

# HATCH BEAUCHAMP PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Parish - Helen Chadwick

Hatch Green Farm Hatch Beauchamp Tel: 07879695904 Email: [hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com](mailto:hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com)

[www.hatchbeauchamp.com](http://www.hatchbeauchamp.com)

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of Hatch Beauchamp Parish Council held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** - Kevin Comer (Chair), Pippa Fowler (Vice Chair), Katie Piper, Sue Wright, Annette Cox, Nick Bridle and Andy Grant plus attendees as below and nine members of the public

**Apologies:** - Jan Walton, Shaun O'Dell, Cllr Wakefield, Cllr Henley

**In Attendance:** - Ms Chadwick as Clerk

### **Public Forum**

- A member of the public raised concerns about another road sign being left in the village following completion of roadworks. This has been reported to Somerset Council for collection.
- A vote of thanks to the Councillors and Chair was proposed by a member of the public, which was gratefully acknowledged.

### **1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair in accordance with Standing Order 5 f**

Kevin Comer has expressed his wish to stand down as Chair at this meeting. Councillors thanked Kevin for his excellent work as Chair. Annette Cox proposed Pippa Fowler as Chair and this was seconded by Andy Grant. Pippa Fowler was duly unanimously elected as Chair. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed. There being no one candidate willing to take the role of Vice Chair it was agreed that this would be rotate with each Councillor taking a turn.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Shaun O'Dell and Jan Walton. It was resolved that the apologies and the reasons for them be accepted.

### **3. Declarations of interest**

None

### **3. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Parish Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and of the Planning Committee Meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 were approved.

### **5. Community Updates and Councillor external contact reports**

#### **5.1 Greener Hatch Beauchamp**

A sunflower planting event on Good Friday was well attended. Another repair café date is planned for 7 June.

#### **5.2 Neighbourhood Plan**

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Signed: ..... Dated.....

The committee continues to work through changes to produce the final consultation report, with advice from Town Planner. This includes a change to the designation of the Orchard LGS in Station Road.

### **5.3 LCN update**

No update.

### **5.4 Footpath update**

Pippa and Annette continue to survey footpaths as volunteer Footpath Officers. Clerk to write to Somerset Council re the permissive path the other side of the A358

### **5.5 Any other reports**

Wessex Water are upgrading the treatment works to improve storm water drainage.

The Village Tidy was held and was again very successful, including litter picking, noticeboard and phone box tidying, weeding of the war memorial and cleaning of signs.

## **6. Insurance**

Councillors reviewed and agreed the insurance renewal.

## **7. Updates to Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct**

Councillors reviewed and approved the updated 2025 Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Code of Conduct as circulated in advance of the meeting

## **8. Projects for 2025/26**

Updates and costing of proposed project spend for 2025/26:

- **Road signs/ speed indicator device**  
Speed indicator device costings were discussed whilst the need is agreed in principle, it was agreed to get further quotes for rent and to buy. Nick to work with Andy to look at grant funding e.g. Somerset Community Foundation.
- **Noticeboards**  
Thanks to Pippa and family for mending the noticeboard by the school. A contribution to the cost of a new noticeboard for outside the village hall and previously pledged was agreed in principle at c £945.
- **Other maintenance items – bench at Hatch Green, signposts, railings at war memorial**  
It was agreed the Andy would restore the broken bench at Hatch Green. Clerk approved to paint railings and source clips for wreaths. Pippa to look into varnishing the benches at Home Orchard and the School.
- **Drains**  
Further review has been conducted and identified some serious issues. Next steps and costings to be circulated.

## **9. Finance**

### **9.1 Bank Reconciliation**

The Council approved the bank reconciliation.

### **9.2 Schedule of Cheques**

The Council approved the Schedule of Cheques as follows:

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Signed: ..... Dated.....

Summary of Payments Due									
To pay:									
Clerks wages	7 Mar to 9 May 9 weeks			606.15		13.47 x 9 weeks x 5 hrs			
Clerks expenses	Food for APM			52.46		For approval - cost less 2.5 bottles of wine not used - 50% to be charged to VH			
Clerks expenses	Paint for sign posts			64.00	722.61	For approval			
Zurich	Policy YLL - 2720866133			381.83		for completeness - approved by email			
Somerset Council	inv 30104280			37.54		Q4 dog bins			
Cheques to pay:				<u>1141.98</u>					

It was resolved not to pay the affiliation fee to SALC this year.

**9.3 AGAR**

The Council reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Report and the Certificate of Exemption for signature subject to completion of the internal audit.

**9.4 Annual Review of Risks**

The Council received and approved the Annual Review of Risks from the Clerk

**10. Agenda Items for next meeting**

- Vacancy – Jan Walton has expressed her wish to stand down as a Councillor. The Parish Council expresses their sincere thanks to Jan for her service.
- Further discussion on fundraising for speed indicator devices, Nick to assist.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

To be signed by the Chair at the next meeting (Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025):

The minutes reflect an accurate record of events subject to any amendments listed below.

Signed:

Print Name:

Date:

Amendments:

Produced by:  
**Helen Chadwick**, Clerk  
hatchbeauchamp.pc@gmail.com

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Signed: ..... Dated.....