

EVERCREECH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lynn Crisp

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Minutes of meeting 01 09 26

Held in Evercreech Village Hall

**Present: Derek Sharp, Rob Reed, Roy Williams, Gail Wakeford (Chair),
Christian Sellar, Daryl Issit
members of the public.
Lynn Crisp – Clerk**

i)	Public Open Session Resident: PC website – could we upload bus timetable information? Are the finger posts around the village recorded and maintained? Who would keep a record? Residents will investigate. Mill. Garden – A resident reported concerns that young people are using the newly installed bench to climb the nearby tree and may potentially become unable to get down. This presents a possible safety risk. The bench has subsequently led to separate anti-social behavior issues in the area. It was suggested that consideration be given to either relocating the bench or cutting back the tree limbs to reduce the risk. Resident has had to erect a screen backing onto their property and has been helping to keep the area tidy by picking up rubbish.	Action
ii)	Somerset Councillor Report Received prior to meeting New planning guidance from Government may mean that it will become harder to turn down new planning applications for houses.	
001	Meeting open time 7.07	
002	To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1)) Received and accepted from Cllr Stewart - Personal	
003	Declarations of interests. Council members to declare any interests, including any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations) Cllr Sellar – item 011e – Millenium Gardens – Dispensation request. Proposal: To allow Cllr Sellar to vote on and discuss the item. Dispensation granted for 2 years. GW proposed RW seconded Agreed.	
004	To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1)) Meeting 04 08 26 Chair signed as a true record.	
005	Actions List Clerk updated the list.	
006	Finance a. To APPROVE the Payment/Income Schedule for September 2026 GW DS Agreed	

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	August 26 Payment Schedule			
	Inv.	Payee	Particulars	Amount
	1	Grubb Property Maintenance	Invoice 1321	£ 300.00
	2	Grubb Property Maintenance	Invoice 1322	£ 115.99
	3	Simon Pritchard	Monitor for Bookkeeper	£ 50.00
			Invoices to be Paid in August	£ 465.99
	Following invoices are outweighed by credit balances - to be paid as soon as amount owed			
	4	Three Counties Landscaping	Invoice 9475	£ 940.80
	5	Three Counties Landscaping	Invoice 9476	£ 1,152.00
	6	Evercreech Village Hall	Invoice 18900	£ 24.00
		PAYMENTS FOR REPORT		£ 2,116.80
		Staff	Salaries and expenses	£ 1,359.84
		Lloyds Credit Card	Amazon Hard Drive	£ 95.99
		HMRC Payment	Salaries - hours in July 2026	£ 236.18
		Month Payments TOTAL		£ 2,158.00
	Aug 26 Receipts for REPORT			
		Received	Particulars	Amount
	1	Various	Burials and Memorials	£ 471.00
	2	UTB	Interest	£ -
			TOTAL	£ 471.00
	b. Nominate 2 Cllrs to authorise BACS payments. DI DS c. Finance Update 3 Counties Landscaping – credit note is being investigated. RFO settling into the role.			
007	Planning Ex Greencore site update. 2026/1048/FUL ormer Greencore Factory Prestleigh Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset BA4 6JZ Update from Somerset Cllr Claire Sully: <i>If recommended for approval the application would come to committee as it's a departure from the development plan, in addition the Parish Council have recommended refusal.</i> <i>We may not have to bring it to Committee if recommended for refusal, unless this is requested by the Parish Council/Divisional Member or Chair/Vice Chair.</i> <i>In terms of timescales, we would likely be looking towards the end of the year at the earliest, more likely early next year.</i> Cllr Q: Why is it taking until the end of the year for a decision? A: It is a complex application and takes time to consider response. Discussions took place. Noted that the above update from Cllr Sully was challenged at this meeting. Application Number: 2026/1494/HSE Proposal: Proposed new window and widened door to rear outbuilding dwelling Location: Stonehouse Prestleigh Road Evercreech Shepton Mallet Somerset Applicant: Mr Mark Atkinson Application Type: Householder Application Approve. RW GW Agreed			
008	Cemetery a. Update			

