

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on
Monday 20th April 2026 at 19:00 at King George’s Hall, West Dean.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Councillor Higgins	✓		
Councillor J Camilleri	✓		
Councillor Seabrooke		✓	
Councillor M Camilleri		✓	
Councillor M Lee	✓		
Councillor B Livesey		✓	
Vacancy	-	-	-

Also, in attendance:

Amanda Owen – Clerk, Wiltshire Councillor Gregory Cooper & four members of the public.

41/26	<p>To receive Chair’s opening remarks. Councillor Higgins welcome everyone to the meeting and provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sadly, the Fete has been cancelled for 2026 due to safety issues and lacking volunteer numbers. The plan is for it to return in 2027 slightly downsized. - The Church will be holding a Church Fete on bank holiday Monday 31st August. - An email has been received from Wiltshire Emergency Hub are hosting a film evening titled ‘Peoples Emergency Briefing’ at the Village Hall on 13th May. Councillor J Camilleri will be in attendance from the Parish Council (https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thundays/2163202).
42/26	<p>To receive and accept apologies for absence. Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Councillor M Camilleri, Councillor Livesey and Councillor Seabrooke.</p>
43/26	<p>To receive declarations of interest relating to items on this agenda. No declarations of pecuniary interests were received.</p>
44/26	<p>To approve the minutes of the full council meeting held on Monday 16th March. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th March were signed as a correct record of the meeting. Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor J Camilleri. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>
45/26	<p>Public Forum. A resident thanked Councillor Cooper for help with a second / empty home issue.</p>
46/26	<p>To receive reports from Wiltshire Council & Wiltshire Police. Wiltshire Councillor Cooper provided the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wiltshire Council are looking to allocate additional funding for highways works. If any serious maintenance issues highlighted, please send for action. - Consultation on blanket speed limit of areas in Wiltshire closes 21st April. - Central Government have made changes to the Crisis and Resilience fund. - Town and Parish councils across Wiltshire are facing a devolution process of land and assets to be considered by cabinet on 29th April, then deferred to 2027. - Wiltshire Council will be launching a community lottery aimed at Parishes who may wish to apply for funding. Two meetings are taking place, in person on 28th April, or 17:30 online on 29th April. - Parking consultation closes on 5th May. - Local Plan was turned down, three years have been allocated to generate a new plan. - Litter signs instigated by Councillor Lee are looking fantastic. <p>Wiltshire Police report can be found at APPENDIX A.</p>

47/26	<p>To receive updates with regards to: Glebe Farm River Group Footpaths Glebe Farm</p> <p>The latest update from Paul Goodman, Test Valley Borough Council: “I understand from my colleagues that the agreement has been received. As soon as I receive confirmation that the agreement has been legally completed, I will refer my recommendation to the local TVBC Cllr. Assuming he is content that it be determined under delegated powers it should all be resolved quickly.”</p> <p>River Group Councillor J Camilleri provided the following update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making communication with Neil Swift with regards to power cables. - Applied for a power connection for the orphaned lamp post - Seeking a groundworker who can conduct works to locate the cable and see how it has been connected to progress works. <p>Footpaths Councillor Lee advised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter signs have been installed and the litter cleared near Dragonfly House to Scotts Lane. - Litter signage also installed at Dean Hill. - The open tickets for footpath findings have not been updated by Wiltshire since February. He will start collecting update information and chasing for updates. - Hampshire County Council have rejected the path that the parish council of 1980 requested between West Dean and West Tytherley advising that the route in place is satisfactory but land owners have two more days to discuss. Councillor Lee is concerned that the Wiltshire end and the Hampshire end of the path should connect. <p>Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A road closure will be taking place at rectory Hill on Thursday 23rd April to Saturday 25th April between 7:00 and 19:00 to finish previously started works. 																																				
48/26	<p>To agree the Highways Improvement Request Form.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the Highways Improvement request form and Traffic Survey request form. Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor J Camilleri. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p>																																				
49/26	<p>To note the financial situation.</p> <p>The current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance were NOTED with the bank balance at 28th March 2026 being £26,824.14. The bank reconciliation can be found at APPENDIX B.</p>																																				
50/26	<p>To approve the requests for payments for April.</p> <p>The payments as listed in the table below were APPROVED for payment. Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Lee. All members voted unanimously to accept this resolution.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="220 1458 1481 1825"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">April Payment Requests</th> </tr> <tr> <th>From</th> <th>Item</th> <th>Invoice Number</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Staff</td> <td>Salary</td> <td>April</td> <td>£920.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lloyds</td> <td>Bank Charges</td> <td></td> <td>£4.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vital Power Group</td> <td>Generator Service - King George Village Hall</td> <td>VGQ31448</td> <td>£348.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ICO</td> <td>Data Protection Fee</td> <td></td> <td>£52.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wiltshire Association of Local Councils</td> <td>WALC & NALC Subs</td> <td>Inv WALC-1015</td> <td>£112.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clive Francis</td> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>Inv 010326</td> <td>£282.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>£1,719.63</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	April Payment Requests				From	Item	Invoice Number	Amount	Staff	Salary	April	£920.98	Lloyds	Bank Charges		£4.25	Vital Power Group	Generator Service - King George Village Hall	VGQ31448	£348.00	ICO	Data Protection Fee		£52.00	Wiltshire Association of Local Councils	WALC & NALC Subs	Inv WALC-1015	£112.40	Clive Francis	Grass Cutting	Inv 010326	£282.00			Total	£1,719.63
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51/26	<p>To note the date of the Parish Assembly as Monday 18th May.</p> <p>The date of the Parish Assembly was NOTED as Monday 18th May. Councillor Higgins advised those in attendance of current vacancies on the Parish Council and provided an overview of the assembly and those who will be in attendance.</p>																																				
52/26	<p>To agree the date of the next meeting.</p> <p>The date of the next meeting was agreed as Monday 18th May.</p>																																				

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:14.

APPENDIX A



WILTSHIRE POLICE PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

West Dean

April 2026

On the team

PC Kelvin RAMSEY 70855	PCSO John TAYLOR 9465	Sgt Susan BROWN 2775
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Crimes and incidents

Wiltshire Police record crimes and incidents by the National Crime and incident recording standards. Not all incidents that one would consider a crime are necessarily classified as a crime for recording purposes.

NB- The statistics do not account for incidents that police respond to but do not need any follow up (Road traffic incidents, minor incidents of Anti-social behaviour)

Report for past 30 days:

No crimes or anti-social behaviour to report on in the area.

APPENDIX B

WEST DEAN PARISH COUNCIL			
Bank Reconciliation for the Year 2025 / 26			
Opening Balance Community Account at 01/04/2025	£963.60	Opening Balance Instant Access Account at 01/04/2025	£25,394.00
Receipts 2024/25	22,831.50	Receipts 2024/25	21,123.14
Payments 2024/25	20,988.20	Payments 2024/25	22,500.00
Unpresented Cheques 2024/25			
Closing Balance Community Account 31/03/2026	£2,475.40	Closing Balance Business Bank Instant 31/03/2026	£24,348.74
TOTAL BANK BALANCES	£26,824.14		