

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ISLE ABBOTTS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 6.30PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

26/57 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

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

Apologies: None.

Members of the Public: There were 4 members of the public present

26/58 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

26/59 MEMBER VACANCY

The Council noted Cllr Richards' resignation and thanked him for his service, particularly his work on rights of way.

Formal notice of the resulting vacancy has been published, and should there not be a call for an election, the council will be able to co-opt at its next scheduled meeting. The council would particularly like to hear from anyone with an interest in taking on the role of rights of way liaison. Interested parties should contact the Clerk or a councillor for more information.

26/60 MINUTES: RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on Thursday 16 July were a correct record, and duly signed by the Chair.

26/61 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) New applications: There were no new applications to consider.

b) Planning Updates and Enforcement: No updates.

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.

26/62 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) FINANCIAL STATEMENT: The financial report with reconciliation to 31/8/26 was circulated and noted.

b) PAYMENTS: RESOLVED to approve the list of payments annexed at the end of the minutes. Noted that payments will be delayed while new signatories are set up (refer minute 26/62a below)

c) BANKING: RESOLVED for internal transfers to require one additional signatory above the administrator to allow investment of funds into saving and avoid delays or charges for scheduled items where second signatories are absent/unable to access.

It was agreed that an additional signatory was required as payments are at risk of being delayed with the current number if there is an absence, resignation or temporary banking access issue. RESOLVED for Cllr Watson to become a signatory for all accounts.

26/63 FLOODING AT THE ISLE ABBOTTS-ILTON BOUNDARY

Cllr Westworth contacted Ilton Parish Council, which advised that it was not currently addressing flooding concerns at the shared boundary or liaising with landowners who have riparian responsibilities there. He also sought advice from Somerset Council. The Clerk will ask Ilton Parish Council to discuss the issue and work with landowners in its parish to ensure the ditches are cleared.

26/64 WESSEX INTERNET

Cllr Hillman has been liaising with Wessex Internet about the works.

Reported concerns regarding conduct of contractors have been passed to Wessex Internet, and residents have been given the site manager's contact details for direct enquiries.

The works are nearing completion but may continue beyond the original completion date of 11 September.

26/65 UPDATES

a) LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORKS (LCN):

Levels & Moors next LCN is at Langport Town Hall on 30 September – MP Sarah Dyke will be present for questions.

Meetings are open to members of the public, with more information available here

<https://lcn.somerset.gov.uk/>

b) HIGHWAYS:

i) Two Bridges – Repairs to the bridge damage have been completed. Cllr Westworth will ask Highways to consider implementing preventative measures to protect the structure from future damage.

- ii) Garden Plot Hill – Following a Highways inspection, Wessex Water revisited and excavated the site, confirming that the leak is its responsibility but has not yet identified the source. Although the leak is estimated at 50,000 litres per day, Wessex Water classifies it as minor.
- iii) Steamalong – Cllr Watson requested the Highways inspection report following top dressing. The area superintendent confirmed that the road had undergone a post-winter inspection, which identified no issues with the work and it was confirmed that no remedial action is planned.
- iv) Road Closures – SC Highways does not automatically issue road-closure notifications, with details being available on the Causeway one.network website. The relevant link cannot be embedded on the Parish Council website, but individuals can register for updates covering specified areas.
- v) Lower Woodlands Lane – A resident reported that a steel plate positioned to cover a collapsed drain and drain has not yet been replaced and has been delayed repeatedly. They are following this up with Highways for updates.

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.

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: Cllr Westworth did not have any matters to report.

i) Badbury Ditch – The previously reported Wessex Water leak is filling the ditch and delaying the planned dredging works. Consideration is being given to arranging a tanker to remove the water so the work can proceed.

ii) Riparian responsibilities reminder letters will be sent out shortly.

e) VILLAGE HALL: The committee met in August and discussed possible installation of a projector and sound system. Possibility of grant funding for this will be investigated.

f) OTHER MATTERS: Council noted a complaint about dog walkers leaving waste on private property and in garden waste bins which were subsequently not emptied. Dog walkers are reminded to take waste home and dispose of it in black bins.

26/66 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA:

a) Saving/investment options

26/67 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED for future meetings to be held on the second Thursday, bi-monthly (continuing on the same bi-monthly schedule). Meetings will commence at the earlier time of 6.30pm.

Next meeting: Thursday 12 November.

EXEMPT BUSINESS: The Parish Council RESOLVES that in view of the confidential/sensitive/personal nature of the following matters, press and the public are to be excluded in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and were instructed to withdraw.

Members of the public left the meeting.

26/68 CLERK EMPLOYMENT TERMS

It was noted that the Clerk's original employment contract was outdated and did not meet current legislative requirements. RESOLVED to move the Clerk to a legally compliant contract based on the current SLCC/NALC model, as reviewed and agreed, with effect from 1 September 2026.

The contract will provide for eight hours per month, paid at NJC salary scale point SCP24.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20.42

Signed.....

Date.....

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ANNEX. 1 – PAYMENTS

Invoice date	Payee	Description	Amount
31/07/2026	K LARSSON	M4 BALANCING PAYMENT	
31/07/2026	HMRC	PAYE M4	
31/08/2026	K LARSSON	M5 BALANCING PAYMENT	
31/08/2026	HMRC	PAYE M5	
01/09/2026	ST MARYS CHURCH	GRASS CUTTING GRANT	£ 350.00
19/08/2026	TEEC LTD	WEB HOSTING & DOMAIN	£ 229.20
31/08/2026	K LARSSON	ADMIN	£ 5.14
Payments since the last meeting			
31/07/2026	K Larsson	Salary (m4)*	
31/08/2026	K Larsson	Salary (m5)*	
31/08/2026	Lloyds Bank	Service Fee x2	£ 8.50
31/08/2026	Unity Trust	Service Fee X2	£ 14.00

**Note, publication of staff salary and PAYE liabilities is restricted under GDPR*