

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2026 AT 7.30pm IN THE VILLAGE HALL

26/12 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Present: Cllrs Richards, Hillman and vaun-Davis; the Clerk.

Apologies: Cllr Westworth

26/13 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Cllr Richards was nominated by Cllr Hillman, seconded by Cllr vaun-Davis. There being no further nominations, Cllrs voted unanimously in favour and Cllr Richards was duly elected as chair, and signed their declaration of acceptance of office, witnessed by the Clerk.

26/14 COUNCIL VACANCY

Application to join the council was received from Mr Tim Watson. RESOLVED unanimously to co-opt Mr Watson to the vacancy and he duly read and signed his declaration of acceptance of office, witnessed by the Clerk and joined the meeting.

26/15 MINUTES: RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 14th January were a correct record, and duly signed by the Chair.

26/16 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- a) New applications: There were no new applications to consider.
- b) Planning Updates and Enforcement: No matters raised.

Details of planning applications in the parish can be found on the Isle Abbots website: <https://isle-abbotts-pc.gov.uk/planning> This links directly to the Somerset Council planning portal where the full responses from the parish council can be seen along with decision notices from Somerset Council.

26/17 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) FINANCIAL STATEMENT: RESOLVED to approve the financial statement to 28/2/26.
- b) PAYMENTS: RESOLVED to approve the list of payments annexed at the end of the minutes. Noted that transfer of funds has not yet been made to unity Trust while signatories set up their online access. Instruction to close the Lloyds account will be given once signatories confirm they have access to approve payments. Savings/Investments to be discussed once Unity account is up and running in full.

26/18 POLICIES

- a) Grants and Donations: The council previously adopted a grants and donations policy in 2024. RESOLVED to re-adopt the policy.
- b) IT Policy: RESOLVED to adopt the policy as circulated, supporting compliance with the new Assertion 10 of the annual governance statement.

26/19 INTERNAL AUDIT: RESOLVED to re-appoint Mrs Sue Morley to carry out the internal audit. The fee remains at £50.

26/20 TRAINING: Cllr vaun-Davis is on a waiting list for detailed planning training via SALC.

26/21 UPDATES

- a) LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCN): Cllr vaun-Davis reported that meetings are improving and the link officer is pro-active. Highways working group meeting is to be held in April.
- b) HIGHWAYS: A resident is actively in contact with highways regarding issues with drain and gully clearance. Cllr Watson has offered support on the matter. Cllr Watson agreed to take responsibility for Highways matters. He commented on a concern over lack of signage in the parish and the condition of those in situ. Information on how to report a problem on the road to Somerset Council can be found [here](#) Details of road closures in the area can be found at <https://one.network/en-gb>

- c) RIGHTS OF WAY: No updates. Some new gates are planned for when weather improves, including at Otterham Lane.
Any issues on the rights of way network can be reported directly to Somerset Council using the interactive map which can be found [here](#).
- d) FLOODING: Weather and flooding through January/February was severe. It has been noted that some ditches have been seem being cleared by landowners.
- e) VILLAGE HALL: There is a training course on Friday 20th March for on using the defibrillator.
- f) OTHER MATTERS: The council will raise awareness of the opportunity for organisations to apply for grant support from the council as set out in the 2026/27 budget.

26/22 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA: a) Savings and Investments (if appropriate)

26/23 DATE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Wednesday 13th May 2026: ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: 7.00pm
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20.30

Signed...A. Hillman, Chair.....

Date.....13th May 2026.....

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ANNEX. 1 – PAYMENTS

Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
08/02/2026	Zurich	Annual insurance renewal	£ 264.00
05/03/2026	HMRC	PAYE M10& M11*	
05/03/2026	K LARSSON	M10& M11 BALANCING PAYMENT*	
05/03/2026	K LARSSON	ADMIN EXPENSES	£ 13.95