

Accounts Statement & New Invoices

Prepared by L Roslyn, Parish Clerk/RFO

Approved by Minute Ref 120⁽²⁵⁾ b at Parish Council Meeting held on **18 November 2025**

Unity Trust CURRENT A/C				
Opening Balance as at 1 April 2025			19,145.14	
Less Payments			18,040.97	
Plus Receipts			17,985.43	
Cash in Bank Balance			22,147.69	
Ref 25-	Payment Type	Payments to be Ratified <i>(made between meetings - examined, verified and certified by the RFO)</i>		Budget Section ⁽²⁵⁻²⁶⁾
45	Fee	Unity Trust Bank		Bank Chrgs
Payments for Ratification Total			6.00	
Ref 25-	Payment Type	New Invoices For Approval <i>(examined, verified and certified by the RFO)</i>		
46	FPD	SALC - Cllr Essentials Part 1 Training		Training
47	D/D	Ionos - Website/WP Hosting Nov-2025		Website
48	FPD	Shepton Mallet Landscape Ltd - Grounds Maintenance		Cemetery
49	FPD	L Roslyn - Travel		Office/Mtgs
50	FPD	L Roslyn - Salary & HWA Month 08 - November		Salary
51	FPD	HMRC - PAYE-NICs Month 08 - November		Salary
Total New Invoices			3,058.09	
Reconciled Bank Balance			19,089.60	

Signed _____
(Chair of the Meeting)

Date _____

Croscombe Parish Council 2025-2026 Budget Review

	Approved Budget 2025/26	Q1 1/4/25 – 30/6/25	Q2 1/7/25 – 30/9/25	Q3 1/10/25- 31/12/25	Q4 1/1/26 – 31/3/26	Actual Totals 25/26	Forecast to 31/3/26	Diff +/-
RECEIPTS								
Precept	13,915.00	13,915.00	-	-	-	13,915.00	-	
Cemetery	1,600.00	-	-	-	-	-		
Allotment / Field Rental	300.00	-	60.00	-	-	60.00		
VAT Reclaim	-	-	587.13	-	-	-	1,277.86	
Play Area Funds Raised	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Grants	-	3,348.00	-	-	-	-		
Orchard Income/Funds Raised	-	-	-	75.30	-	75.30		
Total Receipts	15,815.00	17,263.00	647.13	75.30	-	17,985.43		
PAYMENTS								
Salary	5,104.00	839.54	2,303.49	1,270.90	-	4,413.93	2,693.95	- 2,003.88
Insurance	550.00	437.00	-	-	-	437.00	-	113.00
Mem'ship Fees / Subscriptions	500.00	47.00	401.45	-	-	448.45	160.00	- 108.45
Audit Fees	190.00	190.00	-	-	-	190.00	-	-
Meeting Costs <i>(+ Clerk's Travel)</i>	96.00	64.00	112.42	21.60	-	198.02	203.20	- 305.22
Bank Charges	72.00	18.00	18.00	6.00	-	42.00	30.00	-
Office Costs	250.00	-	243.61	-	-	243.61	60.00	- 53.61
Website Hosting	122.00	25.50	25.50	17.00	-	68.00	34.00	20.00
Training	300.00	-	-	50.00	-	50.00	50.00	200.00
Assets	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	200.00
Cemetery Maintenance	2,685.00	-	-	2,034.96	-	2,034.96	-	650.04
Play Area Inspection / Maintenance	400.00	-	96.00	-	-	96.00		304.00
Play Area - B/F	834.00	-	-	-	-	-		834.00
Play Area Phase 2 - Current	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Orchard - B/F	1,409.00	-	-	-	-	-		1,409.00
Orchard - Current	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Projects	100.00	-	-	-	-	-		100.00
Play Area Reserves	2,000.00	-	-	-	-	-		2,000.00
General Reserves / Contingency	1,600.00	-	8,522.10	-	-	8,522.10		- 6,922.10
Total Running Costs	16,412.00	1,621.04	11,722.57	3,400.46	-	16,744.07	3,231.15	- 3,563.22
Total Receipts	15,815.00	17,263.00	647.13	75.30	-	17,985.43		
Total Payments	16,412.00	1,621.04	11,722.57	3,400.46	-	16,744.07		
VAT to reclaim	-	5.10	867.47	410.39	-	-		
Balance for period		15,636.86	(11,942.91)	(3,735.55)	-	1,241.36		
Balance b/f		19,145.14	34,782.00	22,839.09	19,103.54			
Projected/actual balance		34,782.00	22,839.09	19,103.54	19,103.54			
Quarter End								
Current Account Balance		30/06/2025	30/09/2025	31/12/2025	31/03/2026			
		34,782.00	22,839.09	19,103.54	19,103.54			
Totals		34,782.00	22,839.09	19,103.54	19,103.54			

Q2 Budget Review Approved Min. Ref. 120⁽²⁵⁾b PC Meeting 18/11/2025

Signed

(Chair of the Meeting)

Dated

Somerset Council Report to Croscombe Parish Council meeting Tuesday 18th November 2025

Young People

Cllr Bill Revans, leader of Somerset Council, has voiced strong disappointment over delays to the Government's upcoming Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reform, now postponed to 2026. He highlighted the worsening crisis, with rising numbers of young people needing Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), skyrocketing costs, and increasing wait times for families.

Cllr Revans emphasised the urgent need for comprehensive reform to prevent overspending and deteriorating services. He met with families protesting outside County Hall, supporting calls for urgent change. The council has already introduced local initiatives but stresses that national legislation reforms are crucial to address the growing crisis.

Somerset Council invites anyone interested in fostering to join relaxing 'Cuppa with a Carer' events this month. These informal sessions offer the chance to chat with experienced foster carers, share stories, and get answers about the fostering process, support, and options.

Events are scheduled in Bridgwater, Taunton and Shepton Mallet Offices
Fostering opportunities range from short-term care to long-term placements, with no experience needed—just a spare room and a desire to make a difference. For more details, visit fosteringinsomerset.org.uk or call 0800 587 9900.

Somerset's Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) youth group, the Unstoppables, has launched a new website to give members a platform to share their experiences and connect. The site provides information about the group, meeting times, how to join, and links to useful resources. It also offers a space for young people with SEND, aged 13 to 25, to discuss their concerns, successes, aspirations, and influence local services. The launch aims to raise awareness and encourage more young people in Somerset to get involved. Visit somerset-unstoppables.org.uk to explore the site.

Children across Somerset showcased their creativity and environmental awareness in the inaugural Food Waste Story Writing Competition, organized by Somerset Council and SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK. In partnership with author Ben Pulletz and his eco-character Luna the Globetrotter, the competition inspired young minds to think about food waste recycling and its benefits.

Children created stories featuring characters like Benny the Bread and Carrie the Carrot, promoting recycling with imagination and humour. The judges praised all entries for their originality and environmental message.

To read the winning stories, visit someset.gov.uk/foodcampaign.

Somerset Council has launched a public consultation to gather views on improving children's and family support services. The goal is to help families stay together and ensure children grow up in safe, loving environments.

The feedback will help develop the Families First Partnership, a national initiative aimed at better collaboration between social care, police, health, and education to protect and support children.

To participate, visit the [Children and Families Social Care consultation page](#). Paper copies are available at libraries and council offices. The survey closes on 27 November, with a review of all responses afterward

Highways

A new 1.3 km traffic-free path linking Ham Wood Viaduct to Thrupe Lane has opened, completing a vital part of the Somerset Circle walking and cycling route in Mendip. This scenic route offers safe, active travel from Shepton Mallet into the Mendip Hills, connecting communities and supporting sustainable transport. The project, achieved through the efforts of volunteers and local partnerships, was officially opened by Cllr Ros Wyke. When finished, the Somerset Circle will be a 76-mile traffic-free circuit linking Bristol, Bath, the Mendip Hills, and the Somerset Levels, promoting active lifestyles and reducing car travel. Somerset Liberal Dems has championed active travel and green transport initiatives to create a healthier, more sustainable county.

Somerset Council, in partnership with Kier Transportation Ltd, is fully prepared for winter with a fleet of 23 gritters ready to treat roads when temperatures drop. Gritting involves spreading salt on key routes to prevent ice formation and ensure safer travel during cold weather.

Last winter saw teams make 1,679 visits covering over 117,000 miles, using more than 6,000 tonnes of salt, often during day and night shifts. The council's preparation included summer depot work, weather monitoring, and coordinated snowplough efforts with farmers.

The council prioritizes critical routes, and community support is encouraged—roadside grit bins can be refilled on request, and residents can join the snow warden scheme. This winter, two new gritters will be added to the fleet, with a creative competition inviting school children to name them.

Stay updated with gritting plans via @TravelSomerset on X (Twitter) and Facebook. Drivers are reminded to drive cautiously, especially in wintry conditions, and to avoid overtaking gritters during salting operations. For tips on winter driving, visit [the Council's Road Safety webpage](#)

Housing

The issue of caravans affects residents in Glastonbury and the surrounding villages. Somerset Council is actively working to address it, including recently removing 17 abandoned caravans from local sites and clearing up the verges.

