

Minutes of the Ordinary Cutcombe Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27th January 2026 in the Edwin Beckett Room, Moorland Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Eric Norman (Chair), Oliver Yiend (Vice Chair), Sarah Cook, Roger Foxwell, Richard Norman, Hazel Crockford

In attendance: Liz Stitt – Clerk, Cllr Frances Nicholson, Cllr Steven Pugsley

Item	Minutes	Action
	Public Question Time. No members of the public were present, and no public comments were made.	
26/01	To receive Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Cllr Jon Levenson.	
26/02	To receive declarations of Interest. Cllr E. Norman, The Rest & Be Thankful Inn.	
26/03	To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the 18th of November 2025. These were approved and signed.	
26/05	<p>To consider highways and transport matters. (This item was brought forward by the chair)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The drain by Blagdon corner has now been cleared. - Blocked drains have been reported directly to Somerset Council using the online reporting system. - The cleaning of the grips is not likely to be done in this financial year. Karli Martin is in contact with the landowners to find a convenient time for this to be done. <p>The following letter was read out from a parishioner:</p> <p>Quarne lane</p> <p>Following my recent request before your last meeting regarding the unfinished state of the lower part of the above road adjoining the main road.</p> <p>I wish to record my great full thanks to all involved for the speed that this was tackled and especially the very tidy way the last portion adjoining the A396 has been finished including the road markings.</p> <p>Having been in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk recently we should consider ourselves proud that our highways are kept in such good condition.</p> <p>May this attention continue. [Cllr Steven Pugsley joined the meeting]</p>	
26/04	<p>To receive reports from Somerset Councillors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Somerset Council is asking to put up council tax by 11%. - A consultation will soon be taking place about charging for currently free car parks. - Somerset Council is not looking to shut any recycling centers as it can't be done under the current contract. - It is believed that Somerset council aren't looking to devolve any more services immediately to local parish councils. - A new monthly list of safety defects that have been completed by Somerset highways will be circulated to Councillors going forward so it can be seen what has been done and where. - There was a report of roads that had not been gritted in Wheddon Cross, however they were gritted but due to the temperature it wasn't as effective, so they didn't get missed. - The road closure is in place to go ahead at the end of February on the A396 	

	<p>crash site but is being done overnight with traffic lights during the day, so it doesn't affect Snowdrop Valley.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was suggested to keep Cllr Lee Baker in the loop with issues going on in the area who is always very helpful. 	
26/06	<p>To consider any Planning matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dunkery View Planning Application has been passed subject to a site management plan. The developer has been asked to send the site management plan to the Parish Council so that the information can be passed on to all the parishioners. [Cllr Nicholson and Cllr Pugsley left the meeting] 	
26/07	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To receive the Q3 2025/26 Budget Outturn. This was received by Cllrs. ii) To discuss and agree the 2026/27 Budget and Precept. The Clerk went through the 2026/27 budget proposal presentation with Councillors. After reviewing it was unanimously agreed to take the Finance and Risk Working Group's recommendations for the 2026/27 budget and to increase the precept to £12,000, which equates to an increase of £4.65 per year for a Band D Household who would pay a total of £64.62 over the year. iii) To receive and approve the schedule of payments and note receipts. This was received and approved. 	
26/08	<p>To receive and acknowledge the minutes of the Snowdrop Valley Committee Meeting dated 18th of November 2025. This was received by Cllrs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It has been a lot easier with the new volunteers to fill all the shifts and even though the weather has been wet, people have still been turning up. - The school will be starting their café at the weekend. - ENPA have renewed all the gates and fencing down the bottom and all the paths have been cleared. - It was suggested for the landowners to look into putting in a claim for Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) money for the paths. Cllr E. Norman will pass this information on to Badgworthy Land Company and ENPA. 	Cllr E. Norman
26/09	<p>Correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) To note the correspondence which Councilors have received in the correspondence report. This was received. Correspondence has come through about reporting damage to the signs at the crossroads. The traffic management team have put up cameras to do a survey for seven days at the crossroads. The Clerk will ask for the results from Kate Brown and will ask if a longer survey can be done in busier times. 	Clerk
26/10	<p>Items for consideration on the next agenda. No items were put forward. The next meeting is due to take place on the 17th of February 2026.</p>	

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.14pm

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix:

- i) **Q3 2025/26 Budget Outturn (Found under the finance section on the website)**
- ii) **Proposed 2026/27 Budget and Precept presentation (Found under the finance section on the website)**
- iii) **Schedule of Payments**
- iv) **Correspondence Report**