

# EVERCREECH PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk:** Lynn Crisp

**Tel:** 01749 830265

**E-mail:** clerk@evercreech-pc.gov.uk

## Minutes of meeting 04 11 25

**Present: Lesley Parham (Chair), Derek Sharp, Rob Reed, Roy Williams, Gail Wakeford, Murray Stewart, Bethan Stanley, Christian Sellar**  
**4 members of the public.**  
**Lynn Crisp – Clerk**

- i) **Public Open Session** Action  
Members of the public did not wish to speak.
- ii) **Somerset Councillor Report**  
Report was received today.  
Thanks, were expressed to Cllr Stanley for speaking at the Planning Board meeting regarding Land @ Prestleigh Road application earlier today.  
**Meeting open time**  
07.02
- 001 **To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given** (LGA 1972 s85(1))  
None
- 002 **a. 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)
- b. Co Opted Cllr Application**  
To consider the application from Mrs D Issitt.  
Resolved.  
Voting slips were duly completed and returned to The Clerk.  
After a unanimous vote for, Mrs Issitt was duly co-opted to Evercreech Parish Council.  
Introductions to Cllrs were made.
- 003 **To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting** (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))  
Meeting 07 10 25  
All agreed.  
Chair signed as a true record.
- 004 **Actions List**  
This is circulated to Cllrs with the draft minutes. Please consider and complete any actions assigned.  
Clerk updated the records
- 005 **Finance**

### a. To APPROVE the Payment Schedule for November 2025

<u>November 25 Payment Schedule</u>			
Inv.	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	Alvian	INV tbc Play Inspection	£ 54.00
2	Evercreech Village Hall	Inv tbc	tbc
3	Three Counties Landscaping	Village Maint Oct25 Inv 8128	£ 1,782.00
4	Somerset Council	Q1 & 2 emptying dog bins 32005743 & 6665	£ 530.40
5	Somerset Council	Annual Car Park rent 32006848	£ 110.00
6	Glasdon	Bins Inv SI922695	£ 1,157.98
<b>PAYMENTS FOR REPORT</b>			
	Staff	Salaries and expenses	£ 599.74
<b>Month Payments TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 4,234.12</b>

Resolution:

Proposed: LP

Date:  
Signed:

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Seconded: DS  
Agreed

b. To REPORT income received in October 2025

Sept 25 Receipts for REPORT			
Received		Particulars	Amount
1	UTB	Q2 Interest	£ 631.30
2	Various	Burials and Memorials	£ 877.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>£ 1,508.30</b>

c. Nominate 2 Cllrs to authorise BACS payments.  
GW LP

d. Finance Update  
Draft Budget (See appendix 1)

Village General Maintenance remainder from budget line to reserve @ End of Year  
Proposed: LP  
Seconded: RW

Create earmarked reserves for legal fees:  
Proposed: LP  
Seconded: RW  
Agreed

Create earmarked reserves for Millenium Gardens with remainder from budget line to reserve @ End of Year:  
Proposed: BH  
Seconded: CS  
Agreed

Create earmarked reserves for the Skate Park with remainder from budget line to reserve @ End of Year:  
Proposed: RR  
Seconded: BS  
Agreed

Create Village Cross /Preaching Stone maintenance earmarked reserve £100.00 per year going forward:  
Proposed: LP  
Seconded: CS  
Agreed

The Chair proposed that the draft budget be agreed with the earmarked reserves added as stated above:

Seconded MS  
All agreed

006

## Planning

Appeal Ref: APP/E3335/X/23/3328735

**Winterwell Farmhouse, Winterwell Lane, Chesterblade, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 4QZ**

2025/1798/CLE

**Proposal:** Certificate of Lawfulness of existing use to confirm commencement of development approved under 103065/001

Date:  
Signed:

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**Location:** Manor Farm Winterwell Lane Chesterblade Shepton Mallet  
Somerset

Appeal Ref: APP/E3335/W/25/3364074

**Home Farm, Back Lane, Stoney Stratton, Shepton Mallet, Somerset BA4 6EA**

Appeal outcome - dismissed

**Applicant:** Mr Peter Powell

**Application Type:** Certificate of Use  
NOTIFICATION ONLY

**Application Number:** 2025/1811/TCA

**Proposal:** T1 - Copper Beech - reduce by 2 metres all over.

**Location:** Haydon House Prestleigh Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet  
Somerset

**Applicant:** Mr Sargeant

**Application Type:** Works/Felling Trees in a CA  
Outcome: Leave for Tree Officer

**Application Number:** 2024/0406/OUT

**Proposal:** Application for Outline Planning Permission with all matters reserved apart for access, for the erection of up to 40no. dwellings, public open space, landscaping, sustainable urban drainage system and engineering works, with vehicular access off Prestleigh Road.

