

NORTON ST PHILIP PARISH COUNCIL

www.nortonstphilipparishcouncil.co.uk

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Clerk Nicola Duke, April Rise, 81 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 3HN, clerk@nortonstphilipparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on
Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Old School Room, Farleigh Hungerford.

Present: Cllr Hasell (Chairman), Cllr Fox, Cllr Curwen, Cllr Lund and Cllr Murfitt.

In attendance: Nicola Duke (Parish Clerk), SC Cllr Dawn Denton and SC Cllr Adam Boyden and 3 members of the public.

Public Participation

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern:

- A resident reported on outstanding enforcement issues relating to events being held at Farleigh House, outlining the background and history to the matter and asking for the PC's support in trying to reach a resolution through Somerset Council. Somerset Councillors Dawn Denton and Adam Boyden undertook to liaise with the appropriate officers to move this matter forward. A second resident spoke in support of the comments made, outlining the negative impact the events held at Farleigh House were having on residents.
- A resident reported on the issue with lighting at Pomeroy Farm, highlighting that the forms supplied by Wiltshire Council were difficult to complete. Somerset Cllr Dawn Denton and the Parish Clerk would liaise with the appropriate Wiltshire Councillor to seek support.

	AGENDA ITEM
9079	Apologies for Absence None.
9080	Declarations of Interest and Dispensations to Participate None.
90681	Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 12th March 2025 were approved for accuracy and adopted (proposed Cllr Murfitt, seconded Cllr Curwen).b) To consider any matters arising from the above meetings (if any): None.

9082	<p>Council Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman – No report. • Parish Clerk – No report. • County Councillors; Dawn Denton had provided a report, which had been circulated to members and was noted. Cllr Denton further reported on the voluntary liquidation of Malcolm Lippiat Homes, confirming this would have no bearing on the current works to resolve the s278 agreement at Longmead Close, on which she was still working. Adam Boyden reported the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He had attended an Environment Agency meeting relating to sewerage discharge in Farleigh Hungerford. Wessex Water would be required to improve matters. ○ The next LCN meeting was scheduled for 22nd April at 7.00 pm in Wanstrow Village Hall; the meeting would focus on developing infrastructure in support of new developments. ○ The D2 and D2X bus service was now back in operation and he was pleased to see NSP included in the route. ○ There was no update on the SC Local Plan. ○ Information was tabled on SC proposals for boundary reviews, which would see NSP move into a larger rural ward (North East Somerset). It was confirmed that the proposals were for single member wards and there would therefore be an overall reduction in Somerset Councillors from 110 to 96. Cllr Boyden had submitted alternative proposals. The Clerk would circulate the information provided post meeting. ○ SC were looking at 20 mph speed limits throughout the district however, requests for these needed to be initiated by the parish and town councils. It was felt that this was worth consideration and would be considered at a future PC meeting. • Other Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Palairt Hall – No report. ○ Church Mead Committee – No report. ○ Sustainable Norton St Philip – Cllr Lund had no report but confirmed she would submit a report covering the 2024-25 municipal for inclusion in the Annual Report.
9083	<p>Planning Applications, Matters and Appeals</p> <p>2025/0434/FUL - Southfield Bungalow Mackley Lane Norton St Philip Frome - Replacement of existing proposed dwelling (2022/1956/FUL) through redesign – Objection (proposed Cllr Fox, seconded Cllr Lund). The PC’s full comment is appended to the minutes.</p> <p>2025/0497/HSE - 4 Ringwell Norton St Philip Frome Somerset BA2 7NY - Erection of single-storey outbuilding following demolition of existing shed – Support (proposed Cllr Fox, seconded Cllr Hitchins).</p>

