

EVERCREECH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lynn Crisp

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Minutes of meeting 06 01 26

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

i)	<p>Public Open Session</p> <p>Resident spoke regarding a memorial request. They explained their proposal and this matter is an agenda item for the meeting.</p> <p>Resident spoke regarding faulty streetlights located from the Pharmacy/Leighton Lane to the GP Surgery. Advised that National Grid have 28 days to rectify the matter. Asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do to expedite the matter. Resident was advised to email Somerset Council Cllrs, Reed and Sully.</p> <p>Resident advised that there is an Evercreech Show Society meeting asking for committee members on 14th January 2026 7.30 onwards, Evercreech Village Hall.</p>	Action																									
ii)	<p>Somerset Councillor Report</p> <p>Written report received prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Reed reported that Somerset Council has received a large grant for Electric Charging Points. Suggested that Cllr Reed contact the Village Hall to see if this would be of interest to them.</p>																										
	<p>Meeting open time</p> <p>7.09</p>																										
001	<p>To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1))</p> <p>Cllr Williams – personal</p> <p>Cllr Stanley - personal</p>																										
002	<p>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)</p> <p>None declared</p>																										
003	<p>To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))</p> <p>Meeting 02 12 25</p> <p>Chair signed as a true record.</p>																										
004	<p>Actions List</p> <p>Clerk updated the list</p>																										
005	<p>Finance</p> <p>a. To APPROVE the Payment Schedule and report income received for January 2026:</p> <table><tr><th colspan="5">January 26 Payment Schedule</th></tr><tr><th>Inv.</th><th>Payee</th><th>Particulars</th><th colspan="2">Amount</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Alvian</td><td>INV 1301 Play Inspection</td><td>£</td><td>54.00</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Evercreech Village Hall</td><td>Inv 18726</td><td>£</td><td>20.00</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Three Counties Landscaping</td><td>Village Maint Dec25 Inv 8279 8280</td><td>£</td><td>1,032.00</td></tr></table>	January 26 Payment Schedule					Inv.	Payee	Particulars	Amount		1	Alvian	INV 1301 Play Inspection	£	54.00	2	Evercreech Village Hall	Inv 18726	£	20.00	3	Three Counties Landscaping	Village Maint Dec25 Inv 8279 8280	£	1,032.00	
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	4	Tozers	Legal charges - Cricket Club INV 121223	£ 888.24	
	5	Evercreech Village Hall	Donation towards noticeboard	£ 143.00	
	PAYMENTS FOR REPORT				
		Staff	Salaries and expenses	£ 640.48	
	Month Payments TOTAL			£ 2,777.72	
	Nov 25 Receipts for REPORT				
	Received	Particular	Amount		
	1	Various	Burials and Memorials	£ 1,262.00	
	TOTAL			£ 1,262.00	
	<p>Resolution: Proposed: GW Seconded: CS Agreed</p> <p>b. Nominate 2 Cllrs to authorise BACS payments. LP GW</p> <p>c. Finance Update i. Approve the draft budget agreed in November 2025.</p> <p>LP proposed the draft budget be agreed as presented Seconded: DS Agreed unanimously</p> <p>ii. Note the Precept report supplied by Finance Officer. Noted £90,057.</p>				
006	<p>Planning To note: Somerset Planning Dept are no longer granting planning response date extension requests. Cllrs to discuss how they will handle planning applications in future. Resolution required. The PC cannot call an extraordinary meeting every time a response is required if the response deadline is before the monthly meeting.</p> <p>Raise at Local Council Network</p> <p>GW proposed: The Planning Working Party (PWP) to consider and decide on planning applications with a deadline for response prior to the next full council meeting. The outcome will be emailed to The Clerk to upload it to the Somerset Council Planning portal. If the PWP feels the planning application is contentious, they will email all Cllrs for their opinion. Seconded: DI All agreed.</p> <p>Application Number: 2025/2196/HSE Proposal: Proposed car port and garden room to side of existing dwelling. Location: Staddle Stones Queens Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset Applicant: Mrs Susan Moon</p>				RR MS

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	<p>Application Type: Householder Application Recommend Approval Proposed: GW Seconded: LP Agreed</p> <p>Application Number: 2025/2211/CLE Proposal: Application for a existing lawful development certificate to confirm that the dwelling identified was constructed in 2003 and has been occupied as the applicants primary residence Location: The Grove Prestleigh Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset Applicant: Elizabeth Palmer-Horsey Application Type: Certificate of Use Existing Notification Only Noted. Question: this is a building that had previously been given temporary approval in 2003 whilst the main house was renovated. Do not understand why this is notification only. Discussions took place. Requested that Cllr Reed raises this with Somerset Planning.</p> <p>Application Number: 2025/2252/TPO Proposal: T1 (TPO M1031) - Oriental Plane - Crown reduction by 3 metres all over. See tree survey for further details. Location: 6 The Cedars Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 6LG Applicant: Mrs Tessa Calver Application Type: Works/Felling of TPO Trees Revert to Tree Preservation Officer</p> <p>Application Number: 2025/2218/TCA Proposal: Yew - Removal of limbs growing towards neighbouring chimney and gutter. Location: Hampton Cottage Bruton Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset Applicant: Mr Preece Application Type: Works/Felling Trees in a CA Revert to Tree Preservation Officer</p>	RR
007	<p>Cemetery a. Update i. Further advice from the tree surgeon is that removing the Lawson Cypress tree root will destabilise the tree. Therefore, work to the tree will not be going ahead. ii. War Memorial cleaning. Contact Ellis and Company based in Shepton Mallet for a quote. Try and book the cleaning for September 2026. iii. Headstones topple test – number of graves feedback: 410 that are over 2 ft. 410 x 2 = approx. 1,000 This will be booked for the spring. Carry item forward to February 2026.</p> <p>b. Approve any memorial requests 1 to consider Approve.</p> <p>To consider requests from the resident speaking during public session: Resident handed out examples of work. Proposed material – blue lias stone. Family will arrange the lettering, and a qualified Stonemason will fix the stone in place.</p>	Clerk

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	<p>LP proposed that this was acceptable. Seconded: DI All agreed</p>	
008	<p>Park Inspection Reports Queens Road Playing Fields Skate Park These were not received prior to the meeting.</p> <p>BMX Track information The Parish Council were informed that a resident is interested in reaching out with a proposal to reinstate/replace this. The Parish Council await further communication from them.</p>	
009	<p>Village maintenance feedback: Grass Verge adjacent to Stripey Close Cllr Sharpe was asked to enquire whether residents of Cedar Close would like to undertake the upkeep of the plants. The grass cutting has been added to the village maintenance contract. Chair thanked Peter and Rosemary Bradshaw for keeping the area maintained for many years.</p> <p>Mill. Garden dog waste bin To be ordered.</p> <p>Gully checking progress: Chair will try and pull a list together. Discussions took place. Cllr Sellar will pass details of a company who may quote for the work to The Clerk</p>	<p>DS</p> <p>LP</p> <p>CS/LC</p>
010 a	<p>Bus representative</p> <p>Meeting 20 January 2026 re Shepton Community Cars scheme</p> <p>Local Council Network meeting 26 January 2026.</p> <p>Recent announcement of large Government grant for bus funding 2026 to 2030. Somerset Bus Partnership are working on Franchising plans across county to negotiate with Somerset Council - which will include expansion of No.1 timetable. Further details in due course.</p>	
010 b	<p>Village Hall Thank you letter to the Parish Council received for the donation towards the Christmas Bingo, raised just over £950. Fund raiser for new clock will be happening. Patient Participant Group – Park Medical Practice - flu and covid vaccine take up was very high although this was not so for children. The practice was amongst the highest for take up in the area. Focussing on illness prevention going forward.</p>	
010 c	<p>Data protection officer and role within PC Confirmed that the Parish Council should be compliant at audit now changes to systems and policies have been made. Cloud storage and sharing The quote for a company to provide this was around £4,100 p.a. The Clerk sourced a different means of sharing files between Cllrs and staff at no cost. Cllrs thanked The Clerk.</p>	
010 d	<p>West Estates (Ex Greencore site owners) response to site security concerns – circulated to Cllrs in advance of the meeting Discussions took place and Cllr Stewart explained the history of the planning applications to new Cllrs. Further discussions took place. CS will investigate the way forward regarding reporting to the Health and Safety Executive with The Clerk and send any relevant links to them. If appropriate CS and The Clerk will contact the Health and Safety Executive.</p>	CS/LC

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010 e	Stoney Stratton possible Flood Risk feedback RR has looked at the culvert, and the water is running through. The resident is requesting a site meeting which will be arranged.	RR
010 f	Grant Application – Life Education and Evercreech Primary School - £155.00 requested toward a whole day workshop. This was agreed providing Evercreech School confirm this is booked and going ahead. Proposed: LP Seconded: MS Agreed.	
010 g	Footpaths update Somerset Council Officer called CS re the lake footpath opposite the Bath and West Showground. CS provided copies of the emails and letters previously sent to the owner. The owners will have 3 months' notice to reinstate the footpath. Kissing gate has been installed at sports field. Steps are now more secure at the Nutbush Field footpath. Rodmore Farm, kissing gate is knocked over and blocked footpath. The Parish Council has send the owners a letter regarding the footpath. Discussions took place. Chair thanked Cllr Sellar for his efforts regarding these matters.	
011	To note/forwarded: Various road closure notifications Weekly Somerset Council email to Parishes x 2 Christmas greeting from Somerset Civic Offices Parish Online Newsletter Letter from the Leader of Somerset Council – reflections and updates St Margaret's Hospice Masquerade Charity Ball Somerset Association of Local Councils – Newsletter Various training opportunities Turning Point newsletter	
012	Agenda items for next meeting: Greencore Factory Site Mill Garden War memorial YC signing of list Fields in Trust Headstones topple test – appoint company Plants maintenance – Stripy Close Stoney Stratton site meeting	
013	Date & time of next meeting, 03 02 26 Evercreech Village Hall, 7.00 pm (subject to change)	
014	Close of meeting: Name: Lynn Crisp Time: 8.20	