

**MINUTES OF THE BARWICK AND STOFORD ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BARWICK AND STOFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
ON WEDNESDAY 15th of April 2026, 19:00**



Present – Councillors (Cllrs):

Gwen Findlay – Chair (GF), Ray Sibley (RS), Rob Bruckel (RB), Jackie Unsworth (JU), Rebecca Kilburn (RK).

In attendance:

Kate Fullerton – Parish Clerk.

I. Public session – an opportunity for the public to speak.

There were no public session items.

II. Somerset Council Councillors' report

County Cllrs Hewitson and Patrick had circulated their report ahead of the meeting.

19:15 – Meeting opened.

1/26/001 To receive and consider any apologies for absence and resolve to accept or refuse them

Apologies were received from Cllrs Wrixon, Entwistle and Fenner.

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies.

2/26/002 To receive declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3/26/003 Planning

a) To comment on new planning applications.

There were no new planning applications.

b) To consider any recent planning applications from Somerset Council (South), received in the days after the agenda has been circulated and before this meeting. Residents and parish councillors; please refer to (South) Somerset Council planning portal for details of planning items that might be discussed under this item: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

i. 26/00567/LBC – Barwick and Stoford County Primary School, Barwick, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 9TH – Underpinning to single wall of front entrance porch (6m² floor area approx.) plus external repointing and internal plasterwork, crack repair and redecoration.

RESOLVED: To support the application.

c) Determination of applications.

There were no determinations.

4/26/004 To approve the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 18th of March 2026

RESOLVED: The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

5/26/005 To review actions from the minutes of the last meeting

Members reviewed the actions and were satisfied with the progress made.

- Clerk to forward Cllr Bruckel the information for uploading the SID data.

ACTION: Clerk

Signed:..... (Chair) Date:

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6/26/006 Public Works Lending Board (PWLB) Loan – next steps

Members agreed to put the loan application on hold until the budget costing for the project had been received. The budget costing would inform the loan amount required.

ACTION: Clerk

7/26/007 Finance and regulatory information

- a) To consider the purchase of a replacement bin(s) at Whitcross Recreation Ground (grant). It was reported that the dog foul bin on Court Road-side of the playing field was broken.
RESOLVED: To purchase two large mixed waste bins and to move the Whitcross-side dog foul bin to replace the faulty bin on Court Road-side.

ACTION: Clerk

- b) To review the Risk Register and consider any amendments/additions.
RESOLVED: To adopt the Risk Register.
The Clerk was asked to re-send Chair training information to RB.

ACTION: Clerk

- c) To receive the bank reconciliation for all bank accounts.
Received, showing a capital balance of £532,369.47 as of the 31st March 2026 (year-end).

- d) To receive the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2026.
The financial statements were received and reviewed.

- e) To note receipt of the sum of £34,812, the first of two precept payments from Somerset Council.
Receipt of the sum was noted.

- f) To note the reduced employer LGPS pension contribution of 17.9% (previously 22.3%) for the period 1st of April 2026 to 31st of March 2029.
The reduced employer pension contribution was noted.

- g) To note the NALC pay point increase (pay point 31) for the Clerk, as of 1st April 2026.
The pay point increase to pay point 31 was noted.

- h) Invoices and payments:

i.	K Fullerton – Clerk salary April 2026	£ 1049.84
ii.	K Fullerton – Clerk expenses and reimbursements for April 2026	£ 146.74
iii.	HMRC – PAYE April 2026.	
iv.	Somerset Pension Fund – Clerk pension April 2026	£ 334.36
v.	SALC – Inv 2861 Affiliation fee 26/27	£ 552.96
vi.	JCP Structural Engineers – Inv 46005 community hub	£ 3378.00
vii.	Premier Landscaping – Ranger April & Grass Maint.	£ 692.00
viii.	Octopus Energy – Whitcross February 2026 DD	£ 51.60

RESOLVED: To approve all payments and for two councillors to sign the cheques.

ACTION: RS, GF

8/26/008 Community Hub Development Working Group

- a) To calculate maximum use of the showers in the new building.
Members accepted the estimation by the local football club manager, of five games a week, as being likely the maximum use.
- b) To consider two quotes to complete an SBEM calculation and provide as-built EPC certificate for the community hub, to comply with Building Regulations.
RESOLVED: To accept the cheapest of the quotes; 3E Assessment at a cost of £275-330.

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- c) To receive an updated budget figure for the building of the new community hub. The budget costing had not yet been received.
- d) To review progress on the Football Foundation grant application - £25,000. In-progress and pending a budget costing and confirmation of the PWLB loan, to complete.
- e) To receive an update from the fundraising working group – RK, RS, NE, RB. There was nothing to report at the time.

ACTION: RK, RS, NE, RB

9/26/009 To consider any urgent highway issues

- a) The Green, Stoford – double yellow lines installation – date to meet with Andy Barron of Somerset Council. The Clerk is waiting for Andy Barron to confirm a site date to meet with RB.
- b) To receive the Non-safety Defect Report. The report had not been received.

10/26/010 Footpaths.

There was nothing to report.

11/26/011 To discuss Ranger Matters

- Agreed in principle to the Ranger spending one day/two men litter picking on Two Tower Lane and Newton Road. Ranger to assume responsibility for safety and working on the road. The Ranger has the appropriate Chapter 8 training to work safely on the highway.

ACTION: Clerk, TF, Ranger

12/26/012 Speed Indicator Device (SID)

There was nothing to report.

13/26/013 Whitcross Recreation Ground – items to pass to the Recreational Trust

There was nothing to report.

14/26/014 To judge the school children’s entries for the ‘Tyres Competition’.

RK displayed the children’s artwork entries and each councillor selected their favourite. Prizes would be awarded to the winning entries at the Annual Parish Meeting on the 22nd of April 2026.

15/26/015 Annual Parish Meeting arrangements, 22nd April 2026, 7.30pm

- GF will host.
- NE will present on the Community Hub Project.
- RK to present school children tyre competition prizes – 1 x £10 Amazon voucher to each winner.
- Litter pick group to award junior litter pick equipment to the primary school.
- Promote the need for volunteers to sit on the Community Hub Management Committee.
- Promote parish council, casual vacancies, upcoming end of term resignations (May 2027).
- Various community organisations to share updates on their activities.

16/25/194 The Green, Stoford

- a) To receive the Tree Survey.

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*Barwick and Stoford
Parish Council*

- The report had not yet been received.
- b) To receive the tree maintenance plan.
The maintenance plan had not yet been received.

ACTION: Clerk

17/26/017 To record correspondence received.

All correspondence had been emailed to members before the meeting.

- BT phone box removal costs – councillors were considering options to make good the site of the BT box after removal. Members asked the Clerk to add an item to the May agenda – to consider planting a tree in the spot where the BT box had been sited.

ACTION: Clerk

18/26/018 Items for the next Agenda

- Community Hub project costing (May).
- Casual vacancies – currently two (May).
- Promote parish council activities (May).
- PWLB Loan (May).

ACTION: Clerk

19/26/019 The date of the next meeting(s)

- Annual Parish Council Meeting: Wednesday 20th of May 2026, 7pm, Barwick and Stoford Primary School.
- Annual Parish Meeting: 22nd of April 2026, 7.30pm, The Royal Oak Stoford.
- Recreational Trust Meeting: TBA.

20.34 – Meeting closed.

Signed:..... (Chair) Date: