

BUTCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL (PC)

Minutes of meeting held at 18.30 on 7th February 2025 at Butcombe Village Hall

Attendees:

Councillor Dick Whittington, Chair (DW)
Councillor Trevor Mitchell (TM)
Councillor Jim Croker (JC)
Councillor John Rodaway (JR)
Councillor Justin Milward (JM)

Parishioners present: John Collins, Chris Barke, Carole Venner, Lindsay Rodaway, ? ?

Item 1. Apologies: -

Colm O'Doherty (CD), Ivor Metherell

Item 2. Declaration of Interests: -

None.

Item 3. Minutes of 13 December 2024 Meeting & Matters Arising: -

Deferred to next meeting

Item 4. Minor Works: -

4.1 - Proposal to allocate £3,000 in 2025/6 to ditch clearing and other minor works which North Somerset Council can no longer afford

The majority of those present, and the pre-meeting responses to the Chair, were in principle supportive. Concerns related to whether the PC should bear the cost of all the proposed ongoing minor works expenditure, particularly if some might not be considered essential. There are a number of points requiring further clarification with North Somerset Council, including the legal extent of landowner responsibility for ditches in verges, insurance liability and the availability of a map showing the presence of utility services that could affect ditch works.

An evaluation across the Parish is required in order to determine priorities.

Progress to be reviewed in late 2025, in order to inform any required precept increase for 2026/7.

4.2 - Proposal to clear the ditch at the bottom of The Batch; expected cost £2,000. Needs to be done by March

It was agreed that, in the light of the above points requiring clarification, there was insufficient time for this to be carried out before March.

4.2 - Plan to refurbish five traditional finger post signs which are now in a very poor state. Cost £1,600, of which we have £1,200 as a grant from Mendip AONB (subject to confirmation)

There was general agreement to this.

Date of next meetings, including Annual Parish Meeting: -

- Next Parish Council meeting - 4th April 2025
- Annual Parish Meeting - 9th May 2025

Distribution: All those present plus Village notice board and file.

Dick Whittington

Signed:

Date: