



SOUTH PETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

South Petherton Parish Office

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Public Session

The Chair of the South Petherton Food Share spoke in support of their grant application.

Cllr Carp, representing the South Petherton Infants School PTA, spoke in support of their grant application.

Somerset Council Councillors

Councillor Steve Ashton provided a brief update of news from Somerset Council.

The Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the **South Petherton Parish Council** held at the William Blake Memorial Hall, South Petherton on **Monday 1st June 2026** at 7.30pm when the following business was conducted.

PRESENT Councillors N Wakey (Chairman), A Baker, S Carp, S Gold, D Hodson-Wright, R Killen, T New, G Richards, S Spiers together with the Parish Clerk and Deputy Clerk.
9 members of the public present.

06.1 To receive any apologies for non attendance

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A Dance, S Jones, D Steel and B Swainson. Cllrs N Balfe & R Brown were absent.

06.2 To receive any declarations of interest

Cllrs Carp and Killen declared an Other Registerable Interest in Agenda item 06.5 (c) grant request from the Flagpole project as members of the South Petherton Infants School PTA.

Cllr Carp declared an Other Registerable Interest in Agenda item 06.5 (g) as a Trustee of the Blake Hall.

06.3 To receive and approve the Minutes of the the AMPC on Wednesday 13th May 2026.

The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman. Proposed and seconded 9-0-0.

06.4 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman noted the untidy condition of the BMX track at the Recreation Ground and the Clerk confirmed the grass maintenance contractors would return that week to deal with it.

06.5 Items for debate and decision that may require action:

- a) To review and increase the South Petherton Cemetery policies, fees and charges
Proposed and seconded. 8-1-0
- b) Consider and agree removing Cemetery memorial area box hedges to replace with more appropriate landscaping. Following a short debate, it was proposed to defer the item to the July meeting to allow Councillors to view the condition of the hedges. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- c) Consider and decide the grant requests from South Petherton Food Share and Flagpole project.
Following a short debate, it was proposed to grant £1,000 to the South Petherton Food Share project. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
Following a short debate, it was proposed to grant £800 towards the Flagpole project. Proposed and seconded. 5-1-2
- d) Agree the 2026/2027 recreation ground pitch maintenance quote of £3200 + VAT to be paid from S106 pitch maintenance funds. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- e) Agree updated quote for recreation ground fencing from A) £39,885.12 and B) £25,775.95 both inc VAT C) £6,429 existing original quote only supplied.
Following a short debate, it was proposed to accept quote B. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- f) Agree and accept the memorial bench application at the Cemetery
This item was discussed along with item (j) and it was proposed that no application for a memorial bench would be considered until the CCTV equipment was removed. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- g) Confirm the signing of the Blake Hall and SP Sports and Social Club lease as agreed by both parties
Proposed and seconded. 6-0-2
- h) Confirm the signing of the gifting document from SW Ambulance Service for the last contracted defibrillator. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0

- i) Consider and agree the updated quote for St James Street car-park, given the now need for a road closure of £3,586.15 bringing quote C as agreed total to £28,496.15 + VAT.
Following a short debate, it was proposed to accept the increased cost to close the section of Prigg Lane for the duration of the repair work. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- j) Review CCTV erected contrary to cemetery rules and regulations and decide any remedial action.
Following a lengthy debate it was proposed to seek 3 quotes for the removal of the CCTV equipment and advise the families involved that they would be removed if not undertaken by themselves.
Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0
- k) Agree for decorative flags produced by the FolkFest to be placed in tree holders for Folk Fest and Carnival. Proposed and seconded. 9-0-0

6.6 Items and reports to note

- a) Somerset Council play inspection report. Noted
- b) Draft Flood Group terms of reference. Noted

6.7 Finance & General Purposes Committee

- a) Minutes of Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 2nd March 2026 and meeting report. Noted.
- b) Items of expenditure and approve payments list. Noted.

6.8 Planning Committee

Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Monday 13th May 2026 and meeting report. Noted.

6.9 To receive any additional reports from Councillors

Cllr R Killen reported that he had attended a Mere Lynches Trust meeting.

Cllr S Carp thanked the Parish Ranger for cleaning the area around the Blake Hall and he asked that regular inspections be made in that area. The clerk commented on establishing responsibility depending on the source of the need for cleaning.

6.10 Other matters referred to officers

The Clerk advised the Parish office would be closed on Wednesday 3rd June as both herself and the Deputy Clerk were attending a regional training seminar in Taunton.

6.11 Date of next meeting – Monday 6th July 2026 at 7.30pm at The William Blake Memorial Hall

Meeting closed at 8.51pm

Signed:

Dated: