



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

South Petherton Parish Office

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Public Session

The Chairman of the South Petherton Community Flood Group spoke in support of agenda item 6.5.5 Whitfield field proposal. He said that grant applications to convert the land were expected to be successful and it would have some impact on flood risk to the village and have some leverage on other projects coming forward.

A local resident thanked the Parish Council for setting up the South Petherton Community Flood Group which was setting an example to others in flood prevention.

Somerset Council Councillors

Cllr Jo Roundell-Greene advised that Somerset Council would like to assist with flood prevention work in the village but they did not have any funding available. She felt the Parish Council may be able to help with work at Silver Street bridge. She advised that all highway related issues must be reported through the Somerset Council website, there were blood pressure monitors in all libraries for public use, the Somerset Council were strengthening ties with a Ukrainian village, they were working on their 2026/27 budget and their transformation programme was moving forward.

The Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the South Petherton Parish Council held at the William Blake Memorial Hall, South Petherton on Monday 2nd June 2025 when the following business was conducted.

PRESENT Councillors A Baker, C Bragg, S Carp, B Chitty, K Jones, R Killen, T New, S Spiers, D Steel, B Swainson and N Wakely (Chairman) together with the Parish Clerk and Deputy Clerk.
4 members of the public were in attendance.

6.1 To receive any apologies for non attendance

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs L Baker and D Hodson-Wright. Cllrs R Brown and A Dance were absent.

6.2 To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

6.3 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14th May 2025

The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meetings and signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded 11-0-0.

6.4 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman advised that he had responded to two emails that day from local residents regarding overgrown footpaths and perceived speeding traffic on Knapp Hill.

6.5 Items for debate and potential decision that may require action

1) Review and confirm the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies.

The Clerk noted the annual subscriptions of SLCC, SALC, the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management and the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) annual fee of £52.

Reviewed and approved. All in favour 11-0-0

2) Review and adopt the Councils press, data protection and privacy policy.

Reviewed and approved. All in favour 11-0-0

3) To agree the purchase and placement of additional "Dogs not permitted" signs for the recreational

ground following residents concerns raised

During discussion it was proposed that larger signs were required and a sign to include a health warning and an article in the next edition of TA13 magazine. Proposed and seconded 11-0-0

4) Preferred quote B additional cost for concrete edgers in cemetery turning circle £1,690. + VAT

The installation of concrete edging to the cemetery turning circle was proposed and seconded 11-0-0

5) Whitfield field proposal report for consideration

Councillors discussed the proposal to introduce natural flood management on a section of land adjacent to the Whitfield meadow. It was agreed that the Council were, in principle, in favour of the proposal subject to the release of part of the land by the current tenant and grants available. It was proposed that the Clerk and Cllr S Spiers speak to the current tenant to discuss the possibility of early release of part of the land. Proposed and seconded 11-0-0

6.6 Finance and General Purposes Committee

- a) The minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 3rd March 2025 were noted.
- b) Items of expenditure and payments list. Proposed and seconded, 11-0-0.

6.7 Planning Committee

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 14th May 2025 were noted.

6.8 To receive any additional reports from Councillors

Cllr B Chitty questioned a car which was parked in the recreation ground car park. The Clerk advised that action was being taken for its removal.

Cllr D Steel reported on the Village Agent, the PCSO and the Patient Participation Group. He also advised that there was a Flood Café meeting in the Library on Wednesday 4th June 2025.

6.9 Other matters referred to Officers

The Clerk reported that she had arranged for the tree trunk outside the Scout Hut to be removed, the car in the recreation ground car park had been reported to Somerset Council, the Speed Indicator Device would be placed on Knapp Hill subject to Somerset Highways approval. The Deputy Clerk reported that the new software to digitally record the allotment and cemetery records was being populated with historical data.

6.10 Exempt session – Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved that under Section 1, paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Reason: Information relating to any individual. Proposed and seconded, 11-0-0.

HR Matters

Deputy Clerk - 5 hour per week increase for 6 months initially to digitize the Cemetery records. To be reviewed in 6 months. Proposed and seconded 10-1-0

Officers Pensions – Council chosen pension provider (Nest) to remain and employers pension contribution to be 15%. Proposed and seconded 9-2-0

Clerk's salary – Increase agreed to SCP35. Automatic increase to SCP36 in April 2026. Increments on gaining qualification as per contract. Proposed and seconded 9-1-1

6.11 Date of next meeting – Monday 7th July 2025 at The William Blake Memorial Hall, South Petherton

Meeting closed at 9.32pm

Signed:

Dated: