

Lydeard St Lawrence and Tolland Parish Council Meeting

Clerk to the Council: Neal Gossage

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Minutes of the Parish Council (PC) Meeting held in the Village Hall on 18th May 2026 at 7:15pm

Present: Cllrs Vickery (Chair), Telling, Oxley, Hobson, Marshall and Harding supported by Neal Gossage (Clerk).

Apologies: None

Absent: None

One member of the public was present

26.014 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items on the agenda.

26.015 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2026

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

26.016 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising other than an update on the playpark which is on the agenda.

26.017 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to discuss.

Cllr Harding noted that the second planning application for Dobles Farm has been turned down.

26.018 Somerset Council Matters

There was no update from Somerset Council to discuss.

It was noted that road resurfacing work is now progressing well and potholes are being filled fairly promptly.

WNV
6 July 2026

Cllr Harding expressed her thanks to Somerset Council for expediting that work.

26.019 Police and Crime Report

No police report was received this month even though diesel has been stolen from the parish and a house has been broken into. A car has also been stolen. The Council feels that more action from the police is required in relation to these crimes.

The Clerk noted that a new PCSO (Sean Johnson) has been appointed and the Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the PCSO at a future council meeting.

Action: Clerk

26.020 Insurance renewal

The combined insurance policy is due for renewal on 1 June 2026. Details of the cover (which had been previously circulated) were discussed and approved.

Cllr Hobson noted that the insurance premium has increased sharply this year and asked the Clerk to consider other providers in 2027.

26.021 Playpark equipment update

(a) Disposal of the slide

Cllr Oxley has identified somebody in the village who is prepared to remove the slide (and make good the site) and use it for their own purposes.

After some discussion, councillors were not happy with the proposal because the slide is not safe – especially the steps – and should be disposed of as soon as possible. It was agreed that a scrap merchant should be identified to remove the slide and make good the site. Cllr Oxley agreed to progress that.

Action: Cllr Oxley

(b) Proposed new play equipment

A proposal to supply and install new play equipment has been received and circulated to councillors for consideration. The cost of the new equipment will be considerably higher than the funds available to the council so if the project is to progress, additional funding will be required.

Cllr Oxley noted that the project could be carried out in stages but that could increase the overall cost of the equipment.

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After further discussion, councillors felt that the project should be carried out in one go if funding can be identified. The Clerk was asked to seek funding to see if that is possible.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Harding thanked Cllr Oxley for the work he has carried out on this project.

The Clerk noted that the annual inspection will be delayed slightly this year due to the unavailability of the inspector. The cricket club will arrange a new date for the inspection to be carried out.

26.021 Finance

(i) The following payments made since the last meeting were noted:

Clerk's expenses	£18.04
Clerk's pay	£161.72
HMRC PAYE	£107.20

(ii) The following payments were approved:

Clerk's expenses	£14.03
Clerk's Pay	£145.50
PAYE	£97.20
Internal Auditor's fee	£100.00
Zurich Insurance premium	£330.05

These payments were proposed by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Cllr Oxley and received unanimous support.

26.022 AGAR and year end documents

These documents (which had been previously circulated) were reviewed and approved as follows:

Management accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ended 31 March 2026

Proposed by Cllr Harding and seconded by Cllr Marshall. The motion received unanimous support

Asset register as at 31 March 2026

Proposed by Cllr Oxley and seconded by Cllr Marshall. The motion received unanimous support

CIL report for the year ended 31 March 2026

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Proposed by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Cllr Oxley. The motion received unanimous support

AGAR and Audit Report for the year ended 31 March 2026

This was discussed and the assertions and accounts in the Annual Governance Statement were reviewed and confirmed.

Proposed by Cllr Harding and seconded by Cllr Oxley. The motion received unanimous support

Proposed public rights dates for 2026

These dates were considered and approved.

Proposed by Cllr Marshall and seconded by Cllr Oxley. The motion received unanimous support

The Clerk was asked to place the Public Rights notice on the notice board and file the other documents with the external auditor and Somerset Council.

Action: Clerk

26.023 Any other business

Cllr Hobson reported that he has received some spam email into the new (.gov.uk) email account. Others noted a small number of such emails but spam email is now received by most people on a regular basis and should be deleted.

Cllr Telling thought that her new email account had been compromised but it appears that email received has come from a different email account. The Clerk offered to help Cllr Telling to get the account working properly.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:00.

Date of next meeting: Monday 6th July 2026 at 7:30pm at Lydeard St Lawrence Village Hall.

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