

WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of West Quantoxhead Parish Council held on Wednesday 4th March 2026 at 7.30pm in West Quantoxhead Village Hall

Attendees:

WQPC Councillors:	Mr P Mote (Chairman), A Cottrell, Mrs P Gibbons, Mr M Philipson, Mr W Robinson, Mrs H Stamp
Somerset Councillors:	None
Avon & Somerset Constabulary:	None
Clerk:	Cllr H Stamp on behalf of Mrs M Francis (Parish Clerk)
Public:	One member

Apologies:

WQPC Councillors:	Cllr S Sherry
Somerset Councillors:	Hugh Davies
Other:	Mrs M Francis (Parish Clerk)

25/87	Apologies for absence as noted above and reason for absence approved
25/88	Declarations of interest: none
25/89	Approval of the Minutes from the last meeting held on 7th January 2026 It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting.
25/90	Matters from the Minutes – there were none.
25/91	Reports
25/91.1	<u>Avon and Somerset Constabulary</u> – The latest newsletter had been forwarded to members.
25/91.2	<u>Somerset Council</u> – The report received from Cllr Davies had been forwarded to members. The following points were noted: As at 24 th February 2026 the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) have confirmed that Somerset Council's request for £30m Exceptional Financial Support has been approved in principle. £25 million of this funding will be used to cover a budget gap & £5 million to support the further transformation of services. Government have now confirmed Somerset will be able to close the remaining gap using Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) in the form of a Capitalisation Direction. This will allow council to pay for day-to-day spending over a number of years funded by additional borrowing or selling under- utilised assets. From the 6 th April 2026, every person that keeps one or more primates must have a licence issued by their local authority.
25/91.3	<u>Quantock Hills JAC</u> - Cllr Philipson attended the recent all-day meeting at which the Management Plan was approved.
25/91.4	<u>Local Community Network (LCN)</u> - Cllr Philipson attended the recent online meeting. The LCN is keen to do something about the closed B3191 but a suitable alternative route needs to be found & funded. There was also discussion around a regular transport link from Minehead to Bridgwater but again it needs funding.
25/92	Correspondence
25/92.1	It was resolved to note the contents of the correspondence log. Members also received a parishioner letter at 7.12pm before this meeting at 7.30pm, so due to its late arrival, it will be discussed at the next meeting on 6 th May 2026.
25/92.2	Community Risk Management Plan engagement survey to consider our response: Cllr Philipson has responded to this survey in September 2025.
25/93	Finances
25/93.1	Current Financial Statement – the current account balance as of 4.3.2026 was £7168.82 which included ring fenced funds for the defibrillator of £1819.62 giving available reserves of £5349.20.
25/93.2	Bank reconciliation – it was agreed the Chairman would sign the reconciliation and was duly undertaken.

25/93.3	The meeting authorised the following cheques would be issued: Proposed Cllr Mote, seconded Cllr Gibbons					
	Date	Details	Cheque nos	Invoice nos	Total Bank £	VAT
	4.3.26	WQ Village hall hire 3/9/25, 5/11/25 & 7/1/26			22.00	0.00
	4.3.26	Fluid labs website hosting 12/24 (for 2025)		INV-2560	178.80	29.80
	4.3.26	Fluid labs website hosting 12/25 (for 2026)		INV-3993	178.80	29.80
25/93.4	Bank account – it was decided to stay with Lloyds bank for the time being but to apply for online banking to reduce charges.					
25/94	Planning					
25/94.1	Application No	Location	Description			
	3/38/26/001	Fields east of St Audries Bay Holiday Club, West Quantoxhead	Formation of trodden grass track and rope bridge from St Audries Holiday Club to the coast / beach (approximately 230m east)			
25/94.2	Decisions – none					
25/95	Highways Matters					
25/95.1	Corner of Luckes Lane – Cllr Philipson reported that the signage for the corner of Luckes Lane will be installed by Somerset Highways between 14 th – 16 th March 2026.					
25/95.2	The Avenue – the hedge encroaching on the road has finally been cut back by Somerset Highways but the owner of the land is responsible for the costs. Cllr Mote commented that the gully there leading into the culvert also need clearing out & that he would try & do that sometime.					
25/95.3	Weacombe Lane – this road is now open. There were 2 road issues – both have been fixed, although one may need further work at a later date.					
25/96	Village Defibrillator – this is all ready for use, including a light for use in the dark.					
25/97	Bleed Kit – we now have the Bleed Kit & Cllr Mote agreed to install it.					
25/98	Staple Diet – Cllr Gibbons offered to write a report for the next edition.					
25/99	Community Emergency Plan – Cllr Philipson had drafted a template for the Community Emergency Plan & circulated it to members. He proposed that we arrange an un-minuted meeting to work on the detail.					
25/100	Website and Councillor Email address – no further updates.					
25/101	Parish Assembly – 10th June 2026 – it was agreed to ask Steve Pickard to speak on the proposed West Somerset Lagoon, which is a £10 billion, 14-mile (22km) tidal power project in the Bristol Channel, stretching from Minehead to Watchet.					
25/102	Matters for the next meeting to be held on 6th May 2026: Community Emergency Plan, website & councillor email addresses, Bleed Kit, correspondence.					
	Future meeting dates:					
	6th May 2026; 1st July 2026; 2nd September 2026; 4th November 2026					
	The meeting closed at 8.30pm					

Signed:.....

Dated: