MONKTON COMBE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held in the Village Hall on 6th January 2026 at 7.00pm

		Parish Council Members Present: Cllr Adelle Brenner, Cllr. Penny Tranter, Cllr. Mike Wareham, Cllr Des Wighton, Cllr. Mark Womersley, Mr. Geoff Davis – Clerk. **Others present**: Ward Cllr. Fiona Gourley, Mr. Oli Treasure, Mr. David LeTall
1	**542**	**To receive apologies for absence –** None
2	**543**	**Declarations of interest and dispensations –** None.
3	**544**	**Confidential Matters –** It was resolved to exclude the Public for Agenda Item 6 – Car Park.
4	**545**	**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th November 2025** approved and signed by the Chair.
5		**Financial Matters**
	546	**RFO Report and Payments for Approval -** The RFO Report was received, noted and signed by the Clerk and Cllr. Des Wighton.
	547	**Bank Balances as at 01.11.2025** Current Metro Bank £1,325.25 Bath Building Society £27,502.84 Metro Bank Savings £3,134.27 Bath Building Society (Miss Davis) £12,332.45
	548	**Receipts since meeting on 11th November 2025** 12 28/11/2025 MetroBank Interest Nov 2025 2.19
	549	**Payments approved as standing payments or at meeting on 11th November 2025 which have now been made.** IN25-1228 20/11/25 WJP Software .gov.uk ANNUAL DOMAIN NAME RENEWAL 42.00 MCPCNov25ER 23/10/25 Elise Rowley Pay 27th October to 23rd November 2025 380.40 MCPCNov25GD 23/10/25 Mr. G. Davis Pay 27th October to 23rd November 2025 372.36 120PH002922852608 03/11/25 HMRC Month 8 Paye 100.25 MCPCDec25ER 18/12/25 Elise Rowley Pay 24th Nov to 28th Dec 2025 385.50 MCPCDec25GD 18/12/25 Mr. G. Davis Pay 27th 24th Nov to 28th Dec 2025 450.20 120PH002922852609 02/01/26 HMRC Month 9 Paye 134.47 MCPC5582 19/12/25 Jeff Avis Gdn Svces Miss Davis Garden Annual Hedge cutting 180.00
	550	**Payments for Approval at Meeting on 6th January 2026 - None**
	551	**Community Infrastructure Report and proposed projects.** The various proposals identified on the CIL Report were discussed. The projects were agreed:- A Playpark Slide at approx. £4,000, and Ward Cllr. Fiona Gourley will contribute grant funding of £350 from her Ward Councillors Empowerment Fund. An Information board for the Church Wall will now be covered by grant funding from the Cotswolds National Landscaper Trust.
	552	**Budget 2026/27 and Parish Precept.** The Parish Council resolved to accept the Budget presented by the Clerk. A Precept of £13,485 was given in this budget, which gave a Balanced Budget with Payments equalling Receipts for the year. This Precept figure of £13,485 is a decrease of 1.3% from the current year value of £13,661. It does, nonetheless, represent a small increase of 1.76% in the Average Household Contribution, because the Tax Base has decreased from 190.24 to 184.54 (i.e. there are less Council Tax payers this coming year). On the basis of this analysis, the Parish Council further resolved to set the Precept at this £13,485.
6		**Parish Council Matters and Works**
	553	**Parish Councillor Vacancy –** Mr Oli Treasure indicated that he was willing and able to stand as Councillor. Cllr. Adelle Brenner proposed his election and this was seconded by Cllr. Mark Womersley and carried unanimously. Mr Oli Treasure and the Clerk duly signed his Acceptance of Office.
	554	**Parish Councillor Responsibilities –** Cllrs. to review the allocation of responsibilities at the next meeting.
		Parish Council Equipment and Facilities – Checks by Councillors.
	555	**Car Park –** The Clerk gave a report on the Title Documents covering all areas of the Village Hall and surrounding parcels of land in the Parish Council's possession. There was clarity of Title on all parcels save for the Car Park itself. The Clerk was asked to investigate this Title further.
	556	**Village Playground –** The Chair is seeking further alternative proposals to those from Sutcliffe Play Ltd., for the addition of a slide without the removal of some other equipment. Ward Councillor Empowerment funding of £350 has been made available from Cllr. Fiona Gourley, and it is hoped the project can be completed this financial year. **Neighbourhood Watch –** Nothing to report. **Lockup Repairs** – Nothing to report.