The council is collaborating with Bristol City Council to learn from their experience in setting up 'Meanwhile Sites'. This is use of land that is designated for development, meanwhile it is used for off road living sites created at a much lesser cost than permanent traveller sites. Such sites do need planning permission and the first site is being progressed to Planning as part of the Enabling Project of the Glastonbury Town Deal.

Additionally, Glastonbury and Somerton MP Sarah Dyke has written to the Secretary of State, calling for the national registration of caravans to prevent anonymous ownership and trading of caravans and to raise awareness of the problem in Glastonbury and nearby villages.

These efforts are part of Somerset Council's long-term approach to resolving a complex issue involving people living in vans and caravans in the Glastonbury area. As the Authority with responsibility for social care and housing, Somerset Council has a much greater responsibility and so must approach the issue of roadside living with considerable care. The issue is, of course, linked to cost of and reduced availability of housing in the area, although it is realised that there are many and varied reasons for people to live on the roadside.

Somerset Council's [2024/25 Housing Report](#) highlights significant progress, improved services, and strong tenant satisfaction. Key achievements include managing nearly £33m, completing 19,000 repairs—over 4,300 emergencies with 95% responded to within 24 hours—and maintaining 100% compliance on home safety measures. . The housing referenced in this report is the Council owned housing stock in West and North of the county.

The council invested in upgrading homes with new windows, kitchens, roofs, and bathrooms, and developed energy-efficient housing. Around 270 vacant homes were let, with rent collection hitting 99.8%, and support was provided for 200 anti-social behaviour cases. Overall tenant satisfaction reached 76%, with most measures exceeding national averages.

The council remains committed to delivering safe homes, excellent service, and ongoing engagement. [Visit the Housing Performance page for more details and previous reports.](#)

Somerset Council has introduced a Homelessness Charter to encourage residents, businesses, and services to work together to tackle homelessness. Launched on 23 October with community and lived experience speakers, the charter is based on four principles: improving data, ending rough sleeping, increasing access to suitable accommodation, and enhancing prevention efforts. Councillor

Sarah Wakefield emphasized the importance of collective action, urging everyone to sign the charter or join action groups. Claire Tough, Chair of the Homelessness Reduction Board, highlighted the community's shared goal to prevent homelessness through dignity, respect, and support. Find out more and get involved via [the Council's Homelessness Reduction Board page](#).

Social Care

Libraries across Somerset are now collecting donated coats again to help residents stay warm and reduce waste. Last year, 2,470 coats were donated, with most given to the charity RAFT, supporting displaced people locally and abroad.

Participating libraries include Burnham-on-Sea, Chard, Dulverton, Glastonbury, Ilminster, Langport, Minehead, Porlock, Shepton Mallet, Street, Taunton, Wellington, Williton, and Yeovil.

Donations are welcomed in good, clean condition—any size or age—and can be left with library staff. For more info, visit your local library, the [Somerset Libraries UK Facebook page](#), or email librariesmail@somerset.gov.uk.

Somerset Council and community partners are offering support like food banks, mental health advice, council tax relief, housing payments, and heating assistance. Visit somerset.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support to check eligibility and apply. If you lack internet access, call 0300 123 2224 and ask for 'cost of living crisis support'.

As winter approaches and costs rise, Somerset organisations are teaming up to help residents stay safe and healthy. Public Health Somerset, NHS Somerset, the Centre for Sustainable Energy, Citizens Advice Somerset, and community partners will hold a free Winter Wellness Webinar on Wednesday, 5 November, from 12pm to 1pm.

To join, [register on the Microsoft Teams event page](#). The webinar is open to all supporting Somerset communities.

Somerset Council has launched a comprehensive Domestic Abuse Toolkit for Solicitors, providing free guidance and training to help legal professionals support clients affected by domestic abuse. The toolkit includes advice on the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, safe consultation practices, client confidentiality, and available local support services, empowering solicitors to make a meaningful difference.

In addition, Somerset Domestic Abuse Service has extended its online support hours to 4pm, making confidential help more accessible. The service offers free support via somersetdomesticabuse.org.uk, with a helpline open 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. In emergencies, dial 999 or use the Silent Solution system.

Together, these initiatives aim to create a safer, more supportive environment for those experiencing domestic abuse. For help or more information, visit the website, call 0800 69 49 999, or email domesticabuseservice@somerset.gov.uk

Council

Somerset Council has approved a £1.56 million investment in data and AI technologies to enhance services and reduce costs. The funds will expand the AI and Data Team with 15 new roles, creating local jobs and improving data integration across the council. A key focus is developing a unified view of residents to identify support needs early and prevent crises. This initiative supports the broader Inspiring Innovation transformation, building on previous projects like Transform Family View. Better data use could help detect risks in areas such as homelessness, potentially preventing up to 256 families from losing their homes annually.

Health

This autumn, Somerset residents are encouraged to show support for friends, family, and colleagues on their journey to become smoke-free. The 'What's Your Why?' Pledge by Smokefree Somerset aims to encourage conversations and community encouragement, helping those thinking about quitting to feel less alone. Residents can pledge at local events or online and access free, expert support to quit smoking. Leanne, a Somerset mum who successfully quit, shared how the pledge inspired her to quit and live healthier.

Alongside community efforts, Somerset Council and local businesses are launching a year-long scheme to help employees quit smoking, offering free therapies and support to promote healthier workplaces. With research showing smoking costs the UK economy billions, these initiatives aim to create a healthier, more supportive Somerset.

Find out more and make your pledge at smokefreesomerset.org.uk.

Waste

From 24 November, around 53,000 Somerset garden waste subscribers will have changes to their collection day due to increased subscriptions and route capacity limits. Some residents will see a change in collection week, day, or a one-off interim collection on Saturday, 22 November. Notices will be sent via email or post, and online calendars will be updated. Residents are encouraged to check their new collection [schedules online](#).

Somerset Council warns that Halloween last year generated 146 tonnes of extra food waste, a 19% rise. To help cut waste, residents are encouraged to make the most of their pumpkins by eating the flesh, seeds, and guts. Instead of discarding pumpkins, try making pumpkin cake, soup, or roasting

seeds. Any scraps not usable can be recycled, composted, or frozen. For ideas, [visit Love Food Hate Waste's Make the most of your pumpkin page](#).

Volunteering

Charities and volunteer groups in Somerset are encouraged to apply for the King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS), the highest national recognition for voluntary groups. The application period is open until December 1st. The award celebrates outstanding volunteer efforts benefiting local communities across a wide range of causes, from health and social care to arts and the environment. In the last round, 11 groups from Somerset were nominated, highlighting the county's vibrant and often unseen volunteer sector. Applications can be made through a simple process detailed on the [KAV website](#). The award helps raise awareness and provides valuable recognition for groups making a difference in Somerset

Waste

Somerset Council reports a rise in recycling processed within the county, with 99% of plastics recycled in the UK and a 57% reduction in landfill waste. These results reflect a commitment to local sustainability and transparency. The figures coincide with Recycling Week 2025, emphasising the importance of recycling everyday items like shampoo bottles, foil, and toothpaste tubes, which are now being diverted from waste to proper reprocessing. Explore the full report via the Council's [Recycling tracker page](#).

Licensing

Somerset Council is seeking public input on a new policy to simplify and standardize charitable collection licensing across the county. The proposed policy aims to reduce bureaucracy, cut administration costs, and promote responsible fundraising. Key changes include allowing permits only for registered charities, permitting street collections any day, and removing the requirement to publish collection proceeds in local newspapers. The Council invites residents, charities, and stakeholders to review and comment on the draft policy from November 1, 2025, to January 23, 2026. For more information, [visit the Council's consultation page from 1 November](#).

Local Community Network (LCN)

I will be able to feed back on the next Shepton Local Community Network (LCN) Highways Working Group meeting on #Thursday 13th November in my next report.

Links

Visit - Report a Problem on the Road: - A list of all reporting pages to do with roads, pavements, lighting:

[Report a problem on the road](#)

Potholes and road damage - Somerset Council repair potholes and other road defects, and maintain our roads, for the safe access of all road users:

[Potholes, road damage and edge loss](#)

Report a problem with a street light - We maintain and repair street lights to national standards to provide safe access to all road users:

[Report a problem with a street light](#)

Roads, travel and parking, road signs, markings and lighting - Includes information about non-illuminated bollards, pedestrian crossings, requesting a village nameplate or a new road sign:

[Road signs, bollards and road markings](#)

Speed limits - Request information about new or existing traffic calming measures:

[Speed limits](#)

Traffic lights -We maintain over 200 traffic light locations throughout the County:

[Traffic lights](#)

Street and roadworks - We maintain the roads and pavements that are managed at public expense in Somerset:

[Street and roadworks problems](#)

Traffic - updates and roadworks follow:

[Travel Somerset on X](#) and [Travel Somerset on Facebook](#).

All ongoing roadworks - available on the Somerset Council website interactive map

[Roadworks and travel information](#)

Somerset Waste - collection days, replacement bins or recycling bags and missed collection reporting:

[Bins, recycling and waste](#)

Travel and Tourist Information

[Travel Somerset - Art, Culture, Events, History & More](#)

Sign-up for the latest climate news from across Somerset:

[Climate newsletter sign-up](#)

Open Somerset Council Consultations - which anyone can complete and take part in shaping the future of Somerset

[Somerset Council - Citizen Space - Consultations](#)

SOMERSET COUNCIL TELEPHONE NO - 0300 123 2224

Martin Lovell

11/11/2025

Proposal for consideration at Parish Council Meeting

Agenda Item 123⁽²⁵⁾ **Leave of Absence request (section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972)**

Legal position

Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of that Authority within a six-month consecutive period.

"If a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, they shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority."

Report

Cllr Chris Jackson has written to request a leave of absence due to personal and family matters, initially until the end of April 2026. In receiving this request for a leave of absence, the Council is asked to consider approval of the reason for absence from the date of the meeting at which it has been received.

Proposed Motion

To agree that, in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, Cllr Chris Jackson's non-attendance at meetings of the Council be approved for a period of 6-months on grounds of ill-health and recovery.

Croscombe Flood Group Report 9th November 2025

Chairmans Report to Croscombe Parish Council

The Group did meet in September so the information below is an update on current projects.

1. Barriers

We need a storm rain gauge to provide an alarm and perhaps a water level warning from Old Street Lane. This is being progressed. Is there a sum of money that could be spent on such equipment without the prior approval of the Council – say up to £100

2. Culvert Access Chamber

The legal agreement to allow access to the chamber is back in progress. The SRA have approved our request to extend the terms of the grant to now expire in 2026. There is an issue concerning additional costs for legal matters

3. Culvert Responsibility

The Environment Agency have advised that a second survey is to be undertaken to determine the route of the culvert and so identifying the riparian owners. No progress. Nationally Tessa Munt to progress the question who is responsible for improvements to the culvert. SCC are primarily responsible for replacing the culvert but this cannot be justified using a culvert design to take a 1:150 year flood. Tessa has since replied to Tony Hargraves but the information provided is disputed

4. River Survey

We plan to advise Riparian all owners of their responsibilities. I suggest that I put a note to each riparian owner on behalf of Croscombe Parish Council reminding them of their responsibilities to maintain the river walls and channel or the culvert. The culvert responsibility will follow.

5. Attenuation Ponds

The owner of the land has not yet been contacted. SCC have indicated that they may help. The SRA have indicated that they may also help with securing grants. SCC are planning to establish a small attenuation pond on land above/near the STW.

6. Removal of boulders from the river and removal of undergrowth from walls

No further action to report re boulders.

Chair of Croscombe Flood Group

9th November 2025

Community Car Scheme

1 message

Tony Hargraves <cllr.hargraves@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>

8 November 2025 at 07:09

To: Ben Gudzelak <cllr.gudzelak@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, Chris Jackson <cllr.jackson@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, "cllr.baker@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk" <cllr.baker@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, "cllr.hodge@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk" <cllr.hodge@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, Croscombe Parish Clerk <clerk@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, "Ford, Annette" <cllr.ford@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>, Louise Tully <cllr.tully@croscombeparishcouncil.co.uk>

Morning!

Yesterday I attended another LCN Community Cars meeting to add some more flesh to the bones of the idea.

We concluded that we could proceed with a small number of parishes under the umbrella of the LCN - we will meet again in January.

In the meantime, I wish to establish whether there is an appetite for a scheme in Croscombe and as a first pass propose to use social media to gauge the level of interest, and whether Croscombe would be a candidate for the next steps, which could be a survey, a leaflet drop, establish a working group, become a pilot scheme, et al.

I propose to post the text below on the Croscombe Facebook groups.

Views welcomed.

rgds

Tony

=====

Alongside some Somerset parish councils, your parish council has been exploring the idea of a community car scheme for Croscombe.

What is a community car scheme?

A community car scheme is a not-for-profit organisation, usually run by volunteers, that operates a form of car sharing. Volunteer drivers using their own car and being reimbursed expenses; provide prearranged journeys to members of the community who do not have access to suitable transport to travel to essential services such as health appointments, accessing work, shopping or even visiting friends.

More details can be found online at <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/community-car-schemes/>

Several schemes already operate successfully in Somerset (e.g. Frome).

At this stage your parish council is looking to establish whether there is a need for such a scheme in Croscombe and whether there are parishioners prepared to undertake the volunteer roles:-

- Volunteer drivers
- Volunteer co-ordinators
- Volunteer management committee members

Is there a need and would you be prepared to participate?

Your views are sought!

Please post your views and/or message me

Regards

Tony Hargraves