

Iwerne Minster Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting at the Abingdon Hall on the 11th of August 2025 at 7pm

Minutes of the Parish Council are not verbatim

Present: Cllr P Le Prevost – Chairman, Cllr J Goodliffe, Cllr K Skinner, Cllr H Overton, and Cllr T Brown
In attendance: N Phillips – Clerk, there were 5 members of the public present.

Public Consultation: Concerns were expressed over the Church Path excavation of a Saxon cemetery, where human remains have been excavated. The member of the public stressed that there is a Government Act which highlights that development on old burial sites is not permitted. It was agreed for the Clerk to investigate the Local Government Act regarding development on burial sites. Cllr J Goodliffe, reported that the remains found on the site, will be removed in a very professional and sympathetic manner. The remains can then be kept by the licenced person for 5 years, for study. After that time, the remains are buried back in the Parish. It has also been confirmed that there is space available for the remains to be buried in the graveyard at the Church. **Action - Clerk**

25/30. To receive and accept apologies of absence.

Cllr K O'Connor – Vice-Chairman and Dorset Councillor J Somper sent their apologies.

25/31. Declaration of interest and dispensations: There were none.

25/32. Co-option for new Councillor: Mr Tony Freestone expressed his interest in joining the Parish Council. Mr Freestone gave brief details of his personal and professional life. Cllr Le Prevost proposed that Mr Tony Freestone is co-opted as Councillor for Iwerne Minster Parish Council; this was seconded by Cllr T Brown – all in favour.

RESOLVED: Mr Tony Freestone be co-opted as Councillors for Iwerne Minster Parish Council (25/32 – no budgetary requirements)

25/33. Approve minutes from the meeting dated 16th of June 2025.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr K Skinner and seconded by Cllr J Goodliffe, all Councillors present agreed that they were a true and accurate record of this meeting; the Chairman duly signed them.

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes dated 16th of June 2025 (25/33 no budgetary provision required)

- **Update on the Play Area Project–** Cllr K O'Connor and Cllr H Overton have submitted a grant application to National Lottery fund; it will be a few months before they make their decision. The Company that have quoted for the refurbishment of the play area have been asked to re-design a proposal for it to be put on the Parish Field, this is in process.
- **Update on cost for overhead security barrier for the Parish Field –** the Clerk tabled the cost to just provide an overhead security barrier, for the sum of £1,377.00 plus VAT. After debate, it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain additional quotes and look at other options for securing the Parish Field. **Action – Clerk**
- **Adopt amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations for the Parish Council –** These had been circulated, all Councillors agreed that both the amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations are adopted.
 - **RESOLVED** To adopt the amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulation 2025

25/34. To consider planning application received.

Tree applications

P/TRC/2025/03800 – Barn Cottage- The Paddocks - T1 & T2 - Sycamore - Fell to ground level – approved by Dorset Tree Officer

P/TRC/2025/03799 – Aston Court – Blandford Road – to fell three conifers – approved by Dorset Tree Officer

Planning applications

P/HOU/2025/02087 – Grooms – Blandford Road – Erection of single storey front, side & rear extensions – No objections, but comments to be forwarded to Dorset Council planning team for their consideration.

P/HOU/2025/03461/03462 – Preston House – Erect single storey extension – No objections

25/35. To receive Dorset Council's Unitary Councillor Jane Somper's report

Cllr J Somper's report will be available on the Parish Council website or a copy can be obtained from the Clerk.

Cllr K Skinner asked for clarification of what SWAP stands for on Cllr Somper's report, when referring to financial malpractice in Dorset Council. The Chairman will speak to Cllr Somper to obtain clarification.

25/36. Chairman's report – Nothing to report.

25/37. Accounts

To ratify the payments made for June and approve the payment schedule for July 2025, listed below. Cllr Goodliffe proposed the payments, which was seconded by Cllr Brown, all in favour.

