

Chair To Sign

Compton Bishop Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting 14th January 2026

Present: Councillors C Settle (Deputy Chair), D McCarthy, G Hancock, D Ham, and A Mortimore (Clerk). Somerset Councillors B Filmer and T Grimes.

26/01A To receive any apologies for non-attendance.

Councillors T Mason (Chair) and H Dean.

26/01B To receive any declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

26/01C To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2025 previously circulated.

It was resolved to approve the minutes. Cllr Settle signed the minutes as a true record.

26/01D To receive Clerks Report.

1) **Date of the next Parish "open" Annual Meeting** – This will be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting to fix a date in before the end of May next year.

2) **Clearance of Ditches by Landowners** – Somerset Highways had contacted the Parish Council as certain ditches needed to be cleared to allow water to flow freely. Councillor Mason had been able to ascertain the details of the Landowners involved with the Clerk contacting the identified Landowners. There will be an update at the next meeting.

26/01E To receive Unitary Councillors Report.

Councillor Filmer gave a brief report on the latest update from Somerset Council, details of which will be displayed on the website.

26/01F To approve the bank statement and the following payments.

Payee	Description	Amount £
Clerk	Net salary (Dec 25)	356.47
HMRC	Tax deducted at source (Dec 25)	89.00
Clerk	Expenses (Dec 25)	39.45
CBPC	Employer National Insurance Contribution	4.27
Scribe Lite Accounting for Parish Councils	Direct Debit set up for monthly payments providing a full accounting system for the Parish from July 2024.	14.40 Monthly
Lloyds Bank	Monthly Bank Charges (commenced from Jan 25)	4.25
Cross Hall Committee	Hire of Cross memorial Hall for Council Meetings in 2026	240.00
Cllr Terry Mason	Reimbursement of 6 Verge Protectors	63.00

The payments were approved.

26/01G To consider the following Planning applications.

Planning application number	Location	Proposal

There were no planning applications to discuss at this meeting.



11 / 2 / 2026

Compton Bishop Parish Council

26/01H

To note the Planning Decisions Update.

Planning application number	Location	Decision
21/24/00006	Land North of Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare	Awaited
21/25/00002	Land to the East of Manor Farm, Cross, Axbridge	Awaited

26/01I

To consider Councillor Training

No training required this month.

26/01J

To receive Councillor reports.

1) **National Trust Woodland** – Cllr McCarthy mentioned that the National Trust (NT) is cutting back quite a large area of trees and vegetation around the footpath/bridleway, which is very concerning. It was agreed that this should be referred to Cllr Dean who is the Parish's Footpath Liaison Officer to make investigations with the NT as to whether they intend to replant this area in the future. This will be taken forward to the next meeting.

26/01K

Update on cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.

It was confirmed that the area of the River Yeo in question has still not been cut back. The Clerk to contact both the Environment Agency and the Landowner for an update on the situation.

26/01L

To discuss the implications of Assertion 10 (AGAR 2025-2026). Cllr Settle to report on her findings of obtaining a GOV.UK Email Domain. To approve I.T. Policy in readiness.

Cllr Settle confirmed that she had made enquiries regarding obtaining a Gov.uk email domain or to an org.uk (council owned domain) which would be acceptable.

However, there is more research and investigation needed to determine how to proceed. It was unanimously agreed that this should be investigated further along with the costs, as this has become a very important development in the signing off the 2025-2026 Parish Council annual accounts under the "Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)". This AGAR document will need to be completed by May this year and now will include confirmation that the council has met all legal duties around digital services, data protection and information-access.

26/01M

To review the use of the Four Notice Boards

It had been established that parish council notices (Agenda, minutes etc) need only be displayed in one prominent position within the parish. Outside the Cross Memorial Hall being the suggested position. The Clerk had produced a template notice that could be displayed on the four notice boards explaining that from 1st April 2026 such notices will only be displayed on Cross Memorial Hall with any questions or comments being directed to the Clerk. It was resolved to proceed and the Clerk will arrange for the notices to be displayed on the four notice boards and await any comments from residents before a final decision is made. There will be an update at the next meeting.

26/01N

Update on the action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.

There has been no further information received since the last meeting. The Clerk to contact the Environment Agency for an update.

26/01O

Update on any action taken on overgrown vegetation on road signs, benches and footpaths.

1) **Ditches along Church Lane** – Please see item 26/01D (2) for the update.

2) **Webbington Hotel** – The Clerk confirmed that he had written to the Webbington Hotel regarding the state of the trees along the Webbington Road and is now awaiting a response.



11/2/2026

Compton Bishop Parish Council

- 26/01P Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in – To progress obtaining the ownership of this piece of land.**
The Clerk contacted a Councillor from another parish for procedural assistance on registering a parcel of land but was still awaiting a reply. Cllr Filmer agreed to assist in making contact so that this project could be progressed. The Clerk to update at the next meeting.
- 26/01Q Update from Somerset Highways on water flowing across the road by the Webbington Hotel**
No update from Somerset Highways regarding piping this surface water into highways drain and the Clerk will contact Highways and report back at the next meeting.
- 26/01R Update on improving communication between the Memorial Hall Committee and the Parish Council.**
As both the council representatives on the Memorial Hall Committee (Cllr's Mason and Dean) were not available, then this will be carried forward to the next meeting. It was suggested that it would be helpful if the minutes of the Hall's meetings could be issued to the Clerk for onward circulation to the Cllrs. The Clerk will suggest this to Cllrs Mason and Dean to take forward at the next hall meeting.
- 26/01S To consider an approach to Somerset Council regarding the crossing proposals over the A38. (Cllr McCathy).**
Cllr McCarthy had prepared some proposals to upgrade the Refuge Area and the crossing of the Strawberry Line Pathway on the A38 as there are visibility and safety issues. It was unanimously resolved to submit these proposals to the appropriate department of Somerset Highways for their consideration as a realistic and cost-effective solution to improving the refuge area. Cllr Filmer agreed to provide the Clerk with the contact details of the highways team responsible for proposed A38 upgrade so the proposals reach the correct source.
- 26/01T To consider Expenditure so far this year, predicted to 31st March 2026 and Budget for 2026-27.**
The Clerk circulated the projected budget figures for the upcoming financial year in advance. It was resolved to retain the 2026/2027 Precept at the same level as this year. The Clerk to complete the appropriate documentation to Somerset Finance before the end of month deadline.
- 26/01U Investigation into the problem of sewage flowing from properties in Church Lane.**
1) A letter has been sent to one of the householders asking that any remedial work that is undertaken complies with the current building control regulations and a positive response has been received back. The council will continue to monitor the situation.
2) The issue with the other householder is still under review and more information should be Available at the next meeting.
- 26/01V Update on the condition of the Footpaths around the parish.**
As Cllr Dean was not available, it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting. The Clerk to make sure that 26/01J above (NT woodland) is covered under this item at the next meeting.
- 26/01W Councillor Vacancy – Co-opting a new member as no election is required.**
It was unanimously agreed, once Somerset Electoral Services has confirmed that an election is not required, that Ms Rachael Glyde can be Co-opted onto the Parish Council at the next meeting in February.

Next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 7 p.m.

items for the next agenda



11/2/2026

Compton Bishop Parish Council

- 1) Update on the use of the four parish notice boards.
- 2) Update on cutting back of vegetation that is stopping the water flowing through streams that cause problems with overflowing water and no good for the wildlife habitat.
- 3) Update on the implications of Assertion 10 (AGAR 2025-2026). Cllr Settle to report on her findings of obtaining a GOV.UK Email Domain. To approve I.T. Policy in readiness.
- 4) Update on any action taken by the Environment Agency on the anonymous complaint received regarding Yeo Bridge Farm.
- 5) Update on any action taken on overgrowth vegetation on road signs, benches and Footpaths.
- 6) Webbington Road Car Park/Pull in – Update on the preparation of a document providing “Evidence of Stewardship” to facilitate obtaining ownership with the Land Registry.
- 7) Update from Somerset Highways about water flowing across the road by the Webbington Hotel.
- 8) Update on improving communication between the Memorial Hall Committee and the Parish Council.
- 9) Any developments on the approach to Somerset Council regarding the crossing proposals over the A38 (Cllr McCathy).
- 10) Update on the conditions of the Footpaths around the parish
- 11) Ongoing Investigation into the problem of sewage flowing from properties in Church Lane.
- 12) To consider the condition of the Church Lane Bus Shelter.
- 13) To consider a date for the Parish Annual Open Meeting.



11/2/2026