

Compton Bishop Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of 9th June 2026

Present: Chairman T. Mason, Cllr. C. Settle, Cllr. D. McCarthy, Cllr. H. Dean

Also present: Locum Clerk Sally Ferguson

26/06A

Cllrs Glyde, G. Hancock, D. McCarthy, D. Ham and Unitary Cllrs. Filmer and Grimes sent apologies and there were no declarations of interest.

26/06B

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 13th May 2026. These were signed by the Chair.

26/06C

Clerk Report-

The Locum Clerk attended the Southwest Clerk's Seminar in Taunton this week and gained valuable insight into the planned changes for next year, when the AGAR will go digital for the first time. The session explained the reasons for the change and guided attendees through the process. Another session focused on Assertion 10 and the need for a fully accessible website that complies with the Transparency Code. The current website does not meet these requirements. The Clerk has identified a cost-effective option through Parish Online that would provide a new, compliant website alongside the new gov.uk email domain. This would cost an additional £90.00 this year for a newly built site with support, followed by an annual cost of £450.00 for both the website and domain email service. By comparison, CB's current hosting for next year, without a support package, plus £260.00 for the email service, would total £400.00. Since starting with Compton Bishop Parish Council, the Clerk has identified that the current style of agendas and minutes is not accessible and will need to be revised. For example, the use of tables is not recommended because they may not be recognised by screen readers used by visually impaired people. This is something she will work on for the next meeting, should a new Clerk not be engaged. The Clerk has tried to inform as many contacts as possible of the email address change as this had not been done yet. The ICO still list the CB Data controller as an ex-Clerk which needs to be changed. Local Council Clerk Week takes place from 8 to 12 June, and clerks are encouraged to raise awareness within their communities. This year, the Locum Clerk is supporting Pancreatic Cancer UK by taking on a challenge to run or walk four miles a day and complete 50 squats.

26/06D

Unitary Councillor Filmer had emailed his report as he was unable to attend the meeting. This would be posted on the website.

26/06E

It was resolved to approve the bank reconciliation and the June payments shown below:

- Bedding Plants (Repay Cllr. Mason) =£30.78
- Clerk final salary (Mr A. Mortimore) = £356.47
- Tax/N.I. (HMRC)=£93.27
- Clerk Expenses (Mr A. Mortimore) = £39.49
- Scribe lite package= £14.40
- Parish Meeting refreshments (Repay Cllr. Hancock) =£35.70
- Bank Charges (Lloyds Bank) =£4.25

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- Annual Parish Meeting Refreshments (Repay Cllr. Hancock) = £35.70

26/06F

A planning application was received after the agenda had been published. It was agreed that an additional meeting would be held on 17th June to consider application 21/26/00008. The Clerk would issue the agenda.

26/06G The following Planning decisions were noted

- 21/24/00006 Land North of Cross Moor Drove, Lower Weare- Awaited
- 21/25/00002 Land to the East of Manor arm, Cross, Axbridge – Awaited
- 21/26/00003 Harbourne House, Church Lane, BS26 2HB- Committee referral.
- 21/26/00004 and 00005 The Cottage, Kennel Lane, BS26 2HS-Granted permission
- 21/26/00006 Old Manor House, Cross, BS26 2ED-Awaited

26/06H

Councillor Training the Locum Clerk would provide details of training available to Cllr. Glyde

26/06I

Councillor reports – Cllr. Settle noted that the pathway from Cross to Axbridge remains inaccessible, which she said was unacceptable. Cllr. Mason spoke about the proposal to install solar panels on the hall to reduce its carbon footprint. He and Cllr. Dean are working with the Hall Committee as Parish Council representatives. Cllr. Mason also asked for the possible extension of grounds maintenance to include the grass verge on the north side of Webbington Road, between Vernon Lane and Rackley Lane, to be added to the July agenda. Cllr. Dean said she would inspect the footpath opposite the village hall this month.

26/06J

Cllr. Mason would follow up on cutting back vegetation that is obstructing water flow through the streams.

26/06K

As the Environment Agency is monitoring the anonymous complaint regarding Yeo Valley Farm, it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda as continuing business.

26/06L

It was agreed to remove action on overgrown vegetation affecting road signs, benches and footpaths from the agenda, and to report issues individually as they arise.

26/06M

It was agreed that the Locum Clerk would write to Mr Gill for an update on the surface water issue by the Webbington Hotel and on possible culverting solutions to prevent it becoming a problem next winter.

26/06N

As Cllr. Mason and Cllr. Dean are liaising with the Memorial Hall Committee on behalf of the Parish Council; it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

26/06O

As some progress had been made on the investigation into sewage flowing from properties in Church Lane, it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

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26/06P

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda and monitor the surface water flowing across Webbington Road at Newtown.

26/06Q

It was agreed to remove the item on pedestrian white lines along Cross Lane from the agenda.

26/06R

There was no update on action being taken by Somerset Council to repair the drains damaged by Gigaclear.

26/06S

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda and monitor any action taken by Wessex Water to prevent surface water from overwhelming the pumping station.

26/06T

It was agreed to monitor the proposed installation of a replacement footbridge over the River Cheddar Yeo. Somerset Council has postponed the work until after 15th June 2026 for environmental reasons.

26/06U

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda, as progress had been made on Councillor McCarthy's suggestion to Somerset Council regarding the A38 refuge area.

26/06V

It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda: Webbington Road car park/pull-in – registering this piece of land with the Land Registry.

26/06W

Parish Notice Boards – The Locum Clerk would place a note on the Memorial Hall notice board stating that paper or emailed copies of Parish Council agendas and minutes are available on request from the Clerk.

Next Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 8th July at 7pm.