	<p>2025/0351/LBC - Hungerford Arms Trowbridge Road Farleigh Hungerford - Removal of the C20th fireplace stone infill from both east and west ground-floor fireplaces, installation of secondary glazing to the ground floor's front elevation – Support (proposed Cllr Fox, seconded Cllr Murfitt).</p> <p>2025/0589/FUL - Land At 377378 155203 Mackley Lane Norton St Philip Frome - Proposed erection of agricultural building and 3 stables and tack room – Objection (proposed Cllr Fox, seconded Cllr Lund). The PC's full comment is appended to the minutes.</p> <p>To receive and consider planning applications received after the issue of the agenda (<i>where the response time falls outside of the meeting schedule and an extension cannot be obtained</i>) – None.</p> <p>Planning Matters</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Wiltshire Council had referred the matter relating to light pollution from Pomeroy Farm, Wingfield to the Environmental Health team and forms had been provided for residents to record the detail. It had been noted during the public participation session that residents had expressed the view that the forms were difficult to process. Members noted that it had been agreed that support on this issue would be sought from the appropriate Wiltshire Councillor and Cllr Denton and the Clerk would take this forward.</p>																								
9084	<p>Financials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Council payments as listed were approved (proposed Cllr Hasell, seconded Cllr Lund).b) The Bank Reconciliation Statement March 2025 and the Consolidated Financial Position Statement as at 31st March 2025 had been prepared and would be circulated to members. The Clerk reported that just under £11,000 had been returned to the General Reserve at year end close down.c) The Clerk reported that the bank switch from NatWest to Unity Bank would be processed once the March payments had cleared. The bank signatories for Unity were working to ensure that they could access the online portal and, in the meantime, payments would be issued via cheque from Unity.																								
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9085	<p>Traffic Action Group, Highways and Footpaths</p> <p>Cllr Fox provided the below updates on the work of the Traffic Action Group:</p> <p>A366 safety MP Anna Sabine was representing TAG's concerns amongst other parishes to Richard Wilkins, LibDem Councillor at Somerset Council and Lead Member for Transport and Waste Services. TAG members agreed it was prudent to wait for her feedback before taking the case back to Somerset Highways.</p> <p>Speed Indicator Devices After much discussion on ways to download the data collected by the SIDs and to control messages for school times, the next step was to test on a PC since Macs were not compatible with ElanCity's software. Permissions for two more SID sites had been requested from Somerset Highways. Once permission was given, grants would be sought from Avon and Somerset Police, making four in total across Norton St Philip plus one alternative unit at Farleigh Hungerford.</p> <p>Pedestrian safety TAG thanked the PC for its financial support for the survey. The response had been very good indeed.</p> <p>Of 700 survey forms delivered to households: Farleigh Hungerford and Norton St Philip: 126 responses Faulkland yet to be counted but we estimate over 30 responses Representing a response rate of between 20 and 25%</p> <p>This demonstrated the strength of feeling in the parish. There would need to be a generous period of time to collate and report on these responses over the summer.</p> <p>White painted stones at top of Bell Hill These three stones had been placed on the public highway by concerned residents of Bell Hill to protect themselves and other pedestrians from west-bound vehicles driving onto the pavement at speed to avoid traffic coming up the hill to the crossroads. There was no room for two vehicles to pass at this point but impatient drivers used the narrow pavement to squeeze past each other. It was felt the stones would discourage this and for the few days they were there it did seem to make a difference. But as a result of two complaints to the Parish Council that they constituted a trip hazard the residents had decided to remove the stones until further notice.</p> <p>Bollards at the Old Shop on the High Street No progress yet to report.</p> <p>White lining replenishment Somerset Highways had requested and been given lists of road markings requiring relining in the parish over the coming months.</p>
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9086	<p>School Crossing Patrol</p> <p>Members considered providing financial support for the school crossing patrol with it being noted that the PC had allocated £500 towards support of the patrol in June 2022, reconfirming this in February 2021 and indicating in March 2021 that it would be sympathetic to any request to increase this allocation to £1,000 p.a. Cllr Hitchins reported that volunteers had been operating the scheme for the past three years but some members had now left the group, partly due to the level of commitment required, and more members were expected to also resign. It was felt that it would be more sustainable for the school to employ someone to take on the patrol (potentially in house). Following debate it was resolved to allocate the sum of £1,000 in support of employment costs (proposed Cllr Hasell, seconded Cllr Fox). The Clerk was asked to write to the Head Teacher accordingly.</p>
9087	<p>Land Registry Issue, NSP</p> <p>Members noted that the Church Mead Recreation Ground, the easement relating to the new water main across adjoining land and the Pound were unregistered with the Land Registry and considered seeking legal advice to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Register Church Mead at the Land Registry in the PC's name, Review the Easement and register at the Land Registry on both the Old Vicarage and Church Mead titles (the landowner being supportive of this action) and Register the Pound at the Land Registry in the name of the PC; if this should not be possible to register as common land. <p>Following debate, it was resolved to refer the matter to Harris and Harris solicitors (proposed Cllr Hasell, seconded Cllr Murfitt).</p>
9088	<p>Neighbourhood Plan for Norton St Philip</p> <p>Members considered any response to the Examiner's additional comments dated 31st March 2025 (previously circulated). It was reported that the main amendments related to the relocation of some of the policies within the document and that there was no material change to the substance of the Plan. The draft response prepared by the PC was therefore approved for submission (proposed Cllr Hitchins, seconded Cllr Fox).</p>
9089	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>None.</p>
9090	<p>Parish News</p> <p>Members agreed the below listed items for inclusion in the next edition of Parish News:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Meetings • S106 funds – request for project suggestions • Normal PC meeting update
9091	<p>Meeting schedule</p>

	<p>Wednesday 13th May 2025 – Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Council Meeting – Palaiet Hall, Norton St Philip. It was noted that the Clerk would send out the invitations to submit reports for inclusion in the Annual Report the following day.</p>
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There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.40 pm.