Minutes of a Meeting of the Queen Thorne Parish Council held on Monday 2nd November 2026 at 7.30pm in Trent Memorial Hall.

Present: Cllrs Livingstone, Carter, Chick, Creswell, Hart, Lowe, McBeath, Negus, Phillipson, Symms, Dorset Cllr Leg, Trent RoWLO Max Snow and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllrs Gordon and Thomas
2. **Declarations of Interest and register of interests:** There were no declarations of interest. Cllr Livingstone reminded councillors to check their own entry on the digital register of interests and make sure it remains up to date.
3. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting on September 7th were agreed as a true record and signed.
4. **Open Forum:** None
5. **Report from Dorset Council**

   Cllr Legg reported on the following:

   - Leweston School closure: Dorset MPs and Councillors are working together on behalf of staff, parents and children affected by the very sudden closure.
   - Newell House: Cllr Legg has been organizing the disposal of buses parked on the land.
   - Hillbrook Hotel: Cllr Legg has persuaded the Dorset Economic Development Department to object to the proposed change of use from hotel to retirement apartments.
   - A30 TRO consultation: At Cllr Legg's request, Highways have agreed to produce clearer plans of the proposed changes. These will be published soon.
   - New strategic authority for Wessex: Last week MP Ed Morello was assured by the prime minister that this will happen by 2028. Cllr Legg is hopeful that Sherborne could be in the running as a potential location for the new mayoral office.
   - Land North of Compton Road planning application: Work has commenced on 86 trenches being dug for the archaeological investigation.

6. **Business Items arising from meeting on September 7th 2026**

   a. **Nether Compton Recreation Ground:** Cllr Hart and a resident have cut back some of the brambles along the boundary.

   b. **Allotments:** The council discussed the future of Nether Compton allotments, where there are now 8 active and 6 unused plots. It was decided the best course of action is to renovate the neglected paths and empty plots in the hope of attracting more residents to become allotment holders. It is hoped that a community tidy up day can be organized early in the new year. Cllr Negus reported that Wessex Water did not contact him to arrange a meeting at the water meter as expected, but it was noticed that there have been no animals in the field for some time.

   c. **Neighbourhood Plan:** Following the Regulation 14 consultation, the Trent NPG has been addressing the responses received, particularly those from Dorset Council. The principal focus remains the proposed housing allocations at Church Farm and Harbin's Farm, which together could accommodate five to eight dwellings.
   Further evidence is being assembled on the previously developed land status of Harbin's Farm and the heritage considerations at Church Farm. Additional information has been requested from the Ernest Cook Trust, and a site visit with a Dorset Council planning officer is being sought.
   The Group has also reviewed the emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy and identified minor amendments to the Plan. The next steps are to finalise the planning justification and supporting documentation for Regulation 15 submission.

   d. **Highways Issues, new issues and updates on:**

   A30 road safety: It was agreed that councillors will send comments on the TRO consultation to the clerk who will collate and submit them before December 11th.
   Sign to the Manor outside Old School House, Sandford Orcas: Highways have agreed to remove the sign. Cllr McBeath told the meeting that the PCC would like to

see a sign to the church replacing the manor sign. It was agreed that an informal sign would be less expensive than a brown tourist sign. Cllr McBeath will report back to the PCC.

Highways Issues, already reported and awaiting works/decision:

Glebe Farm, OC, drains and state of road: No update from Highways

Damaged road sign on Western Street: This has been reported to Highways who have raised a job to repair it.

Over Compton Triangle: Jobs have been raised for the installation of a new warning sign and repair of the wall. No updates on timings.

Damaged pavement on Down Lane, Trent: The clerk has chased Highways.

No further updates on any of above.

e. **Environment Issues:**
   I. **Report on Local Resilience Planning:** Cllr Creswell spoke about her report that had been circulated to the council prior to the meeting. The council agreed to organize a showing of the People's Emergency Briefing film in Trent Memorial Hall in the second half of January/ beginning of February next year, probably followed a few weeks later by a showing in Sandford Orcas Hall. The clerk will find possible dates when the hall is available, arrangements to be decided at the next council meeting in January. Cllr Creswell has arranged to meet Will Austin from DAPTC to get ideas for a parish council resilience plan.

f. **Wessex Internet fibre broadband connection:** This is moving forward in Sandford Orcas with road closures in November for the installation of infrastructure already arranged.

g. **Vehicle parked in the access to Sandford Orcas Village Hall:** Three months' legal notice to the owner to remove the van expired on October 13th. Wessex Internet need access to the area where the van is parked by November 17th. As owner of the land, the council resolved to proceed to remove the van and agreed to take the necessary measures to arrange this.

h. **Dorset Council side verging contract 2026-27**: Dorset Council has not yet confirmed dates for the work.

i. **Traffic speed through Sandford Orcas, proposal for a 20mph limit and community speedwatch process**: 70% of respondents to a village survey were in favour of the 20-mph zone. The council agreed to pay the £520 cost of speed surveys which are the next stage in the process.

7. **New Business**
   a. **Flood prevention on Plot Lane, Trent:** The clerk reported that the Ernest Cook Trust will meet with Dorset Highways on November 5th to discuss maintenance of the stream and removal of excess vegetation. Cllr Negus will endeavour to attend as well.
   b. **Flood resilience: Community Flood Review funding:** Sandford Orcas Councillors will speak to home owners who have been flooded and put in an application.
   c. **Replacement defibrillator pads for Nether Compton:** The council agreed to fund this.
   d. **Dorset Council projects – keeping local residents aware:** It was noted that this had worked well during road works at Holway Hill.
   e. **DAPTC Training:** The clerk reminded the council that training is available. The clerk will sign up for cyber security training.

8. **Financial Matters**
   a. **Financial Report and Payment of Invoices** The Council reviewed expenditure against budget year to date.
   Payments approved:
   Clerk salary £560.16 October and £560.16 November (inc. pay rise agreed at last meeting back dated to April).
   HMRC (Employer NIC October & November) £42.94
   DAPTC (Training) £30
   Trent VH (Hall Hire) £50
   Trent PCC (Donation to burial ground maintenance) £1000
   Sandford Orcas PCC (Donation to burial ground maintenance) £1000
   Over and Nether Compton PCC (Donation to burial ground maintenance) £2000

Payments made since last meeting approved at this or the previous meeting:
None
Receipts since last meeting:
NC Allotments, rent £108.50 to October 5th
CIL Nether Compton £2456.18
Dorset Council precept £15,723.50
Over & Nether Compton Fete: £500 for playground equipment maintenance

b. **Internal auditor for 2026-27:** Cllr Lowe will speak to a possible candidate.
c. **Parish Council bank account:** The clerk has made enquiries at Lloyds. Cllrs Lowe and McBeath agreed to be signatories on the new account. The clerk will make an application.

9. Planning Matters

a. DC Planning Applications – Approved or decided by Parish Council for approval

Name	Reference/Details	Status Parish Council comments Dorset Council decision
Sunnyside Sandford Orcas Road Sandford Orcas	P/HOU/2026/05606 Demolition and replacement of WC extension to form utility room and larder, partial demolition and extension of kitchen to create kitchen/dining room with bi-fold doors, installation of first-floor window, and addition of front porch.	Support
Patson Hill Farm Patson Hill Lane Trent Sherborne	P/FUL/2026/03498 Part change of use of brewery to facilitate the provision of ancillary taproom & restaurant with associated landscaping & works.	Support
2 Compton House Over Compton	P/CLE/2026/04833 Change of Use of Land from Agricultural to Residential Garden.	Application for a certificate of lawfulness

b. Applicatio

Land North Of Compton Road Yeovil	P/OUT/2026/04250 Erection of up to 380 dwellings, including affordable housing, provision of new pedestrian and cycle routes, internal roads, parking, open space, hard and soft landscaping, play areas, surface water drainage, ancillary infrastructure including new and repositioned utilities, and associated engineering works (outline application to determine access only)	Objection
Higher Farm Compton Road Over Compton	P/VOC/2026/04573 Change of use and conversion of barns to form 3 no. dwellings. Erect agricultural building and form access (demolish existing barns) with variation of condition no.2 of planning permission P/FUL/2022/03668 to amend approved plans.	Support
Higher Farm Compton Road Over Compton	P/VOL/2026/04601 Internal & external alterations to facilitate conversion of barns to form 3 no. dwellings. Erect agricultural building	Support

	(demolish existing barns) with variation of condition no. 2 of planning permission P/LBC/2022/03669	
Annex at The Hollies Penmore Road Sandford Orcas	P/CLE/2026/04381 Use of the Annex at the Hollies as an independent unit of residential accommodation separate from the main dwelling in breach of occupancy condition	Certificate of lawfulness application No comments Granted 30.09.26
Orchard House Nether Compton	P/HOU/2026/04038 Demolish existing greenhouse and erect new greenhouse with level base	Support Granted 07.09.26
5 Manor Close Sandford Orcas	P/HOU/2026/03984 Erect single storey rear extension with roof lanterns	Support

c. ns Determined by Dorset Council or awaiting decision

c. **Somerset Council:** Primrose Lane, Mudford, 14/02554/OUT, Outline application for development of Sustainable Urban Extension to comprise up to 765 dwellings, 65 bed care home, employment land (Use Class B1), retail units (Use Classes A1, A2, A3, A5), primary school, community building, health care facility, landscaping, open space and drainage infrastructure, access and associated highway works (GR 357198/118268
Objection posted 16.03.24 ,
Approved 15.07.25
December 2025: Permission granted to Mudford Parish Council to pursue a judicial review of the decision.
May 2026: Judge ruled that the judicial review be struck down and the development can go ahead.

10. Dates of Future Meetings 2026-27:

11th January in Sandford Orcas
1st March in Trent
10th May in Sandford Orcas
5th July in Nether Compton
6th September in Nether Compton
1st November in Trent

11. Items for next Meeting: Send to clerk

12. The meeting closed at 9.30pm