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	b. Approve any memorial requests 2 memorial requests were approved by Cllrs.	
009	Park Inspection Reports Queens Road Playing Fields (QRPF) Bollards are in place at the entrance from Neal's Way. Skate Park Possibly look at CCTV installation on Partish Council land, working with Somerset Council re regulations etc.	CS
010	Village maintenance feedback/update: Nothing outstanding.	
011 a	Bus representative Start of 'catch the bus month', our bus rep is attending various markets to promote. Will have a stall at the Evercreech Show. Residents can make use of the Castle Cary Station bus (567) to Glastonbury but need to park in Castle Cary – take up looks promising. At the last Local Council Network meeting it was said that they were looking at transport.	
011 b	Village Hall Climate change film was well supported.	
011 c	Patient Participation Group Held a stall at The Shepton Show – well received. Will be holding a training event in Evercreech Surgery re the NHS app.	
011 d	Footpaths Evercreech Water Recycling Centre – overgrown footpath: CS has contacted Wessex Water – within a week they cleared the vegetation but not the tree. Wessex Water called CS saying they had attended site with a contractor, and the work will be carried out to the tree within 6 weeks. Update re letter sent to Somerset Council re path SM118: Has spoken to Peter Hobely (Somerset Council) who walked the area today and will feed back. The meeting confirmed that Cllrs will have no objections to the path being rerouted, providing it is made safe and accessible. Widening of boundary entrance @ rear of Youth Club Building, QRPF – correspondence from resident. The Parish Council believes the footpaths referred to belong to Somerset Highways. CS and Clerk will respond to the email.	CS Clerk
011 e	Millenium Gardens Update Further clarification to the resolution: To protect the PC and Cllrs - Proposal: Immediately add the garden's security and third-party liabilities to the council's formal Corporate Risk Register, taken from minutes 04 08 26 is required, to action. This was not addressed at the meeting. Feedback from Cllrs regarding possible permanent solutions arising from the working party of all Cllrs gathering on 12 th August 2.30, on site: Time limit of the bench trial – a couple of months. Bench position feedback from neighbour – has attracted more noise, litter and young people gathering. Young people are climbing onto the bench and then onto the tree, danger to young people. Noted the bench position is a trial. Leave in place as a temporary compromise. The establishment of a Friends of Mill. Gardens group was discussed. DI agreed to ascertain the level of interest among residents in establishing such a group. Consider email from resident regarding litter at the site. Cllrs confirmed that a litter bin will not be installed.	DI

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	Proposal: Clerk to write to 3 Counties to confirm the work to Mill. Garden, using the non-spent grass cutting budget to offset the tree pruning. Chipping of vegetation to take place as soon as possible after pruning. Proposed: GW Seconded: DS Agreed. Cllrs asked for a review of how much is spent on the Millenium Gardens? Discussions took place.	Clerk Clerk /Fin Off
011 f	Parish Preparedness Survey. Request from Cllr Sully for Cllrs to participate. Cllrs agreed to complete the survey. Climate and Nature Emergency Consider email from a resident asking various questions regarding Cllr response. Clerk to respond. Discussions took place. 7.59 Resident left meeting.	Clerk
011 g	Youth Club (YC) Update: Garage behind building: RW will contact Paul Sealy regarding the matter. Cllrs agreed that the cemetery shed could be used for their storage requirements. Container removal. The container has been removed from Queens Road Playing Fields. YC Worker salary 2027: Cllrs discussed whether to agree to part fund this from April 2027 or to use reserve funds to bring the matter forward to this year. Noted that YC and a private donor are funding part of this for 2 years. Proposal: To employ a Youth Worker now through CYP (Community Youth Project); start the process and allocate reserves: Proposed: GW Seconded: RW Agreed Ex Youth Club Building – future use. Write to interested parties and ask who is driving this and request an update.	RW Clerk Clerk
011 h	Yellow Lines outside of the Bakery, Prestleigh Road. Nothing to report - remove from agenda.	
011 i	War Memorial partial clean update Work began 01 09 26.	
011 j	Evercreech — imminent fencing affecting claimed right of way, land between Leighton Lane and Weston Town – Evercreech – email from Cllr Sully to Dawn DeVries Somerset Council. Further email from Cllr Sully to Anna Sabine MP. Discussions took place. Criminal damage appears to have taken place to the newly erected fence. A planning application has not been received by the Parish Council.	
011k	Grant for Stoney Stratton stream clearing. To be completed and provided by Cllr Reed: House owners have a responsibility for keeping their section clear. Householders were consulted regarding the matter, and one household did not agree to the clearance of their section of the stream. As a result, the grant application cannot proceed, and the issue has now been referred to the Rivers Authority.	
012	To note/forwarded	

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	Help Shape the Future of Adult Social Care: The Big Conversation on Care. NEW 567 Street Glastonbury Rail Link, 300 Exmoor Coaster, Kids go FREE in August. Community Resilience Action Calendar – prepared by Cllr Sully. Local Plan scoping consultation has closed – Somerset Council. Flood Warden Lunch and Learn Sessions SALC - Community Health & Wellbeing Programme Newsletter August 2026. Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA): SRA Annual Report 2025-26 Parish Update Email – Somerset Council.	
013	Agenda items for next meeting Land owned by Parish Council and CCTV. Youth Club: Garage being new YC building, future use of ex YC building. Mill Gardens - cost of maintenance.	
014	Date & time of next meeting, Evercreech Village Hall, 06 10 26 7.00 pm (subject to change)	
015	Close of meeting: Name Lynn Crisp Time 8.35	