

**MINUTES OF CROSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

**Held at the Church Rooms, Church
Street on
Tuesday, 15th July 2025, at 7:00 pm**

Present: Cllrs A Hargraves (Chair), A Ford, L Tully, P Hodge, C Jackson

Attending: Debbie Widdows (Parish Clerk) Cllr M Lovell (Somerset Councillor);

1. WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE; ABSENCES

Cllr B Gudzelak due to other work related business

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17th June, 2025 would be considered for approval at the next meeting.

5. FINANCE

- i. To approve (or not) bank account reconciliation to 10 July 25 (Appendix 2).

Resolved. Approved.

- ii. To approve (or not) receipts and payments identified in cashflow from 12 June 25 to 10 July 25 (Appendix 3).

Resolved. Approved.

- iii. To approve (or not) the Q1 budget review to 30 Jun 25 (Appendix 4).

This report would be brought to the next meeting.

6. CLERK'S REPORT

- i. To note Clerk's Report (Appendix 5)

The report was noted.

7. LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT

The report had been sent to all councillors previously and Cllr Lovell presented his report and highlighted:

- Local Government Boundary Commission
 - Somerset Council should have ninety-six single-councillor divisions, with all boundaries changing to better reflect communities and balance representation. Among the proposals

is that Croscombe becomes part of a Division “Mendip Hills” including Dinder, Dulcote, the 3 Horringtons and Wookey Hole.

- Residents are invited to comment until 11 August 2025
- Children and Families
 - Parent carers and professionals are invited to share their views on education, health, and care support for children and young people with SEND
- Links with other Villages
 - Discussions surrounding services which could be shared with other villages in the area.
 - Street cleaning was done in Croscombe by Somerset Council
- Health
 - The planned closure of Yeovil Maternity for at least six months comes amid warnings from the Care Quality Commission (CQC) about the hospital’s paediatric services, following a series of critical reports on Somerset’s maternity care. Somerset Council understands the anxiety this situation causes to expectant mothers and families across the region.
 - Somerset Council Executive Members have met with senior hospital managers to explore options for reopening the unit as soon as possible.

8. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

i. Flood Group (Appendix 7)

The report had been sent to all councillors previously and Cllr Hodge gave his report and highlighted:

- The flood barriers have now been delivered.
- It has to be confirmed that the conditions of the access chamber are acceptable to the CPC – Action PH
- Solicitors will then be chosen and instructed to draw up an agreement with the landowner. Additional monies will have to be raised.
- Boulder Traps
- Culvert Responsibility
- Attenuation Ponds
- River Survey
- Work Parties

ii. Verbal update on the Orchard Working Group

- The chair reported that written permission has still not been provided by Dinder Estates.
- The OWG were directed to amend their report in line with suggested changes by the Chair to remove the remaining offending parts.

After some discussion, Cllr Jackson proposed that the draft of the report discussed at the Full Council meeting on 25 February 2025 be issued to all members and any errors found within to be reported to the Clerk. And furthermore, given the errors, the report will not be published but it will be held in the parish records along with the findings of the Councillors’ reviews; Cllr Ford seconded the proposal.

Vote: For:4, Against: 2

Cllr Tully wished for it to be minuted that a lot of effort had been put into the report by the OWG and that she was unhappy that the report was not accepted by the CPC and that the decision made on 25 February 2025 had been reversed.

The Chair added that the CPC had also spent a lot of time on the matter which had been running for many months, and he wished to note that the amended report, contrary to previous assurances, still contained offending words.

iii. Verbal update on the Play Area Group

There was no verbal update as Cllr Gudzalek had given his apologies.

9. COUNCILLOR TRAINING

The Chair confirmed that the Members needed to attend regular training and need to let the Clerk know which training sessions they would like to attend.

Action: All councillors to review the training and decide which to choose.

10. IMPORTANT AGAR UPDATES - 2025 PRACTITIONERS' GUIDE & EMAIL REQUIREMENTS

It was noted that a Key Change in the 2025 Guide Include email management and that all authorities were now required to use a generic email account hosted on an authority-owned domain, namely an email account which ended in .gov.uk or .co.uk.

Croscombe Parish Council's email addresses were compliant, however, the domain managing the email accounts and website was found to be inadequate.

Action: Clerk to source new developer and advise Members on email.

11. PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES AMENDMENTS

12. Cllr Tully proposed to cancel the meeting to be held on 19th August and go into summer recess, which was seconded by Cllr Ford.

Vote: Unanimous

13. UPDATES ON ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

- i. Terms of Reference (ToR) from each of the Working Groups sent to the respective Chairs. These were sent to members and it was agreed that all ToRs should be standardised.

- ii. Annual Governance Proposal (AGP).

Action: Clerk to send a list of proposed policies for Croscombe to Chair.

CJ to ask BG help drawn up an AGP.

- iii. Purchasing noticeboards.

Following a review of alternative quotes for new wooden noticeboards, Matthew Little's was chosen as the best value for money.

Action: CJ to inform Mathew Little of the decision to purchase 3 noticeboards.

14. MATTERS OF REPORT – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 16th September, 2025 at 7:00pm in the Church Rooms.

CLOSE

The meeting closed at 20.20