

West Knoyle Parish Council

Parish Clerk – Ms H Hunt

Minutes of a meeting of West Knoyle Parish Council held on Thursday, 12th February 2026 in West Knoyle Village Hall.

Present

Chair: Cllr Paul Yates (PY)
Councillors: Cllr Paul Vita (PV) and Cllr Tony Davis (TD)
Wiltshire Councillor: George Jeans (GJ)
Clerk: Harri Hunt (HH)
Apologies: Cllr Louise Davis (LD)
Members of Public: None

281. Public Session.

The Chairman Cllr Paul Yates opened the meeting at 7.37pm.

282. To receive apologies for absence.

Received from Cllr Louise Davis who was feeling unwell.

283. Declaration of Interest.

Cllr PY declared a direct pecuniary interest in planning application [PL/2026/00169](#). It was resolved that he would step outside of the meeting hall during discussion of that item.

284. Minutes.

Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6th November 2025 proposed and seconded by Cllrs PY and PV.

Cllr PY apologised to Cllr GJ for confusion over the meeting's date (rescheduled from 3/2/26 to 12/2/26).

285. Matters Arising from previous meetings.

- a) Casual Vacancy. An application for the vacant post of Parish Councillor was received from Mr Matthew Dawson of Broadmead Farm, West Knoyle. No other applications having been received, and in light of confirmation from Wiltshire Council on 5/1/26 that the post may be filled by co-option, a vote by the councillors present was proposed by Cllr PY. Cllrs PY, TD and PV voted unanimously to elect Matthew Dawson to the role of Parish Councillor.
- b) Assertion 10 - IT policy and website update. Clerk gave information about the new Assertion 10 requirements for WKPC's use of IT and its website. Councillors and Clerk discussed the role of the WKPC website and how it could be maintained (Clerk to maintain). Cllr PY proposed Clerk should use external supplier hugofox.com to provide the framework to build on the basis of about £12/mth and Cllrs PV and TD agreed. Cllrs also signed an updated WKPC IT policy.
- c) Defibrillator Training. Clerk to discuss arranging defibrillator training at the WK Village Hall with Corinne Leonard.
- d) Cllr George Jeans confirmed the winners of the 2025 WK Christmas Lights Competition:
 - 1st. Richard and Paula Hull, 6 Oderne
 - 2nd. Janet Howard, Dhuli Fou
 - 3rd. Phil and Shirley Singer, 2 Stoney Bridge

286. Wiltshire Councillor's Report.

Mere Fire Station. Cllr GJ gave details of the proposal to close some fire stations in Dorset and Wiltshire. Included in the eight at risk of closure are Mere, Wilton, Bradford on Avon. Cllr PY asked how WKPC or residents could get involved in the campaign to keep Mere Fire Station open. Cllr GJ said there would be meetings and events taking place during the public consultation period on March and April. At a consultation meeting in Mere, the consequences of closure would be

analysed, so once Cllr GJ knew more details he suggested a petition could be circulated in WK and submitted through him. A door to door approach was agreed by Cllrs to ensure all residents are made aware of the potential closure.

287. Planning.

a) Applications to consider at the meeting:

- [PL/2026/00169](#) - Full planning permission

Land North of The Street, West Knoyle, Warminster, BA12 6AE

Permanent rural workers dwelling to replace an existing temporary rural workers dwelling..

Cllr PY explained that it was his own application to build a rural workers dwelling to help ensure security on the Game Farm, so he would leave the hall for discussion. Cllr PY then left the hall. Cllrs TD and PV raised no questions or objections, and in light of Cllr LD also having no objections (per her email), voted unanimously that WKPC's position should be No Objection.

b) Applications considered/determined since last meeting:

- [PL/2025/06803](#) - Full planning permission

Bush Farm, West Knoyle, Warminster, BA12 6AE

Clerk reported that no Wiltshire Council decision appeared to have been made yet on this.

288. Footpaths, Highways, Traffic & Transport.

a) Wessex Water Main Replacement, Barrow Street, December 2025 - March 2026.

Clerk noted that this was still a current project but the road from WK to Gillingham was now open.

b) Village signage - Cllr PY reported that he had repaired one sign and reinstated it, and the second broken sign would be repaired and reinstated soon.

289. Play Area.

a) Cllr LD (by email read by Clerk) updated PC on inspections and the fact that a steam cleaner had been promised on loan free of charge by Martin Hasket. Cllr LD suggested that formal thanks be given by WKPC, and all Cllrs agreed unanimously to send a letter once the work had taken place. Given Cllr LD's absence it was agreed to reopen discussion on quotes for additional equipment at the next meeting.

b) Cllr PY confirmed that repairs to broken items had been completed by Somerset Landscapes.

c) Cllr PY also suggested that he should ask Chris Curtis to trim hedges around the play area especially the willow which was tall. It was agreed that Cllr PY should ask and see what was possible given the current weather.

290. Finance

a) Online signatory arrangements confirmed and no further action needed currently.

b) Recent payments and the current financial statement (which reconciles with bank account balances) were presented by the Clerk. Other than Clerk salary and bank costs, it was noted that no other payments were due to be approved by PC, save for website costs already discussed and agreed.

291. Any Other Business

a) Cllr TD reported that the Parish Steward has reported to MyWilts the bridge railings repair needed in Sawpit Lane many times.

b) Cllr TD also reported that the storm water drain cover near The Old Cow Shed is also still awaiting repair.

292. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 21st April 2026.

The Chairman Cllr Paul Yates closed the meeting at 8.51pm.