

North Cadbury & Yarlington Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 25th February 2026** in The Reading Room, North Cadbury commencing at 7.00pm

Councillors Present:

Nick Garrett (Chairman)

Caroline Bowen

Andy Keys-Toyer

Clare Leavold

John Rundle

John Whitehead (Vice-Chairman)

Chris Jose

Cameron Knee

Nerissa Northover

Maria Viney

In Attendance: Somerset Councillors Henry Hobhouse and Kevin Messenger, the Clerk and seven members of the public (MOP).

❖ **In Memoriam for Mr David Handley:**

The Chairman invited Mr Malcolm Hunt, retired PC Chairman, to say a few words in memoriam for our friend and colleague Mr David Handley, who sadly died on 31st January 2026. David had served for eight years with the PC and as Vice-Chairman from May 2011 to April 2019. He had provided invaluable contributions and advice on legal and police matters and also oversaw such unfashionable matters as the Precept and Standing Orders. Mr Hunt asked those present to stand for a moment in respect for his memory.

❖ **Public Question and Comments:**

A member of the public (MOP) expressed her wish for the PC to retain the North Cadbury notice boards at North Town, Chapel Lane and Woolston, which are beyond economic repair and on the agenda for discussion at item 26/23.

A MOP had emailed the PC with their questions regarding the pre-application for the Brookhampton Development, to which the Chairman was able to provide the following answers provided by Origin 3:

- “All the wildlife surveys have been carried out, just waiting on the Ecological Consultants to issue their reports. Should be received within the next 3-4 weeks.
- The Construction Management Plan would not be developed until the final scheme has been finalised. We have only recently received the core pre-app response from the Council and so currently working on the next iteration of the scheme.
- Origin 3 will respond to any outstanding questions, once we have finalised the next version of the scheme.
- Work is on hold with Yeovil Rivers Community Trust (YRCT) due to Council's delay and will re-engage with Lorne Thompson, Chairman YRCT, once we have made progress on this next iteration.”

❖ **Reports from Somerset Council:**

a. Councillor Henry Hobhouse reported as follows:

- Somerset Council is to increase its precept by 4.99%. The budget was balanced for the next FY, however, it was extremely doubtful for the following FY. The Government

had agreed to pay off 90% of SC's loan, however that left £11m outstanding, which will have risen exponentially by the time the Government expected the loan to be repaid.

- The Government has approved in principle SC's request for £30m in Exceptional Financial Support against its assets. £25m will be used to cover a budget gap and £5m to support the further transformation of services. SC had significantly reduced its projected funding gap from £101m in March 2025 to £25m in February 2026.

- SEND criteria is undergoing significant changes, which may mean there will be more SEN children in main stream schools.

- Wessex Water would soon be digging up Cary Road, North Cadbury to lay a new pipe, after which the road would be resurfaced.

b. Cllr Kevin Messenger reported as follows:

- SC recently approved the £15m plans to revamp and reopen the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil, which would mainly be funded by grants. It is hoped the changes will mean the theatre can host a wider range of productions, with more complicated sets and attract bigger acts/shows.

- Local MPs Sarah Dyke and Adam Dance have been challenging the Government to do more to prevent flooding in Somerset and the effect floods are having on Somerset's residents, agriculture, state of the roads etc.

(Cllr Hobhouse left the meeting at 7.25pm)

26/16. Apologies for absence:

To receive any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Richard Rundle. Zoe Young, Community Liaison Officer for The Newt, also tendered her apologies.

26/17. Declarations of Interests:

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and NALC Model Code of Conduct adopted May 2022. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: None received.

26/18. Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the ordinary PC meeting held on Wednesday 28th January 2026.

RESOLVED: The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

26/19. Planning:

a. Somerset Council Decisions:

i. **PA 25/02807/S73A.** Application to remove Conditions 05 (Non-Licensed Working Method Statement) and 10 (Biodiversity Enhancement Plan) and to vary Condition 07 (Landscape Plan) relating to planning consent 21/00968/FUL; Demolition of 2 No. Pratten huts (detached timber-clad temporary buildings) and replacing with 3 No. classrooms in a single-storey extension at North Cadbury C Of E School Chapel Lane North Cadbury Yeovil Somerset BA22 7DE – **APPROVED.**

26/20. Finance:

a. **Balance of the Council's Bank Account & Bank reconciliation:**

To receive the full council accounts and bank reconciliation.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts, which were agreed and Lloyds Bank balances at 31st January 2026 in the Community Account £1,064.68 and Business Bank Instant Account of £39,105.85, reconciled, approved and signed.

b. Accounts for payment:

To review and approve a schedule of items of expenditure:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| i. North Cadbury Playing field maintenance grant | £1,482.50 |
| ii. North Cadbury replacement battery for defibrillator | £267.60 |
| iii. WesternWeb Ltd. Web space renewal | £102.00 |
| iv. Galhampton Village Hall hire 28 Jan 26 | £24.00 |

RESOLVED: Items of expenditure approved unanimously.

c. Grant Applications:

i. Yarlington Village Hall: To consider application for a grant of £1,500 towards the purchase of two bespoke marquee sides to enclose covered patio at rear of Hall.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Leavold and Viney understood that there may be marquee sides available that fit the patio. Cllr Keys-Toyer agreed to find out if the sides were available and in a suitable condition. Cllrs agreed unanimously to approve a grant in principle of £1,500 if the sides were not available/suitable.

ii. Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance: To consider request for contribution towards portable life-saving medical equipment for the aircraft.

RESOLVED: A grant of £300 was approved unanimously from S137 funds.

iii. Crimestoppers South West: To consider request for a community safety grant of £200 to help increase reporting of crime, improve public confidence to report and increase community safety.

RESOLVED: Cllr agreed unanimously to not approve a grant.

26/21. Provision of Community Public Access Defibrillators (cPADs):

Update on the provision of additional cPADs and training.

RESOLVED: The Clerk agreed to order and arrange delivery of the second cPAD for installation in Brookhampton.

Village Hall representatives agreed to follow up with the Village Hall Committees on the offer of training from Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and the PC donation towards the training if the Committees could provide the venue and arrange the training.

Cllr Viney agreed to investigate further whether defibrillators registered with the Ambulance Service received free maintenance support/servicing/parts.

26/22. Parish Website:

To approve the provision of a new or improved parish website.

RESOLVED: Deferred to next meeting in the absence of Cllr R Rundle.

26/23. Parish Noticeboards:

To consider proposal to remove the North Cadbury notice boards at North Town, Chapel Lane and Woolston, which are beyond economic repair.

RESOLVED: Following on from Public Session, Cllrs agreed to put notices in the 'condemned' notice boards advising that the boards were due to be removed and not replaced; if residents wished to keep them they should contact the Clerk.

26/24. Highways and Rights of Way (RoW) Report:

PC Representatives to provide progress reports and to consider gully and drain clearance.

RESOLVED:

a. Highways. Cllr Jose presented his report, which can be found at Attachment 1. The Clerk agreed to send the report to the Local Community Network (LCN) Highways WG for discussion at the next meeting on 3rd March and to Cllr Richard Wilkins, Lead Member for Transport and Waste Services.

b. RoW. The Chairman reported that he had received a comprehensive update from the Parish Paths Liaison Officer (PPLO), for which the PC is very grateful. He read out the report, which can be found at Attachment 2.

Please can all members of the parish continue to report any issues via the Explore Somerset website - <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map#>

26/25. Cam Catchment Resilience Project (CCRP) reports:

PC representatives to provide progress reports.

RESOLVED: Cllr Whitehead presented the report, which can be found at Attachment 3.

26/26. North Cadbury and Yarlington Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Monitoring:

Update.

RESOLVED: Cllr Keys-Toyer circulated a report in advance of the planning meeting at Land Orchard Cottage, Frog Lane, Galhampton, which compared the plans with how they might sit with the NP. Cllrs agreed that the report was excellent and would be most helpful for future applications on a similar or larger scale that may have an impact.

26/27. Local Community Networks LCNs:

Reports.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that it would be beneficial for those that could attend, to go to the South East Highways LCN meeting on Tuesday 3rd March 10.30am to 12.00pm in The Market Place, Castle Cary Town Hall.

26/28. Items for Report and Future Business:

- a. Parish Website. To approve the provision of a new or improved parish website on the next agenda.
- b. Clerk Recruitment. The Chairman and Cllrs Bowen, John Rundle and Viney agreed to form the Personnel Committee to interview applicants for the vacancy, which would be advertised shortly.

Next meeting: Ordinary meeting to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 25th March 2026 in Galhampton Village Hall.

There being no further matters for discussion, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

Signed
Chairman

Dated