Approved and signed Tuesday 10th March 2026 ..... Chairman

		Miss Davis Garden – Nothing to report
	557	**Village Hall –** The Burns Night event will take place on January 24th.
	558	**Church Wall Noticeboard** **A Proposal from resident David LeTall for an information Board** was presented to the meeting with the Clerk outlining the costs and funding from the Cotswolds National Landscape (CNL) Trust. He pointed out that other than meeting the costs upfront, there was no cost to the Parish Council as the available £1,500 grant from CNL exceeded the overall costs. David LeTall then explained the outline design and content of information board. After much discussion it was agreed that a further meeting was needed, and this was scheduled for Tuesday 20th January 2026, at 7:30 p.m. in the Wheelwrights Pub. The group would consist of Des Wighton, David Le Tall, James Bradby, and other Councillors who were interested and available. The Clerk will endeavour to provide an accurate scale drawing of the Churchyard Wall to aid the design process.
	559	**The Clerk was instructed** that should a sufficiently detailed design be agreed, he should then expedite the necessary Planning Application and Purchase orders to implement the project.
	560	**Combe Down Allotments** – It was reported that all Plot Holders have now vacated the allotments. Some having been allocated plots elsewhere within the Bath area. So, unfortunately the matter is now closed.
7		**Planning** **Applications Received**
	561	**25/04293/FUL - Monks Hill, Shaft Road, Monkton Combe, Bath BA2 7HL** - Erection of a timber carport and garden room. **No Comment**
		Decisions Pending None
	562	**Planning Decisions by B&NES & Wiltshire** **25/03452/CLPU - Westbury View, Shaft Road, Monkton Combe, Bath BA2 7HN -** Proposed siting of a 'Caravan' within the curtilage of dwellinghouse to be used as ancillary accommodation incidental to existing main dwellinghouse (Certificate of Lawfulness for a Proposed Development). **LAWFUL** **PLANNING APPEALS** - None **ENFORCEMENT UPDATE -** None **Other Planning Matters to Report**
	563	**Call for sites for Gypsy and Traveller pitches (GTAA) –** It was reported that as part of the New Local Plan, B&NES Council are calling for these sites.
	564	**Somersetshire Coal Canal and the Wansdyke - Proposed policy maps** – The Parish Council has responded to this Option for the New Local Plan, indicating that they consider it an unnecessary encumbrance on those landowners affected.
8		**Highways and Footpaths.**
	565	**Temporary Closure of Public Footpaths BA16/2 & BA22/18, Tucking Mill Reservoir and Diversion Via BA16/1** – The Clerk has reminded B&NES PROW and Wessex Water of the urgent need to repair the diversion route.
	566	**Missing Footpaths - Mount Pleasant and Shaft Road & Church Lane Parking issues –** Both having been Identified as potential projects for a Virtual Pavement as a CIL project, Ward Cllr. Fiona Gourley was asked to facilitate a meeting with B&NES Highways to discuss both of these.
9		**Reports**
	567	**PARISH LIAISON MEETING –** Next Meeting – Weds. 18 March 2026 – at the Recycling Hub, Keynsham **Bath Preservation Trust** – Nothing to Report
	568	**School** – The Chair will try to arrange the next meeting for the Easter period.
10		**Correspondence Received** - None
11		**Other matters to report - None**
12	**569**	**Date of Next Meetings -** The agreed dates for the year were confirmed:- Tuesday 10th March 2026 - Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 7th April 2026 at 7:30 p.m. Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 19th May 2026 – Annual Parish Council Meeting - Audit and Annual Return.
		The meeting Closed at 21:20

Approved and signed Tuesday 10th March 2026 ..... Chairman