

UPPER MARSHWOOD VALE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: John Vanderwolfe FILCM Chartered MCIPD

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Minutes of a Council Meeting held at Bettiscombe Village Hall on Thursday 18th September 2025, commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllr's E Rowe (Chairman), S Forsey, E Blackburn, J Gillingham, B Lumsden, J Piper, C Rabbetts, F Bailey and D Wyatt

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr J Vanderwolfe, and two members of the public.

120	Apologies Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council).
121	Declarations of Interest under the Upper Marshwood Vale Code of Conduct Cllr Rowe declared a pecuniary interest in planning application P/TRT/2025/05488 to fell an Oak tree as this was his property. He would leave the meeting prior to any discussions taking place.
122	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 17 th July, having been previously distributed; were accepted as a true record.
123	Matters Arising The lengthsman had cleared the war memorial area and had the erection of the remaining bench in hand, to hopefully be completed over the next couple of weeks.
124	Democratic Period The representative of the Community Trust informed the meeting that two fingerposts had now been replaced. The trust had provided £500 to the Marshwood School for their play area. He asked a question about the council's comments relating to the impending Dorset Plan; and also, whether Dorset Council would fund the referendum and Inspectors cost for a review of the

	Upper Marshwood Local Plan. The clerk would ask Cllr Christopher to investigate this matter through the officers of Dorset Council.
125	<p>Dorset Council Report</p> <p>Cllr S Christopher had forwarded a report prior to the meeting, which had been circulated to members. Members noted the report.</p>
126	<p>Accounts for Payment and Financial Update.</p> <p>Accounts for Payment: Stoke Abbott PCC £300.00, S Lee £252.00 and Fly Software £7.19. All ratified for payment.</p> <p>The bank balance as of 11th September 2025 stood at £31,677.83.</p> <p>A bank mandate to include additional authorised signatures was produced.</p>
127	<p>Casual Vacancy</p> <p>There were two applicants to fill the vacant position on the council, Samantha Jane Martin and Alexander Hamilton Richards. On going to the vote Alexander Hamilton Richards was elected</p>
128	<p>Local Plan</p> <p>Members to look at the proposed Dorset Local Plan and see if they fee that a special meeting was required prior to the deadline of the 28th October 2025.</p>
129	<p>Village Gateway</p> <p>Helen Goulding had forwarded details of this proposal to members a few days ago. She explained that whilst a number of speed reduction ideas had been tried, none of them had worked, and the police had stated that the average speed through the Marshwood village was one of the highest in Dorset. Members felt that this was a good idea, but that there was a need to explore the costs. It was understood that the CLT was willing to consider some funding, The clerk stated that there was a need to liaise with Dorset Highways. He felt that a meeting with our highways officer and Cllr Christopher would be a good idea.</p>
130	<p>Finger Posts</p> <p>No update had been received from Mr Beer.</p>
131	<p>Speed Indicator System</p> <p>Had been dealt with in the report from Helen Goulding</p>

132	Planning P/TRC/2025/05280 Anchor House, Village Street, Stoke Abbott: Fell Macrocarpa and Silver Birch. No objections P/TRT/2025/05488 Church Cottages Access Road, Bettiscombe: Fell one Oak. No objections
133	Highway Matters The road a Marshwood between Greenacres and Flaxhorn Cottage will be closed on the 1 st October to enable Wessex Water to repair a defect. Pilsdon Lane will be closed from 29 th September until 10 th October and from 26 th October until 29 th October to enable highways to deal with road repairs.
134	Right of Way A confirmation email had been sent to confirm the council were satisfied with the proposed diversion of the footpath at Lodge House Farm.
135	Correspondence Relevant correspondence is emailed to members when the clerk receives it
136	Matters of Urgency Nil
137	Items for Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of former telephone box
137	Closing of Meeting The meeting was closed by the chairman at 7.45pm
138	Next Meeting Thursday 20 th November 2025 at 7pm.

Signature of Chairman -----

Date -----