**Location:** Land At 364558 139409 Prestleigh Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset

**Applicant:** Rubix Strategic Limited

**Application Type:** Outline Application

The above application submitted on 4 March 2024 will be reported to the Planning East Committee on **4th November 2025** starting at 2pm at The Council Chamber, Council Offices, Cannards Grave

Road, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 5BT

Link to agenda:

<https://somersextern.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=7651&x=1>

Outcome of this Somerset Council planning board meeting:

Refused on the grounds of odor, noise and agricultural land.

Discussions took place.

A clear response from the planners was not received to the question: why did this application come back for scrutiny?

Noted that the Parish Council did not receive enough notice to convene an extra ordinary meeting for the matter to be discussed.

Thanks to Cllr Stanley for attending the meeting.

Thanks to Somerset Cllrs were expressed.

007

## **Cemetery**

a. Update

Cemetery Headstones topple test – laying down of loose headstones advice from Institute of Cemetery Management:

*We would advise that, if possible, you should stake and band any loose headstones to make temporary support, while you attempt to contact the grave owner to solve the matter.*

Date:

Signed:

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*If the headstone is very dangerous then you may, for health and safety purposes, lay a stone down face up while you then attempt to find a long-term solution - although this does create a trip hazard it is a less hazard than a falling headstone.*

Some dangerous Headstones were laid down; they were extremely loose.

Resolved:

Proposal: To upload a notice on the Parish Council Website regarding unsafe headstones, giving families 2 months' notice for them to be repaired. If there is no response, then arrange for them to be made safe. To also put this notice on the cemetery notice board.

Ensure our cemetery rules reflect the above.

Proposed: GW

Seconded RW

8 for

1 against

Proposal carried

Proposal to ask a stonemason for a quote to topple test next year

Proposed: GW

Seconded: CS

6 for

3 against

Motion carried.

Thank you, Cllr Sellar, for repairing the cemetery gate.

Tree and path work:

Resolved:

Consider quote for groundwork to prepare for the work to be carried out to the cedar tree:

£486.00. £100.00 of the quote is to take the tarmac away. However, the quote will be £100.00 less if the tarmac is not taken away. Cllrs agreed to the contractor not disposing of the tarmac. A 50%-part payment will be required to book the groundwork.

Proposed LP

Seconded: BS

9 agreed

Commission the other work identified from the tree survey:

Resolved:

Proposed GW

Seconded DS

Agreed

b. Approve any memorial requests

Resolved.

Consider verbal request for a tablet memorial to be placed on a grave with an existing headstone.

Agreed

008

Park Inspection Reports

Queens Road Playing Fields

Consider and agree to a revised quote for all the work required

Total £895.20 plus the fixing of the dog waste bin on Queens Road/Shapway Lane.

Proposed GW

Seconded LP

Agreed

Date:

Signed:

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Work scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Skate Park

A new bin is required. Budgeted for next year.

009

Village maintenance feedback:

Giving Way @ Weston Town Bridge – the white road markings have been repainted.

010 a

Bus representative

No free bus passes for under 22s according to the Government sources.

Working group re Shepton Community Transport. Another meeting on Friday. It looks as though the parishes in the Shepton Local Council Network will focus on the buses for villages on the perimeter of Shepton.

010 b

Village Hall

Clock – The grant application not successful. Fund raising will take place.

6<sup>th</sup> December annual Bingo.

i. Consider request for donation toward their Christmas Bingo fund raising event.

Resolved

Agreed to a donation of £50.00

Proposed: LP

Seconded: BS

Agreed

ii. Outside notice boards – consider request for a contribution of refurbishment.

Total cost is £286.00.

The Clerk was asked to source a copy of the quote and to request a sign on each notice board, 1 stating Parish Council and 1 stating Village Hall.

010 c

Parking on double yellow lines outside of the Bakers' premises.

Chair has spoken to the landlord of the property, and they are willing to have no parking signs attached to the building.

Proposed: LP

No seconder

Proposal not carried.

Resolved.

Discussions took place.

010 d

Village Cross feedback

The cross has been removed from the scaffolding.

Discussions took place.

010 e

BMX track

Cllr Sellar has communicated with a resident regarding their proposals for the track. No response yet.

010 f

Millenium Gardens

Copies of the paper deeds and relevant paperwork have been acquired from the Parish Council solicitors.

To discuss maintenance and anti-social behavior:

20 years of antisocial behavior has been suffered by residents in the area.

Suggestion to survey residents living around the gardens to capture their views.

Possible solutions:

Give it away.

Give it back to the family who donated it.

Sell parcels of land off.

Create allotments.

Restrict access to it with fencing and gates.

Discussions took place.

Carry item forward.

