Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday, 8th July 2026 at 7.00pm in
Alweston Village Hall

Present:

Cllr D.Cuff (Chair), Cllr S.Adams, Cllr A.Harris, Cllr T.Rolls, Cllr J. Crocker, Cllr P Elsworth, Cllr P Bennett.

In attendance:
Cllr Robin Legg, Dorset Councillor
Parish Clerk, Penny Pitcher

26.30 To receive and accept apologies for absence
There were no apologies for absence.

26.31 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests in relation to the agenda
There were no declarations of pecuniary or other interests in relation to the agenda.

26.32 To agree the minutes of the previous meeting on 13th May 2026 are a true and accurate record
The minutes of the meeting of 13 May 2026 were agreed as a true and correct record and signed by Cllr Cuff as Chair.

26.33 Matters raised by members of the public (15 minutes)
There were no issues raised by members of the public.

26.34 Issues arising from the last meeting

- The Multiplay equipment has reached the end of its useful life and needs replacement. Some small repairs have been made to the equipment to ensure its safety for the immediate future, but realistically a new piece of equipment is required.

- Update on proposed Community Transport

  Cllr Legg updated the meeting. The proposed route is Glanvilles Wooton – Holwell – Kings Stag – Bishops Caundle – Alweston – North Wootton – Sherborne. The bus will run in the morning allowing two hours in Sherborne, and make the return journey. There will also be a figure of 8 route around Sherborne as a hop on – hop off service. Passengers will need to become a member of the scheme, and prebook their seats. Only 12 seats are available per journey. The cost of a return journey will be in the region of £9.00, and age concessions may apply; the exact fare and any concessions are still to be confirmed.

- AGAR has been completed, published on the website and sent onto the external auditor – report from Internal Auditor to follow

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Chair…….Date……..

Clerks Report

- New Register of Interests – Councillors to complete asap

26.35 Update on speeding issues

Cllr Harris advised he had informally met with PC Andy Robinson. PC Robinson informed Cllr Harris that there was no evidence of excessive speeding along the A3030 near Oxfords Bakery, and without any evidence, police action could not be taken. However PC Robinson will monitor the situation periodically.

Cllr Legg informed the meeting of the process for applying for a 20 mph speed limit through the village. The starting point is to show the villagers are supportive of having a 20 mph speed limit, and to request a speed survey by Dorset Council. Cllr Adams agreed to produce posters for the villages highlighting the 20 mph speed limit opportunity, and request that parishioners make their opinions known to the parish council by emailing the clerk. There is further information on the Dorset Council website; Tony Burden is the Road Safety Manager at Dorset Council.

26.36 Funding group for replacement play park equipment

Cllr Elsworth had researched the possibility of obtaining grant funding towards the cost of replacing the multiplay equipment at the playpark. It was agreed that by the September meeting, the type of equipment and the costs will be available for the council to take this forward. One idea was for a pirate ship structure, for ages up to seven.

The Council had been gifted two junior goal posts, size 10 x 7 feet, with nets. Cllr Harris will arrange collection of the goal posts. One post will be for use on the playing field, the other goal will be stored.

During the discussion around the playpark, the issue of dogs on the field was discussed. Cllr Cuff to obtain and fix in place a sign requesting that all dogs are on leads and the owners clean up after their dogs. Cllr Adams will follow up his initial enquiry about obtaining dog bins.

26.37 To receive a report from Dorset Council

There was no specific report as Cllr Legg had given updates on various items during the meeting.

26.38 To receive reports from Councillors attending meetings on behalf of the Parish Council.

None to report.

26.39 To receive a Finance Report and to agree actions in response to proposals and payment approvals

22/04/2026	HMRC Shipley	Income tax payment re clerks salary	£154.83
22/04/2026	HMRC Shipley	Income tax payment re clerks salary	£315.60
28/04/2026	Hugo Fox	Website Provision	£11.99
29/04/2026	Microsoft	O365 Subscription Fee	£12.10
11/05/2026	Hugo Fox	Email Provision	£2.99
19/05/2026	Service charges	Bank service charge	£4.25
28/05/2026	Hugo Fox	Website Provision	£11.99
29/05/2026	Microsoft	O365 Subscription Fee	£12.10
02/06/2026	White Hart Vale Magazine	Community Magazine grant	£85.00

Chair…….Date……..

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02/06/2026	Society of Local Council Clerks	CiLCA for Clerk	£495.00
05/06/2026	P and R Pitcher	Travel for Clerk	£19.80
05/06/2026	Playsafety Limited	Playground annual safety inspection	£99.60
05/06/2026	Zurich Insurance	Insurance for year	£378.00
10/06/2026	Hugo Fox	Email Provision	£2.99
19/06/2026	Service charges	Bank service charge	£4.25
26/06/2026	DAPTC	DAPTC annual subscription	£204.05
29/06/2026	Hugo Fox	Website Provision	£11.99
29/06/2026	Microsoft	O365 Subscription Fee	£12.10

Clerk requested that the above payments as listed be sanctioned. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

26.40 To determine a response to any planning applications received as listed below:

No planning applications had been received.

26.41 Items of urgent nature subject to Chair's approval

Cllr Bennett enquired if there was any update regarding heavy traffic using Mundens Lane, which was unsuitable for large vehicles. Cllr Cuff advised that the garages where the parking issues occur are rented out by Sherborne Castle estate. Cllr Bennett asked if signs denoting the width restrictions could be obtained; Cllr Legg would enquire about signage stating the road was not suitable for wide vehicles.

Clerk had received an email from Cam Vale Parish Council relating to a footpath and bridge by Folke Church in need of repair. Cllr Cuff had investigated and advised council the footbridge is on the border between Folke and Cam Vale. Clerk to respond to Cam Vale Parish Clerk asking him to report the disrepair to Dorset Council, and Cllr Cuff will also report the disrepair for Folke Parish Council.

There were no expressions of interest from Councillors in taking on the Footpaths Officer role. Cllr Cuff's wife had expressed an interest and it was agreed that Rachel Cuff would perform this role on behalf of the parish council.

Cllr Elsworth had information from DAPTC relating to community events and Martyn's Law. Martyn's Law applies when there are 200 or more persons at any one time at an event. The regular car boot sale may fall into this category. Cllr Crocker agreed to discuss this with the car boot sale committee, and consider the implications of Martyn's Law and a potentially large group of members of the public.

26.42 Confidential Matters (public and press to leave the meeting)

No matters arising.

26.43 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 9th September 2026 at 7.00pm

There being no further business to be transacted the meeting closed at 20:20 hours

Chair…….Date……..

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