (Compliance) of Planning Consent 2021/0832/FUL (Erection of dwelling following partial demolition of existing building).

The Long Barn, Maesdown Hill, Evercreech, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

GW relayed that there had been some missing documents. There was little change and she

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	recommended approval Proposed: GW Seconded: LP Agreed. APPROVED	
007	Cemetery a. Update b. Approve any memorial requests: there were no memorial requests.	
008	Park Inspection Reports Monthly inspections received for April/May from IDVERDE (see item 5a) Queens Road Playing Fields: email received from resident regarding damaged and hazardous cup connector on climbing frame. Quickly repaired by Lee Grubb. Skate Park: the cracks on some equipment are to be pursued with Bendcrete Specialist cleaning would be expensive or could be done in-house. Something to consider for the future.	
009	Village maintenance feedback: 4 quotes were received for various works: RM Stonework, R Bartlett, Lee Grubb & A&S Builders. There was a variance in the works tendered and BS asked for verification that the same length of wall repair (Millenium Gardens) had been quoted for. LP pointed out that a generator would not be needed. RW noted that 2 quotes were from wall specialists. It was agreed to split the works between contractors. RESOLVED: to request RM Stonework proceed with works at Millenium Gardens and the Queens Road plinth removal. Proposed: GW Seconded RR APPROVED RESOLVED: to request A&S Builders to proceed with works to remove the concrete bin (Queens Road Park) & reinstall the dog bin Proposed: GW Seconded BS APPROVED The Queens Road Park bin had not been emptied, despite the council paying Somerset Council £6.50 per bin. The dog bin at the footpath entrance, opposite Shapway Road, had fallen from post but scheduled in repairs (see above)	
010a	Bus Representative The representative described how bus services had not been badly impacted by the Glastonbury Festival, considering the weight of traffic. The Somerset Bus Partnership attended the Collet Park Day and look forward to more collaboration with the Strawberry Line. There will be representation at the Village Show and a U3A talk is proposed.	
010 b	Village Hall There was no update. The next meeting is Monday 23 rd July 2025.	
010 c	Responses to emails The recent request for feedback from with councillors only received one response. Where Cllr input is explicitly sought, please acknowledge.	
010 d	Footpath feedback CS was not present and would feedback at the next meeting. RR explained that footpath officer recruitment was underway at County Hall.	
010 e	War Memorial cleaning BS reported that there was no response yet to her enquiries. Ellis & Co were believed to be expensive. It was suggested that the CWGC may have some funding / advice, as may the Royal British Legion. The item is to be carried forward & BS to explore.	CS
010 f	Neales Way Car Park No feedback available due to lack of response..	RR
010 g	Ex Greencore factory site safety concerns RR fed back that there was still no response. The identity of new owners, or whether there <i>are</i> new owners, was still uncertain	RR

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010 h	Derelict athletics track at Weston Town Concerns were raised about the state of equipment at Weston Town Sports Club, and the overgrown vegetation. RW is to explore whether the Sports Club would pursue demolition / removal of equipment posing a risk. MS had circulated photos but noted he may not get a response from the club until the end of July.	RR
010 i	Highways & LCN update The recent LCN meeting had raised flooding (on-going) and A371 40mph speed limits (achieved). As part of the flooding issue, gully-clearing was discussed. Somerset Council currently clear every 4 years. Lots of detritus that clogs gullies comes from sileage cutting, which would require landowner collaboration, but it was clear that more frequent clearing and cleaning was needed. This was now being offered to parish councils under the Enhanced Highways Maintenance programme. The Council have already taken responsibility for street cleaning. Quotes from Kier for gully clearance were required. It was noted that the LCN was being more proactive about specific issues, and that the 40mph limit had been extended into Leighton Lane.	LP
010 j	Somerset Plan – correspondence from Stoke St Mary Parish Council. Report received.	
011	To note a. Community Solution Seekers Project b. 2025/1011/TCA – Goat Willow (T1) – pollard to approx.. 12ft. Long Close, Shapway Lane. c. Road Closure Notices: ttr0736707E & 360630E d. Somerset Prepared Resilience Roadshow e. SALC - Community health & Wellbeing Programme Newsletter, June 2025 (link) f. Help Shape Somerset's Bus Future (link) g. Somerset Rivers Authority – SRA Annual report 2024-25 h. SALC – Councillor Training available July – Oct. 2025 Items duly noted. LP pointed out that Cllr training could be booked independently. SALC funding (item E) was relevant.	
012	Agenda items for next meeting: Glastonbury traffic, specifically helicopter activity.	
013	Date & time of next meeting: 19 August 2025, Evercreech Village Hall 7.00 pm (Apologies: MS)	
014	Close of meeting: Name: Lisa Pool Time: 7.55pm	