010 g

Stoney Stratton dog waste bin

**CS**

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Date:

Signed:

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One has been removed; however, the remaining post needs to be removed.  
CS will have a look at this.

- 010 h Deed of release re the ex-cricket club building – the final deed has been circulated to Cllrs.  
Proposal: to sign the deed of release  
Proposed: RW  
Seconded RR  
Chair duly signed the deed of release.  
Resolved

- 010 i Youth Club lease **Clerk**  
A quote for preparing the peppercorn rent lease has been requested.  
£2,700.  
Cllrs considered this far too expensive and the following proposal was made:

For the Parish Council arrange the peppercorn rent agreement. Noted that the YC has not historically had an agreement in place at previous buildings.

Proposed: LP

Seconded BS

Agreed.

- 010 j Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service – precept setting survey completion request.  
Decision not to respond was noted.

- 011 To note/forwarded  
Update on motion to Support Parish Councils on planning.  
Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) - Community Health & Wellbeing Programme Newsletter October 2025.  
Parish Newsletter – Somerset Council x 2  
Thrive - Heading Upstream: Speakers Confirmed!  
Flood Warden Newsletter Autumn 2025  
SALC - An Introduction to VAT Training  
SALC – Training Opportunities.

**Temporary Road Closure:** tto181833E - Rodmore Road, Evercreech - 28th October 2025 and last for 8 days to enable BethMar Ltd to carry out ducting works on behalf of Gigaclear.

**Temporary Road Closure:** tto606304E - High Street, Evercreech - 12th November 2025 and last for 14 days to enable Complete Telecom Solutions Ltd to carry out excavation works to lay a track on behalf of Gigaclear.

**Temporary Road Closure:** tto262834E - Queens Road, Evercreech  
24th November 2025 and last for 4 days (08:00 - 16:00)

**Temporary Road Closure: tto128323E - Redlands Farm Lane To Prestleigh Road, Evercreech**

30th November 2025 and last for 8 hours

Thank you email from Mrs M Purse for the Parish Council's agreement to donate 200.00 per year for plants around the village.

Community Solution Seekers 29 10 25, plus Community Cars Scheme meeting is now moved to 7 November 2025.

- 012 Agenda items for next meeting  
Gully checking  
Dog waste bin - Mill Gdns  
PC Notice board @ Village Hall.  
BMX track  
Millenium Gardens

- 013 Date & time of next meeting, 02 12 25, Evercreech Village Hall, 7.00 pm (subject to change)

- 014 Close of meeting:  
Name: Lynn Crisp Time: 8: 24

Date:

Signed:

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## Appendix 1

EVERCREECH PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 26-27 - APPROVED NOV25						
	This Year	This Year	This Year	This Year	This Year	Next Year
	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26	2025-26	2026-27
	Budget	Current	Proj TOTAL inc/exp	Budget	Budget remaining £	Draft Budget
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Precept	£ 87,000.00	£ 87,000.00	£ 87,000.00	£ 87,000.00		
Deposit Interest	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,293.65	£ 2,648.00	£ 1,000.00		£ 2,000.00
Cemetery - Burial & Purchases	£ 6,000.00	£ 7,659.00	£ 10,000.00	£ 6,000.00		£ 8,000.00
Cemetery - Memorials	£ 1,000.00	£ 480.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00		£ 1,000.00
Grants	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -
Sports Facilities - Waste	£ 379.00	£ -	£ -	£ 379.00		£ 379.00
VAT repayment	£ 6,410.10	£ 6,410.10	£ -	£ 6,410.10		£ 3,000.00
Other refunds	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		
Donations	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -		£ -
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£ 101,789.10</b>	<b>£ 102,842.75</b>	<b>£ 100,648.00</b>	<b>£ 101,789.10</b>		<b>£ 14,379.00</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
<b>OFFICE</b>						
SALARIES	£ 19,000.00	£ 9,331.52	£ 17,500.00	£ 19,000.00	£ 9,668.48	£ 20,000.00
PENSION	£ 250.00	£ 192.48	£ 500.00	£ 250.00	£ 57.52	£ 500.00
TRAINING	£ 400.00	£ -	£ 250.00	£ 400.00	£ 400.00	£ 400.00
ADMIN & EXPENSES	£ 5,600.00	£ 2,282.79	£ 5,500.00	£ 5,600.00	£ 3,317.21	£ 6,600.00
AUDIT FEES	£ 850.00	£ 601.00	£ 664.00	£ 850.00	£ 249.00	£ 850.00
INSURANCE	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,178.94	£ 2,178.94	£ 2,500.00	£ 321.06	£ 2,500.00
INTERNET	£ 400.00	£ 282.18	£ 500.00	£ 400.00	£ 117.82	£ 500.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£ 1,321.00	£ 1,182.75	£ 1,182.00	£ 1,321.00	£ 138.25	£ 1,321.00
VILLAGE HALL HIRE	£ 350.00	£ 174.00	£ 360.00	£ 350.00	£ 176.00	£ 450.00
LOAN REPAY	£ 8,806.00	£ 4,402.81	£ 8,806.00	£ 8,806.00	£ 4,403.19	£ 8,806.00
LEGAL FEES	£ 550.00	£ 346.00	£ 346.00	£ 550.00	£ 204.00	£ 550.00
<b>VILLAGE MAINTENANCE</b>						
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 2,000.00	£ 854.50	£ 1,340.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,145.50	£ 4,000.00
VEOLIA & BINS	£ 1,000.00	£ 387.34	£ 725.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 612.66	£ 2,120.00
CAR PARK RENT	£ 110.00	£ -	£ 110.00	£ 110.00	£ 110.00	£ 110.00
XMAS TREE	£ 350.00	£ -	£ 350.00	£ 350.00	£ 350.00	£ 350.00
3 COUNTIES MAINT	£ 28,000.00	£ 10,825.00	£ 22,100.00	£ 28,000.00	£ 17,175.00	£ 28,000.00
TREE WORK	£ 1,000.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
BIFFA WASTE	£ 1,200.00	£ 617.50	£ 1,232.00	£ 1,200.00	£ 582.50	£ 1,300.00
DEFIBRILLATOR	£ 2,500.00	£ 990.00	£ 450.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 1,510.00	£ -
VC/PREACHING STONE(NEW)						£ 100.00
WAR MEMORIAL (NEW)						£ 3,000.00
<b>CEMETERY</b>						
LYCH GATE	£ 1,000.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
REMOVE						£ -
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 600.00	£ -	£ 575.00	£ 600.00	£ 600.00	£ 2,600.00
<b>QRPF</b>						
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 7,000.00	£ 425.00	£ 425.00	£ 7,000.00	£ 6,575.00	£ 7,000.00
INSPECTIONS	£ 1,540.00	£ 460.41	£ 696.00	£ 1,540.00	£ 1,079.59	£ 1,000.00
<b>MG</b>						
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ 2,000.00	£ -	£ -	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
<b>SKATEPARK</b>						
GENERAL MAINTENANCE	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000.00
<b>GRANTS</b>						
S137	£ 1,500.00	£ 50.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,450.00	£ 1,500.00
<b>RESERVES</b>						
TRANSFER	£ 2,500.00	£ -	£ -	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00
<b>VAT</b>						
INCURRED IN YR	£ -	£ 3,008.62	£ 1,434.21	£ -		£ -
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£ 92,327.00</b>	<b>£ 38,592.84</b>	<b>£ 70,724.15</b>	<b>£ 92,327.00</b>	<b>£ 56,742.78</b>	<b>£ 101,057.00</b>
<b>RESERVES TOTALS</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES AT 31/3/2025</b>	<b>BUDGET ADDITIONS FY2025-26 (Projected)</b>	<b>IN YR XFER TO CASHBOOK</b>	<b>TOTAL RESERVES AT 31/3/26 (Projected)</b>		
Projects with earmarked reserves:						
Election fund	£4,400.00				£4,400.00	
Defibrillator reserve	£5,000.00	£1,145.50			£6,145.50	
Lych Gate	£1,000.00	£1,000.00			£2,000.00	
QRPF Play Equipment	£4,000.00	£7,000.00			£11,000.00	
Millenium Garden (NEW)	£0.00	£2,000.00			£2,000.00	
Skatepark (NEW)	£0.00	£0.00			£0.00	
Village Cross/Preaching Stone (NEW)	£0.00	£0.00			£0.00	
Legal Fees (NEW)	£0.00	£204.00			£204.00	
Cemetery Misc	£500.00	£25.00			£525.00	
Community Fund	£9,200.00	£0.00			£9,200.00	
Village Maintenance	£1,000.00	£1,145.00			£2,145.00	
Admin - 12 mths run costs in reserves	£20,590.43	£2,500.00			£41,388.50	
<b>TOTAL RESERVES</b>	<b>£45,690.43</b>	<b>£15,019.50</b>			<b>£79,008.00</b>	Projected estimate
<b>PROPOSAL 1:</b> Village General Maintenance remainder from budget line to reserve @ EoY <b>PROPOSAL 2:</b> New Reserve MILLENNIUM GARDEN with remainder from budget line to reserve @ EoY <b>PROPOSAL 3:</b> New Reserve SKATEPARK with remainder from budget line to reserve @ EoY <b>PROPOSAL 4:</b> New Reserve VILLAGE CROSS/ PREACHING STONE with remainder from budget line to reserve @ EoY <b>PROPOSAL 5:</b> New Reserve LEGAL FEES with remainder from budget line to reserve @ EoY						

Date:  
Signed: