

Minutes of a Meeting of the Queen Thorne Parish Council held on Monday 6th July 2026 at 7.30pm in Over and Nether Compton Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Livingstone, Carter, Chick, Gordon, Hart, Lowe, McBeath, Negus, Phillipson, and Thomas, Dorset Cllr Legg, Trent RoWLO Max Snow and 8 members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Declarations of interests and register of interests:** There were no declarations of interest. The clerk told councillors that Dorset Council has removed home addresses from the register and updated the login method. Every councillor is asked to check their own entry on the register and make sure it remains up to date. The clerk will send an email with new login details.
3. **Co-option of a new member for Nether Compton, Over Compton and Trent:** As yet nobody has come forward.
4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting on May 11th were agreed as a true record and signed.
5. **Report from Dorset Council**
Cllr Legg reported on the following:
 - The closure of the A30 west bound for top dressing has been slightly delayed. Highways have acknowledged that diversions do not legally have to be on roads of a similar class.
 - The planning inspector has refused the appeal for the A30 coach park. It would be useful if local people could keep an eye out for any infringements.
 - Hummer road works: The Dorset Council Ecologist has visited the site and is supportive of the license application. Cllr Legg agreed to chase Highways about the preliminary drainage works
6. **Business Items arising from meeting on May 11th 2026**
 - a. **Nether Compton Recreation Ground:** Cllr Hart reported that the grass has been cut regularly but the banks are getting long, which he will deal with. A bad smell has been noticed coming from the ditch behind the hut. This will be investigated and reported to the Environment Agency.
 - b. **Allotments:** Cllr Hart reported that he had contacted all plot holders to ask if they wish to continue, of whom three or four have replied. The clerk reported that an insurance claim for the costs of the water leak had been rejected. The council policy only covered damage caused by a leak and not the costs of lost water or repairs. Following an enquiry to Wessex Water the location of the Trent allotments water meter has been narrowed down to a what3words location. However, Cllr Negus has been unable to find it at that location. The clerk will ask Wessex Water for more information.
 - c. **Neighbourhood Plan:** Max Snow reported that the Regulation 14 pre – submission consultation has been published and is running from July 1st to August 31st. Dorset Council has agreed to fund and contract the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).
 - d. **Highways Issues, new issues and updates on:**
 - i. **A30 road safety at the Marl Lane junction and unauthorized coach park:** See item 5
 - e. **Highways Issues, already reported and awaiting works/decision**
Glebe Farm, OC, drains and state of road: Ian Styring has raised a job for a dig down and a visit from the drainage team. The clerk has chased him for an update.
 - f. **Environment:** No updates
 - g. **Wessex Internet Fibre broadband connection:** Cllr Carter said Wessex Internet had informed him that connection in Over and Nether Compton has been postponed to autumn 2027.
 - h. **Mobile phone coverage Sandford Orcas proposal,** Atlas has said that siting a mast on land nearer Wheatsheaf Hill is not viable as the land is not geographically suitable or connection to the grid would be too expensive. It was agreed that the clerk will write to the

other landowners and check that they have been approached and are unwilling to participate.

- i. **Over Compton Triangle:** Highways have ordered a new right hand bend sign to be installed on the approach from Trent in line with the slow sign on the road. The clerk has chased for an update on the repair to the triangle but had no response.
- j. **Damaged pavement in Trent:** The clerk has asked Highways to schedule the repair now that work on the wall has stopped.
- k. **Maintenance of trees in Sandford Orcas:** Ian Styring has asked the tree officer to attend. Since when there has been no further update. Cllr Lowe has made a report to the DC emergency line.
- l. **Vehicle parked in the access to Sandford Orcas Village Hall:** The council had written to the owner requesting removal of the van and imposed a daily parking fee until that happens. Since there has been no response, the council agreed that Cllr Livingstone will write another letter informing the owner of further consequences including removal of the van by the council. The clerk will also send an invoice for parking charges thus far.
- m. **Dorset Council side verging contract 2026-27:** Cllr Lowe has obtained a quote from Dorset Council based on requirements given by the village representatives. It was agreed that Trent and Adber should adopt a 3 year rolling programme like Sandford Orcas. Adber will review their portion of this year's side verging work to reduce costs.
- n. **Proposed DMMO applications in Trent and Over/Nether Compton:** See open forum.
- o. **Approval of increased cost of Sandford Orcas defibrillator pads:** The clerk explained that the pads approved at the previous meeting were the wrong ones and the correct ones were more expensive. The council approved the increased cost.

Open Forum

Several residents of Sandford Orcas expressed concerns about the speed of traffic through Sandford Orcas and requested that a 20-mph limit be considered. Cllr Legg told the meeting that several such schemes have recently been installed and more are in process. The Sandford Orcas Councillors resolved to find out more about the process and organize a special village meeting in the autumn to discuss the issue and more fully gauge opinion. Two residents of Nether Compton, who are owners of land through which run the routes of the Quarry Lane and Compton Road applications, expressed concerns about the proposed BOAT classifications. It was pointed out that the routes are unclassified county roads and it would not be allowable to request a lower use classification such as restricted byway. It was suggested that the landowners might be able to dedicate the routes as bridleways. (After the meeting the clerk was advised that this may not be possible as the unclassified roads are owned by Dorset Council). Max Snow told the meeting that the DMMOs were discussed at the Trent Village Meeting and the consensus was not in favour of the applications for BOATs at Plot Lane or Adber Green Lane.

7. New Business

- a. **Funding of new battery for Trent Village Hall defibrillator:** Since the last meeting the battery had unexpectedly expired. The council approved the purchase of a new battery for £280 and agreed to use Trent CIL money which has been in the account since 2021.
- b. **Water quality in the stream between Sandford Orcas and Rimpton:** Cllr McBeath reported that a resident has voiced concerns about possible pollution in the water. It was agreed that the resident should report this directly to the Environment Agency and Wessex Water. If necessary, the parish council will follow up the incident report with Wessex Water. It was understood that the Queen Thorne Nature Watch Group has said they intend to carry out water testing in that part of the stream. The clerk will write and ask for a report of the testing.
- c. **Traffic speed through Sandford Orcas:** See open forum.
- d. **Traffic accident on Rimpton Road:** Cllr McBeath told the meeting that there had sadly been a fatal accident recently. There were no actions to be taken by the parish council.
- e. **Road closure at Rose Cottage, Sandford Orcas:** The property owners and parish council very much hope that the thatching work and associated road closure can be completed before the production of Peer Gynt in the village on August 6th.

8. Financial Matters

a. Financial Report and Payment of Invoices

The Council reviewed expenditure against budget year to date.

Payments approved:

Clerk salary £989.67,

HMRC (Employer NIC 2025 -26 and current) £153.74

Halcyon Landscapes (Grass cutting) £600 + £120 VAT = £720

Clerk (Reimbursement for payment of invoice from Ed Page for sign clearing in Sandford Orcas) £90

Clerk (Petty cash) £70

Payments made since last meeting approved at this or the previous meeting:

Halcyon Landscapes (Grass cutting) £300 + VAT = £360, Playsafety: Play area inspections £218.40,

Clerk: Reimbursement for payment of Defib Store, battery for Trent defibrillator £280 + £56 VAT, pads for Sandford Orcas defibrillator £140 +£28 VAT = Total £504

Receipts since last meeting:

Trent allotments, rent £201.50

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
Ridge View Penmore Road Sandford Orcas	P/HOU/2026/03310 Retain works carried out to convert existing garage to a self contained annexe	No comments
4 & 5 Hillside Cottages Sandford Orcas Road Sandford Orcas	P/FUL/2026/02777 Erect garden room to 4 Hillside Cottages, erect car port to 5 Hillside Cottages, and improvement to the shared existing vehicular access and turning area.	Support
Holway Farm Holway Sandford Orcas	P/CLP/2026/02899 Certificate of lawfulness for proposed removal of an internal wall in an existing agricultural building.	No comments
Chipmans Lodge Compton Road Over Compton	P/LBC/2026/02601 Replace existing internal boiler with external boiler to include new pipework, removal and closing off existing through wall flue	No objection Granted 26.06.26
Lower Farm House Western Street Over Compton	P/HOU/2026/02602 Retain installation of external oil tank	No comments

b. Applications Determined by Dorset Council or awaiting decision

The Tractor Shed The Folly Nether Compton	P/HOU/2026/02155 Erect garage	No objection Granted 10.06.26
Land East Of Crossfields Nether Compton	P/FUL/2026/01959 Change of use from agricultural to equestrian and erect stable building and training arena	No objection Granted 26.06.26

Agincourt Sandford Orcas Road Sandford Orcas	P/HOU/2026/02100 Install sash window, conservation style rooflight and flue	No objection Granted 16.06.26
The Manor House Access Road To St Nicholas Church Sandford Orcas	P/LBC/2026/01732 Remove an internal brick partition wall between the west range kitchen and dining room, insert a steel supporting joist. Open up the existing blocked fireplace opening in the kitchen, investigate existing condition and material, and to minimally enlarge to allow installation of electric Aga.	No objection
Jerards Lodge Penmore Road Sandford Orcas	P/FUL/2025/06661 Erect 1no. dwelling (demolish existing dwelling)	Support

- 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:

7th September in Nether Compton,
2nd November in Trent

11. Items for next Meeting: Send to clerk.

12. The meeting closed at 9.45pm