Payee	Detail	Expense Amount
Vision ICT	Domain from Sep 25 Aug 26	£ 78.00
Vision ICT	Email hosting Sep 26 Aug 26	£ 168.00
HMRC Paye Ni Empni Pen	Month 2 and Month 3	£ 365.19
N Phillips	Clerk wages June	£ 631.48
Nest	Pension for May	£ 88.71
Lloyds	Monthly service charge	£ 4.25
Nest	Pension for June	£ 88.71
N Phillips	Clerk expenses June	£ 73.09
A Jenkins	Grass cutting March to July	£ 2,435.00
June payments		£ 3,932.43

DAPTC January	Training Heather	£ 60.00
Iwerne Valley Lawn ma	Grass cutting contract	£ 244.95
Parish Magazine Printing	013019	£ 89.95
N Phillips	Clerk wages July	£ 631.48
Nest	Pension for July	£ 88.71
HMRC	Paye/Ni/Emp Ni/ Pension	£ 221.14
N Phillips	Clerks expenses July	£ 73.09
Information Comm office	Annual subscription	£ 35.00
Lloyds	Monthly service charge	£ 4.25
July payments		£ 1,448.57

RESOLVED: to ratify the payments made in June and agree the payments for July 2025 for the sum of £1448.57 (25/37 Current Account)

Cllr Le Prevost approved the Bank Reconciliation.

25/38. Officers' reports:

Governance & IT: Cllr Le Prevost reported the following:

Nothing further to add.

Emergency Planning: Cllr Overton reported the following:

A meeting will be arranged in due course to update the plan. Cllr Brown will also be holding a meeting with Clayesmore School to discuss their involvement with the Emergency Plan. On 7th September, at 3pm, there will be another Nations Emergency Alert Test on our mobile systems.

Highways:

- Cllr Goodliffe has obtained a quote from Dorset Council regarding erecting a SID (Speed Indicator Device), for the Village. Cllr Brown will also raise this matter with Clayesmore School, to see if they are able to help with the costs. The Clerk will forward the contact details for the Road Safety Officer and Highways Officer to Cllr Goodliffe.
- A note has been produced in the village magazine, asking for residents to cut their hedges away from public footpaths/roads. This will be monitored and where necessary, the Parish Council will send letters to remind residents of their duty to keep the rights of way clear.
- Cllr Overton asked for Cllr Goodliffe to speak to Dorset Council to find out why the rumble strips at the southern entrance of the village had not been re-instated when the road was resurfaced.

Footpaths and Rights of Way:

- Cllr Skinner reported that he had contacted Iwerne Estate regarding the footpath that had been ploughed over. This has now been rectified.

Recreation:

- Nothing further to add.

Environment and Community Resilience: Nothing to report.

Village Features: The replacement bench on Tower Hill is near completion; however, the repair to Pump roof is still incomplete. To be followed up.

Other Organisations/Groups:

- **Clayesmore:** Cllr Brown reported that over the summer holidays there have been two lets of the facilities, a sporting company in July and a charity foundation currently. This has brought new people onto the site and there may have been noticeable changes in patterns to school facility use during these lets. The second let is a new one to the school so, there are naturally some settlings in, while they find their feet on site. The school is hopeful that there has not been any, or too much, disruption to anyone else during this time.
- Unfortunately, there had been a presence of masked intruders on site on the evening of Friday 8th August – this was shared via email previously with all council members. This may or may not have been in relation to the village intrusions that happened some weeks ago. The police have been made aware and are dealing with the information and evidence presented to them.
- **Speed Watch:** Nothing to report.
- **Neighbourhood Watch:** To advertise that new residents need to sign up to the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Details will be published in the village Newsletter.
- **Abingdon Hall:** Cllr Skinner reported that new trustees have been appointed but a secretary is still required.
- **Village Defibrillator** – Nothing to report
- **DAPTC** – Any information received is circulated by the Clerk.

25/39. Clerk Report: Nothing to report

25/40. To consider any other matters arising from recent correspondence:

The Clerk had circulated a letter from a resident, expressing her disappointment to hear that the proposed and agreed moving of a bus stop on the A350 had been withdrawn. This was a project that Cllr J Somper had led. After further discussions, it was agreed to speak to Cllr J Somper to obtain more information of why this project was withdrawn. If need be this project will be reinstated.

25/41. Items for next agenda – TBA

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 13th of October 2025**

At 7.00pm, at Abingdon Hall, Iwerne Minster

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed by the Chairman

Iwerne Minster Parish Council website <http://www.iwerneminsterparishcouncil.gov.uk>

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