



**MINUTES OF MONTACUTE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON**  
**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026**  
**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b><u>26/031/a</u></b>     <b>PRESENT:</b>  <b>Members:</b> Mrs C Saint (Chairman), Mr A McFarlane (Vice Chairman), Mrs S Bartlett, Mrs L Drayton, Mr T Harper, Mr B Owen, Mrs H Stokes and Mr D Warry  <b>Others:</b> Mrs S Moore (Clerk), Mr Mike Hewitson (Unitary Authority Councillor) and 1 member of the public.</p> <p><b><u>26/031/b</u></b>     <b>APOLOGIES:</b>  Mr J Davies, Mr M Myram, Mrs S Richings, and Mr Oliver Patrick (Unitary Authority Councillor).  A minute silence was held for the late Mr Roy Littlefield. Mr Littlefield was a member of the parish council between 2019 and 2022. He worked extensively on the plans for the new pavilion and carried out much need maintenance work around the village.</p>	
<p><b><u>26/032</u></b>     <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  Cllr McFarlane declared an interest on planning application 26/00309/HOU and on the forestry plan for Hedgecock.</p>	
<p><b><u>26/033</u></b>     <b>PUBLIC SESSION</b>  A member of the public raised an issue, but this did not come under the parish council's remit. However, Cllr Saint was able to give them a point of contact.</p>	
<p><b><u>26/034</u></b>     <b>UNITARY COUNCILLORS</b>  The Unitary Councillors' report for February had been circulated to councillors. Cllr Hewitson reported that the hamstone signs on Ham Hill have been removed for cleaning and repainting. These will be reinstated around the country park. The new signs are to help with accessibility.  Cllr Saint commented that a resident has expressed concerns that the 40mph speed limit over Ham Hill is too high. Comments were also made about the number of potholes and how the edges of the road over Ham Hill were deteriorating. These need to be reported to Cllr Hewitson.  Cllr Harper mentioned that the pothole repair at the A3088 junction of the Cartgate roundabout has failed and thought it was a safety issue.</p>	
<p><b><u>26/035</u></b>     <b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve and sign the Minutes of the February Parish Council meeting.</p>	
<p><b><u>26/036</u></b>     <b>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b>  <u>Review of Actions List</u>  The action list was reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance trail in the play area – the new sleepers will be installed once the weather improves.</li> <li>• Minor jobs at the pavilion – it was reported that some painting was required and the wall behind the toilets could be tiled.</li> </ul>	<b>Cllr McFarlane</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allotment holders meeting and rent review – it was agreed to hold the meeting on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> April and 10am in the pavilion. Letters will be sent to allotment holders, and a notice will go in the magazine.</li> </ul>	Clerk
<b>26/037 SPORTS &amp; LEISURE</b>	
<p><b>26/037/a</b> <u>Play Area &amp; Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>i. <u>Play Area</u> There was nothing to report on the play area.</p> <p>ii. <u>Recreation Ground</u> Cllr Owen said he had met with representatives of Tintinhull Youth Football Club, and a meeting has been arranged for 19<sup>th</sup> March between the Club and the Recreation Ground working group.</p> <p>iii. <u>Pavilion</u> A discussion was held regarding a fenced storage area and bin store behind the pavilion. This has been discussed and is fully support by the National Trust. It was agreed to get fencing quotes. Some minor repairs have been completed and the additional chairs along with some additional fittings and health and safety signage have been purchased. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> for Adrian Radford to fix the downpipe so that the rainwater goes into the soakaway. As the cesspit cover had been damaged, the rainwater has gone into the cesspit. Therefore, it will need emptying again. A discussion was held regarding the construction of some steps up to the pavilion door and installing a pathway from the car park to the pavilion. This had been discussed and agreed at the meeting with the National Trust, and the National Trust were going to provide details of a suitable product for the pathway. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the National Trust and to get quotes for the construction of some steps. Cllr Harper said that he had finished the pavilion sign and would drop it off at the pavilion so it could be put up on the outside of the building. The Clerk reported that the fire extinguisher service will be conducted on 26<sup>th</sup> March. The Clerk reported that she has received bookings for May and July</p> <p><b>26/037/b</b> <u>Any Other Issues</u> The Clerk said she has received an invitation for members of the parish council to attend the official opening of the Ham Hill Visitor Centre on 16<sup>th</sup> April.</p>	Clerk  Clerk Cllr Owen Clerk  Clerk Cllr Harper
<b>26/038 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT</b>	
<p><b>26/038/a</b> <u>Allotments</u> This was discussed under <i>Minute ref: 23/036</i>.</p> <p><b>26/038/b</b> <u>Crime &amp; Anti-Social Behaviour</u> The Clerk had circulated the statistics from the police website for January to councillors.</p> <p><b>26/038/c</b> <u>Footpaths</u> No report.</p> <p><b>26/038/d</b> <u>Ground Maintenance</u> A list of jobs was given to Cllr Bartlett for the groundsman. This included: the drains in Hollow Lane still needed clearing; the small trackway through the centre of the allotments needed strimming; and weed spraying through the whole village was due.</p> <p><b>26/038/e</b> <u>Highways &amp; Transport</u></p> <p>i. <u>Speedwatch</u> No report. (Cllr Hewitson entered the meeting. His report is under <i>Minute ref: 26/034</i>)</p> <p>ii. <u>Road Closure</u></p>	Cllr Bartlett

