

An ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was held on
Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Englefield Road, and was attended by the following:

Chair: Cllr. Paul

Councillors Present: Cllr. Hopcroft, Cllr. H.Hopkinson, Cllr. A.Hopkinson, Cllr. Church, Cllr. Watson & Cllr. Seto

Others In Attendance: Blaire Brodie - Assitant Clerk and two members of the public.

Minutes: Di Hughes – Operations Manager/Clerk

MINUTES

Agenda Item	Minute	Action Agreed	Vote (If required)
1.	<u>Apologies</u> Cllr. Clifford, Cllr. Coker, Cllr. Pert & District Councillor Macro. <u>Appoint Chairperson</u> Cllr. M. Paul was nominated and agreed to act as Chair for the meeting.	-	Proposed: JS Seconded: IH All in favour
2.	<u>Declaration Of Interest & Dispensations</u> None	-	-
7.35pm	Cllr. H Hopkinson & Cllr. A Hopkinson joined the meeting.		
3.	<u>Minutes Of The Previous Meeting</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2025 be approved as a true record. The Clerk gave an update on the 10k run proposal from Run Forest Run. 	-	Proposed: MP Seconded: AH All in favour
4.	<u>Open Meeting & Public Forum</u> Two residents from Station Road attended the meeting and outlined their objections to the proposed car wash, which was listed as a planning agenda item. They stated that their concerns were shared by their next-door neighbours. The Chair thanked them for attending and advised Councillors that the planning item would be brought forward to allow Council to discuss the matter further. The residents were invited to remain and listen to the discussion.	-	-

6.	<p><u>Planning Matters</u></p> <p>All planning matters were attached as an appendix and sent to the members in advance of the meeting. These are also available for members of the public to view on the TPC website.</p> <p><u>Planning Applications:</u> 25/02855/FUL - High Street West Car Park, High Street</p> <p>Planning Objection - TPC objects to this application for the following reasons:</p> <p>Unauthorised Works: The applicant has already erected canopies prior to obtaining planning permission.</p> <p>Inadequate Drainage: The site lacks appropriate drainage, which could result in unsuitable discharge into the existing drainage system, potentially causing environmental harm.</p> <p>Noise Disturbance: The proposed extended opening hours are likely to generate noise that would disturb nearby residents.</p> <p>Visual Impact: The canopy structure is not in keeping with the character of the surrounding area and would have a negative impact on the visual amenity of the site.</p> <p>Traffic Flow Concerns: The proposed car wash would increase traffic and cause further disruption in and around Station Road. Vehicles waiting to access the car wash may queue on the road, which would be particularly problematic during Co-op deliveries, when access to both the car park and the car wash could become obstructed.</p> <p>Overestimation of Capacity: The application states that the site can accommodate fifteen vehicles; however, the Council does not believe this is accurate based on the actual size and layout of the site, especially as two of the marked bays are allocated for Post Office staff.</p> <p>Council resolved to support the objections raised by residents of Station Road, which highlight the following concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Highway safety and access, including potential risks to road users. 2. Lack of credible evidence in relation to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Section 115. 3. Pedestrian safety, with reference to NPPF Section 110. 4. Noise impact on neighbouring properties, occurring seven days a week, which is considered to conflict with NPPF Section 135. 5. Drainage and pollution issues, which are not considered to comply with NPPF Section 180. 	Clerk to submit to responses WBC.	Proposed: AH Seconded: MC All in favour
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5.	<p><u>Monthly Reports</u></p> <p>a. District Cllr. Macro sent a written report in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>b. Cllr Clifford sent his apologies, and no report was available.</p> <p>c. The Clerk gave a verbal report which included an update on the water leak/flood in John Cumber Hall and the planned repairs.</p> <p>d. Cllr Seto raised concerns regarding the Recycling Bins on the High Street. Cllr Seto to request an agenda item for a future meeting so Council can discuss this matter and any actions required.</p> <p>Cllr Church raised concerns regarding roof tiles on 44 & 46 High Street. The Clerk asked for images of the problem areas so she could pursue this matter further with the owners.</p>	-	-
7.	<p><u>Finance & Accounts</u></p> <p>All finance matters were attached as an appendix and sent to the members in advance of the meeting. These are also available for members of the public to view on the TPC website.</p> <p>a. Website Accessibility Software: Council approved the quotation for the purchase of website accessibility software to comply with Assertion 10. Council discussed the matter and agreed to delegate authority to the Clerk to approve expenditure of up to £500. Council also agreed to enter into a multi-year contract where this would secure a discount and provide cost savings.</p> <p>b. Noted.</p> <p>c. Council approved all the invoices for payment.</p> <p>d. Noted.</p> <p>e. Council approved draft Financial Risk Register.</p>	<p>Cllr Seto & Cllr Paul to authorise payments.</p> <p>Clerk to make edits and provide final document at the next Council meeting.</p>	<p>Proposed: IH Seconded: HH All in favour</p> <p>Proposed: JS Seconded: MP All in favour</p> <p>Proposed: MC Seconded: IH All in favour</p>
8.	<p><u>Correspondence Received</u></p> <p>Correspondence where relevant is being sent to members via email.</p> <p>a. None.</p>		-

	<p>b. Traffic Consultation (WBC)</p> <p>Council considered the email received on behalf of WBC on the 5th January regarding the traffic consultation and agreed that no further action was required.</p>		
9.	<p><u>Budget 2026/2027</u></p> <p>Council received the revised draft budget, along with the Clerk's recommendations. However, until WBC confirm the tax base figure for 2026/2027, Council is unable to finalise the budget or set the precept.</p> <p>Council was advised that it may be necessary to call an Extraordinary Meeting to consider this matter, as the WBC deadline for submission is 31 January 2026.</p>	<p>Clerk to chase WBC for a response and call an Extra Ordinary meeting before the end of the month if needed.</p>	-
10.	<p><u>Community Event Dates 2026</u></p> <p>Council to note the Community Event dates planned for 2026, subject to budget ratification.</p> <p>Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 27th April</p> <p>May Day combined with Sports Day – Monday 4th May</p> <p>Outdoor Cinema – Friday 5th June</p> <p>Theale in Bloom – Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th June</p> <p>Village Fete – Sunday 5th July</p> <p>Beer & Live Music Festival – Sunday 5th July</p> <p>Remembrance Parade – Sunday 8th November</p> <p>Christmas Market – Saturday 28th November</p>		-
11.	<p><u>Date Of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Monday 9th February @ 7.30pm</p>	-	-

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Chair:  Date: 09/02/2026