

Iwerne Minster Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting at the Abingdon Hall on the 14th of April 2026 at 7pm

Minutes of the Parish Council are not verbatim

Present: Cllr P Le Prevost – Chairman, Cllr K O'Connor – Vice Chairman, Cllr H Overton, Cllr J Goodliffe, Cllr K Skinner and Cllr T Freestone
In attendance: N Phillips – Clerk, 7 members of the public present

At this point, the Vice Chairman asked all to stand in remembrance of Shelagh Willis, John Major, Beryl Scott, Bob Rowley and Russ Taylor.

Public Consultation: Members of the public expressed their concerns over the temporary traffic lights in the village. After debate it was agreed that the Parish Council would forward the suggestion to request the traffic lights are changed to camera traffic lights, to detect traffic and operate accordingly to the traffic at the time. If anyone have any comments or suggestions to please report them on the following email address at Dorset Council.

Details of the works taking place at Dinah's Hollow can be viewed on the following link

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/dinahs-hollow>

The Clerk will put the link on the Parish Council website, for information.

25/75. To receive and accept apologies of absence.

Cllr T Brown and Dorset Councillor Jane Somper

25/76. Declaration of interest and dispensations: There were none.

25/77. Approve minutes from the meeting dated 9th of February 2026.

The minutes were proposed by Cllr K O'Connor and seconded by Cllr H Overton all Councillors present agreed that they were a true and accurate record of this meeting, and the Chairman duly signed them.

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes dated 9th of February 2026 (25/77 no budgetary provision required)

At this point standing orders were removed to allow the public to speak to agenda item 3

Update on play area project. The following matters were raised:

- Request for confirmation if the Parish Field is being considered for the new play area to be re-sited? Cllr O'Connor confirmed that after previous public consultation regarding the updating of the Play Area, it has been tabled as an idea, but has not been agreed actioned.
- Do the Parish Council have funds towards the project, or is it expected to raise funds from the Go Fund Me page only. Cllr O'Connor confirmed that the Parish Council do have allocated funds for this project, and grants are continuing to be sort, so the Go Fund Me page is not expected to make up the short fall of funds for this project.
- Concern were raised over parking area next to the existing Play Area, as it could lead to others using it, not just for those visiting the Play Area. Cllr O'Connor agreed this needs to be looked into in more details.
- Suggestions for other ways to raise money was raised, Cllr O'Connor will speak to the member of the public who offered to help after the meeting.
- Concerns were raised, if the Play Area is moved to the Parish Field, what will the land be used for. Cllr O'Connor confirmed that this land was gifted and cannot be sold or used for development. If the Play Area was to be moved, there are other options for the land to be used for allotments, orchard, open quite space.

Update on Dog Waste Bin replacement – the Clerk confirmed that Dorset Waste Partnership have confirmed that they have the replacement bin on their schedule of works for May. They will look at the wheely bin that is positioned outside the Parish Field to see if it can be moved.

To adopt Working Party Terms of Reference and the Emergency Plan. All agreed to adopt both documents.

RESOLVED: to adopt the Working Party Terms of Reference and the Village Emergency Plan (25/77 – no budgetary requirements)

Update on request for weight restriction for vehicles using Tower Hill – The Clerk confirmed that this has been requested to Dorset Council. The response is that a formal application from the Parish Council would be required. Once the application has been submitted, it typically takes around 12 to 18 months to progress through the system and reach the top of the list. Suggested that this is not applied for until Dinah’s Hollow project is complete. It was noted that once Dinah’s Hollow project is finished, the traffic that would normally use this road would largely be limited to deliveries. As the road is not considered as rat run, a weight restriction would not apply to vehicles requiring access to the village. Therefore, this application may not receive approval.

Standing orders were re-instated

25/78. To consider planning application received.

P/CLE/2024/06853 – planning appeal Crossways, Hobgoblin – site caravan – the Parish Council re-iterated their first objections to this application, so duly noted the appeal.