<p><b>Yeovil Half Marathon</b> – the road through Montacute from Yeovil Road through to Lower Town will be closed on 29<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p><b>Ham Hill Road, Stoke sub Hamdon</b> – there is an extension of dates to the road closure at Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon. The date for the works is now 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> March between 09:30 – 15:30. A total of 3 days. This Order will enable Openreach to carry out poling and cabling works.</p> <p><b>Townsend</b> - from 125 metres north-east of the junction with Park View, northwards for a total distance of 48 metres. This Order will enable Wessex Water to carry out service disconnection works. The works are expected to commence on 13<sup>th</sup> April until 17<sup>th</sup> April between the hours of 00:00 – 23:59 for a total of 5 days.</p> <p>iii. <u>Highway Issues</u> The Clerk said she has reported the graffiti on the road signs in Montacute Road. <i>(Cllr Hewitson left the meeting)</i></p> <p><b>26/038/f</b> <u>National Trust</u> A discussion was held regarding the Borough car park lease, and it was agreed for the Clerk to contact the National Trust.</p> <p><b>26/038/g</b> <u>Street Lighting</u> Cllr Warry said he has reported the streetlights no 2 and 3 in St Michaels View, and no 10 in Bishopston.</p> <p><b>26/038/h</b> <u>Triangle Trust</u> Cllr Warry updated councillors on the Triangle Trust.</p> <p><b>26/038/i</b> <u>Any Other Issues</u> The Clerk reported on the revised recycling collection dates for Easter. It was agreed to put these in the magazine. The Clerk said she had a discussion with Somerset Council regarding the emptying of the litter/dog bins in the recreation ground. It has been suggested installing dual bins which would reduce the annual cost over time and that Somerset Council is sending through some information on these dual bins.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>																								
<p><b>26/039</b> <u>MEMBERS' &amp; CLERK'S REPORTS</u> Cllr Owen asked for an update on the issue of the parking on the grass verge opposite the garage in Yeovil Road at school drop off/pick up times. Cllr Saint reported that the National Trust is checking the lease for this area.</p>																									
<p><b>26/040</b> <u>FINANCE</u> <b>26/040/a</b> <u>Matters for Report:</u></p> <p>i. <u>Monthly Bank Reconciliation</u> The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation as of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026</p> <table data-bbox="231 1529 997 1776"> <tr> <td>Current Account</td> <td>£ 250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Reserve Account</td> <td>£ 94,808.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pavilion Reserve Account</td> <td>£ 36.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td><b>£ 95,094.79</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plus Outstanding Deposits</td> <td>£ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Outstanding Payments</td> <td>£ 69.17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total as Cash Book</td> <td><b>£ 95,025.62</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Ring-Fenced Amounts:</p> <table data-bbox="231 1888 997 2056"> <tr> <td>Sports Pavilion</td> <td>£ 11,946.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Play Equipment</td> <td>£ 6,038.82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Asset Management</td> <td>£ 18,559.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pavilion &amp; Grounds Bookings</td> <td>£ 226.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Allotment Rent &amp; Donations</td> <td>£ 2,469.41</td> </tr> </table>	Current Account	£ 250.00	Business Reserve Account	£ 94,808.75	Pavilion Reserve Account	£ 36.04	Total	<b>£ 95,094.79</b>	Plus Outstanding Deposits	£ 0.00	Less Outstanding Payments	£ 69.17	Total as Cash Book	<b>£ 95,025.62</b>	Sports Pavilion	£ 11,946.05	Play Equipment	£ 6,038.82	Asset Management	£ 18,559.00	Pavilion & Grounds Bookings	£ 226.00	Allotment Rent & Donations	£ 2,469.41	
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<p><b>25/02725/LBC</b> – General repairs and refurbishment of the farmhouse and attached workshop – Baytree Farm, Bishopston, Montacute TA15 6UU – approved</p> <p><b>25/02000/LBC</b> – vaulting the master bedroom ceiling, insertion of two conservation roof lights and removal of the modern partition wall between the hall and sitting room – 6 The Borough, Montacute, TA15 6XB – approved</p> <p><u>Reports:</u></p> <p><b>25/02103/FUL</b> – development of 61 dwellings with associated access, sustainable drainage provision, open space, landscaping and associated infrastructure – Land OS 2964 Link Road to A3088, North of Stanchester Academy, Montacute –Awaiting decision</p> <p><b>25/01224/FUL</b> – the proposed development of a trunk road service area and associated development – part land OS 0023, Cartgate Roundabout, Tintinhull, Yeovil TA14 6RA – awaiting decision.</p> <p><b>25/00247/FUL</b> – residential development to provide no. 7 dwellings, vehicular access and associated landscaping – Land at Mason Lane, Montacute TA15 6UH – appeal case no. 6004221 – parish council object to this appeal and comments have been submitted.</p>	
<p><b>26/042</b>            <b><u>GOVERNANCE</u></b></p> <p>None declared.</p>	
<p><b>26/043</b>            <b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b></p> <p>None declared</p>	
<p><b>26/044</b>            <b><u>ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
<p><b>26/045</b>            <b><u>DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</u></b></p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.33pm. The next meeting will be held in the village hall on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026.</p>	