

MINUTES OF BISHOPS CAUNDRY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 2025, AT 7.30 P.M.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Wookey (deployment) and Blair (Vice Chair)
Attendees: Cllrs. Richards (Chair), Adlem. Shaw. District Councillor Legg, J. Walsh-Quantick (Clerk).

Members of Public: None

2. **Previous Meeting Minute Approval**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30th September 2025 were unanimously agreed.
Proposed Cllr. Adlem, Seconded Cllr. Shaw

3. **Matters Arising:**

- a. **Lions Club Half Marathon**

Tim Otter has approached the Parish Council to request support with the Lions Club Half Marathon scheduled for 01/02/2026. All councillor present were in agreement that the current working arrangements for the Half Marathon events are appropriate and no objections were raised about the event being held again in 2026.

Cllr. Adlem agreed to open the gate in preparation for the event.

Acn Cllr. Adlem

Clerk to contact Tim Otter to confirm agreement on proviso that if the field is waterlogged, alternative parking arrangements will need to be sourced.

Acn: Clerk.

- b. **Speeding Update Community Team / SID.**

CSW team have continued to be active within the village and at a recent monitoring approximately 30 cars were noted to be exceeding the speed limit including one recording 54mph. There has been additional support from the official camera cars.

Concern has been raised about parking at school drop off/pick up times, this will be highlighted to the school and local PCSO.

Acn: Clerk, Cllr. Richards

- c. **Pavillion Update**

All keys have now been returned to Cllr. Richards. Cllr. Adlem reported that there is a broken window which Chris Adlem will kindly patch with plyboard and the fence will be moved closer to the building. Three girls in Gryphon uniform were witnessed trying to enter the building and ran when challenged.

- d. **Fly tipping**

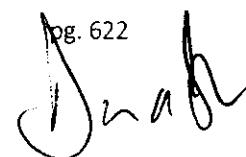
Some NOS canisters and building waste were fly tipped near to the pavilion which cost Parish Council Precept funds for removal and disposal. Although the removal was carried out by councillors, disposal for the NOS canisters alone was £87.30. The option of a camera at this time was felt to be too expensive to justify and difficult to routinely monitor and it was agreed that a watch and wait approach would be taken initially. All fly tipping on public land may be reported to Dorset Council via their website.

- e. **20MPH Discussion**

A number of villages in the county on main roads have been able to obtain 20MPH status and it was re-raised that this is something Bishops Caundle should be looking into again. Previous discussions highlighted that we had no evidence of speeding however there has now been some

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CSW activity and we have some data to support this. The clerk will review the current steps needed to raise an application and this will be discussed over the next few meetings. **Acn: Clerk**

f. School Speeding Signs

Bishops Caundle School PTA have sent a letter to offer support with designing of some speed awareness signs by students. The ones in Sherborne were identified as an example of what would be appropriate in the village. Councillors present were all in favour of this and the Clerk will discuss this further with the school.

Acn: Clerk

g. Follow up from Local Plan Statement

DCC have been overwhelmed with responses and will need to spend appropriate time to review this and formulate their reports. Feedback will be given to the wider community once available.

h. Courtis Court/Courtis Close Signage

Reviewed outside of this meeting. Clear signage at both locations however the two signs at the end of Holt Lane have some overgrowth partially blocking them. The clerk will remove this to provide clear sight.

Acn. Clerk

4. Village Updates

Community events – there are school carols on Church Green planned, date and time TBC.

Church – The Christmas service will be 23rd December at 6pm. A new vicar has been appointed to the churches group who lives in Bishops Down. The maintenance report has been completed and there is a leak in the bell tower roof, scaffold costs are prohibitive and alternative repair options are being investigated.

Play Area and Inspection – The play area has passed its most recent safety inspection without any concerns raised.

Playing field / Pavillion – As above.

5. Planning Applications

None

6. Training

No training completed between meetings, councillors reminded to contact the Clerk if training is required.

7. Finance – At 02/12/2025

M. Moore was asked to quote for grass cutting in the cemetery and at Church Green. This was unanimously accepted as £1450/annum.

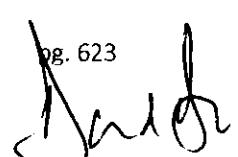
Bishops Caundle Parish Council – State of Finances to 02/12/2025 (since previous meeting)

Balances:

Natwest Current Account		£5,132.70
Natwest Grants Account		£2,991.16
Natwest Savings Account		£16,424.96
Total		£24,548.82

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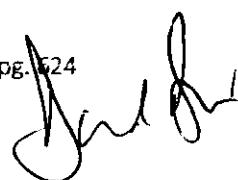


Income:	Date	Amount
Current Account		
Grants Account		
Savings Account		
September interest	30/09/2025	£14.72
October interest	31/10/2025	£13.79
November interest	TBC	
Cemetery fees	29/08/2025	£404.25

Cheques Signed and Approved by Chair Since Previous Meeting

Other Payments Since Previous Meeting

Current Account		
Somerset Council NOS Disposal	06/10/2025	£87.30
Hugofox October website	10/10/2025	£11.99
AED Batteries	13/10/2025	£78.00
Dorset Waste Partnership	17/10/2025	£24.87
Petrol Donation	27/10/2025	£16.22
HMRC October	27/10/2025	£20.80
Grass Cutting October	27/10/2025	£100.00
Petrol donation	27/10/2025	£11.15
Clerk HWA October	28/10/2025	£26.00
Clerk Salary October	28/10/2025	£469.30
Mower tyre	06/11/2025	£14.71
Hugofox November website	10/11/2025	£11.99
Hugofox email	20/11/2025	£2.99
Grass cutting November / December	25/11/2025	£200.00
Hedge cutting Bennetts	26/11/2025	£300.00
Savings Account		
Grants Account		

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Payments Requiring Authorisation

	Comments	
Clerk Salary / HMRC / Expenses November	-	£536.00
Clerk Salary / HMRC / Expenses December	Approx	£536.00
Hugofox December		£11.99
Hugofox January		£11.99
Email December		£2.99
Email January		£2.99
Hall rent x 2		£36.00

Seconded By: Cllr.

Adlem.

Proposed By: Cllr. Richards

N.b. Pension scheme for Clerk has not been joined as annual income has previously been too low.

The precept for 2026-2027 was discussed and agreed unanimously to increase by 5%, although this remains slightly under projected budget for the second year in a row, it was felt that to increase further was not appropriate in the current financial climate.

Proposed: Cllr Richards. Seconded Cllr. Shaw.

8. Routine correspondence.

None via post, emails as forwarded to councillors.

9. Matters for Discussion Next Agenda / AOB.

- Bus Service options.

Cllr Legg raised that the CR5 bus at Glanvilles Wooton only does the school run so there is a loss of public transport to Dorchester. Glanvilles Wooton are keen to re-instate a weekly service. There is a discussion currently over a route to cover Glanvilles Wooton, Buckland Newton, Kings Stag, Holwell, Bishops Caundle, Alweston and Sherborne. If all villages involved were able to donate a small amount it may make this a viable proposition, it would be a paid service for users. Given that Dorset Council have an overspend of £5.5-6m taken from its reserves, the budget will be tighter next year and it is unlikely that they would be able to contribute. It will be important to gauge views from potential users on this and to look into a facebook poll / questionnaire for the shop.

10. Members of the Public Questions

None present.

11. Time of Closure

9:26pm

Date of Next Meeting

January 20th 2026

Future Planned Meeting Dates: All 7.30pm Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

2026: March 17th