P/TRC/2026/00837 – Brook Bungalow – various tree works – No objections.

25/79. To receive Dorset Council’s Unitary Councillor Jane Somper’s report

Dorset Councillor Jane Somper will be sending her report through to the Parish Council. This report will be available to view on the Parish Council website or a copy obtained from the Clerk.

25/80. Chairman’s report – Nothing to report.

25/81. Accounts

To ratify the payments made for February 2026 and approve the payment schedule for March 2026, listed below.

Payee	Detail	Category	Expense Amount
N Phillips DD	Clerks wages Feb	Clerk's Wages	£ 631.48
Nest DD	Clerk pension	Clerk pension	£ 92.10
HMRC DD	Paye/ni/payee/tax/pen	PAYE	£ 221.14
Lloyds	Service Charge	Membership Fees	£ 4.25
N Phillips	Clerks expenses Feb	Clerk's Expenses	£ 73.09
Total for February			£ 1,022.06

Payee	Detail	Category	Expense Amount
N Phillips DD	Clerks wages March	Clerk's Wages	£ 631.48
Nest DD	Clerk pension	Clerk pension	£ 92.10
HMRC DD	Paye/ni/payee/tax/pe	PAYE	£ 221.14
Lloyds	Service Charge	Membership Fees	£ 4.25
Abingdon Hall	Hall Hire	Hall Hire	£ 20.00
Defib Store	Pads for defib	Village features	£ 290.40
Parish Magazine	Invoice 14456	Newsletter	£ 95.16
The Play Inspec Co	Play inspection	Recreation ground	£ 115.80
T Signs	Signs for Play Area	Village features	£ 120.00
DAPTC	Annual subscription	Membership Fees	£ 381.84
Cllr K O'Connor	Parish Website	Grants & Donations	£ 120.00
N Phillips	March	Clerk's Expenses	£ 73.09
Total for March			£ 2,165.26

RESOLVED: to ratify the payments made in February 2026 for the sum of £1022.06 and agree the payments for March 2026 for the sum of £2165.26 (25/81 Current Account).

Cllr H Overton approved the Bank Reconciliation

25/82. Officers’ reports:

Governance & IT: Nothing to report.

Emergency Planning: Nothing to report.

Highways: Cllr J Goodliffe expressed the importance for resident to report things like potholes or blocked drains directly to Dorset Council, as the more reports they receive, it get put up higher on the priority work schedule. The link for reporting pot holes is <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/pothole-repairs> and for blocked drains it is <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/report-a-problem-on-the-road-or-pavement>. You can also use Fix My Street <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Footpaths and Rights of Way: Cllr Skinner reported that the two broken bridges that had been reported to Dorset Council Rights of Way Team have been mended.

Recreation: A member of the public had informed the Council that the football nets are in a poor state. Cllr O'Connor will look into this. It was also noted that the Parish Council have an external Play Inspection annually.

Environment and Community Resilience: A member of the public had expressed concerns over the stream along Watery Lane, being cleaned out too often. It was agreed that a notice will be produced giving information of why the stream should not be cleared out so often.

Village Features: Nothing to report.

Other Organisations/Groups:

- **Clayesmore:** Nothing further to report
- **Speed Watch:** Updates on the Speed Watch will be found on the Parish Newsletter. The Speed Watch team need new volunteers. It is so important to the Village to have an active Speed Watch team, as evidence from the reports can be used to improve road safety for the Parish.
- **Neighbourhood Watch:** nothing to report.
- **Abingdon Hall:** Nothing to report.
- **Village Defibrillator** – New pad have been purchased and delivered.
- **DAPTC** – Any information received is circulated by the Clerk.

25/83. Clerk Report: Nothing to report.

25/84. To consider any other matters arising from recent correspondence: Nothing to add.

25/85. Items for next agenda – Annual Parish Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Parish Council meeting

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 11th of May 2026**
At **6.30pm**, at Abingdon Hall, Iwerne Minster

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed by the Chairman

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

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