

NETHERBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14TH JULY 2026

PRESENT: Cllr Mark Rogers (Vice Chair); Cllr Robert Bowditch; Cllr Peter Bailey; Cllr Clare Handford; Cllr Luke Larder; Cllr Yvonne Dyke; Cllr Mark Roberts and Cllr Neil Eysenck.

ATTENDANCE: Jessica Teasdale (Clerk)

1. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Richard King, Cllr Chris David and Cllr Kevin Goodfellow and were approved by the council.

2. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None received.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were members of the public present for item 3. There is a stone boundary wall to Copper Beech, Bridge Street, Netherbury. The tarmac highway should go right up to the stone wall.

There is at least one road drain directly at this edge, which was buried.

There is an accumulation of organic matter (approx. 80–90 cm wide) that has encroached onto the highway over time.

The Clerk has reported the blocked drain which has now been cleared by Dorset Council. However, the organic matter remains, so the drain is still effectively inactive as surface water cannot reach it. The road is narrowed by nearly a metre, forcing vehicles further out into the road. In heavy rain, run-off is deflected by the vegetation, causing the road to run like a river, pushing water across to the opposite side where there are no drains. Questions were raised that Dorset Council is not meeting its obligation to maintain the highway.

Action: The Clerk and Ward Councillor to raise the points with Dorset Council Highways and request that the vegetation be cleared back to the stone wall.

At the same location, a hedge is projecting out on to the highway and has grown high. This is impacting the light for four houses opposite. It was agreed that once the vegetation is cleared that the four houses write to the owners of Copper Beech requesting again that the hedge be reduced in size.

The members of the public left the meeting. Cllr Bowdich joined the meeting at 7.20pm

4. TO REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 19TH MAY 2024

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed as a true and accurate record by the council and were signed by the Vice Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS UPDATE (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

Item 7 – The time of travel by bus to and from school is within the maximum time of travel. Time of travel will be monitored over time.

Item 9a – Cllrs Larder and Bailey are meeting with Highways on the 22nd July to look at parking on a section of road in Salway Ash. The option to install white lines will be discussed.

Action: Cllrs Larder and Bailey to report back to the Clerk following the meeting.

Item 9c – Quotes for work on the bus shelter in Netherbury is outstanding.

Item 12 - Persistent parking issues continue at Neddy's Close. There may be a potential solution through landowner cooperation for the use of an area of land for parking.

Action: Cllr King to contact the landowner to establish what the next steps would be in them putting a legal agreement in place.

6. WARD COUNCILLOR NEIL EYSENCK REPORT

Cllr Eysenck reported that the council ended 2015/26 in a broadly balanced position. Dorset Council is using a new gully-clearing machine and has begun clearing through the summer, which is a positive shift toward preventive maintenance. Pothole patching is ongoing but uneven across the ward; some areas have seen more work than others.

Action: Cllr Eysenck to liaise with highways over the need for resurfacing work in Oxbridge.

Cllr Eysenck briefed the Parish Council on the proposed National Scheme of Delegation for planning decisions, which will override Dorset Council's current local scheme and see less power for councillors to call planning items to committee. The scheme is currently going through parliament. Cllr Eysenck will update the parish council once more is known.

7. POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER REPORT

The PSCO reported that there was nothing of community concern to feedback on at this time. The PSCO will be attending the coffee morning at the Reading Room on 3rd August.

8. CORRESPONDANCE AND NOTICES

- a. Bridport Swift Town, activities and information
Bridport Swift Town had written to the parish council to update them on an initiative being run in Bridport to support the increase in swifts. Councillors were grateful for being updated on the initiative but would not be able to make a financial donation to the scheme.
- b. Salway Ash Village Hall AGM and Accounts 2025/26
At the AGM in July a new committee was formed. The financial accounts showed a slight loss in 2025/26 which was due to some one-off costs. The parish council are grateful for the work of the committee and thanked them for the time that they give.

9. ACCOUNTS

- a. To receive the finance report for 2026/27
Councillors noted the finance report and the Clerk highlighted two large spends that, to date, had not been budgeted for. Currently the budget stands at £15,885.
- b. To note payment of £72 to CBReid (Payroll Services April & May 26)
- c. To note payment of £408 (£340 + £68 VAT) to Dorset Council (SID repair)
- d. To note payment of £53.50 to Clerk (Stationery)
- e. To note payment of £19.50 to Netherbury Village Hall (May Meeting)
Items 9 b to e were noted by the council.
- f. To consider quotes from National Grid (SWA Phone Box)
Installation of a 2 pole isolation switch (single phase, single rate metering)- £266.76 (INC VAT)
Installation of a 4 pole isolation switch (single phase two rate metering) - £369.66 (INC VAT)
Installation of a 4 pole isolation switch (Three phase metering) - £369.66 (INC VAT)
The Clerk updated councillors on the need for National Grid to carry out work on the phone box in Salway Ash before it can be used as a book swap. It is not known until the National Grid carry out the work as to which of the costs will be charged to the parish council. Cllr Rogers voted in favour of National Grid carrying out the work. Seconded by Cllr Bailey, agreed by a show of hands.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. P P/HOU/2026/02617, The Cottage Strongate Lane Salwayash DT6 5JB, Erect extension to the rear of the property (PC comments ended 03/06/26)
- b. P/LBC/2026/02898, Luccombe Farm North Bowood Lane North Bowood DT6 5JL, Repairs to the rear flat roof and repairs and alterations to the Listed Building following fire and smoke damage to the farmhouse (PC comments ended 23/06/26)
- c. P/HOU/2026/03120, Linden Cottage Slape Hill Waytown DT6 5LQ, Erect single storey side extension and alterations (PC comments ended 09/07/26)

The planning applications had been consulted on by councillors and councillors supported the applications.

The next meeting will be held on 22nd September 2026 and 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.