Minutes of the Ordinary Cutcombe Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th November 2026 in the Edwin Beckett Room, Moorland Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Eric Norman (Chair), Richard Norman, Sarah Cook

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.	
26/117	**To receive Apologies for Absence.** Apologies were received from Cllr Sheralee Matravers, Cllr Hazel Crockford, Cllr Roger Foxwell and Cllr Oliver Yiend.	
26/118	**To receive declarations of Interest.** Cllr Eric Norman, The Rest & Be Thankful Inn.	
26/119	**To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the 20th of October 2026.** These were approved and signed. [Cllr Frances Nicholson joined the meeting]	
26/120	**To receive reports from Somerset Councillors.** - A parishioner has raised concerns about the dangers of trees falling down along Cutcombe Hill on the A396. Councillors keep on raising it with Highways who keep on raising it with the tree experts. It is the responsibility of the landowners who would be liable for any accidents. Somerset council would prefer local Councils to contact the landowners in the first instance to identify any trees that are posing a hazard to the highway and take the appropriate action. Councillors will find out who the landowners are and pass on the information to Somerset Council. - Somerset Council is currently having sessions to discuss next years budget. Around two thirds of the budget go on adults and children's services, which only leaves a small amount for all the other services like Highways and rubbish etc. There is around a £25 million overspend at this point in the year compared to what they were expecting in the budget. - A new post will be going in the crossroads to put the new sign for no left turn for lorries and the broken Wheddon Cross sign is all in hand to be replaced.	All Councillors
26/123	**Bring together ideas for applying for funding to make the Public Toilets more accessible. (This item was brought forward by the Chair)** The doors to the public toilets need replacing as they are very heavy and are showing wear. The council will look into whether they can use the Exmoor National Park accessibility grant to replace them. The Clerk has been trying to contact James Maben about the grant, who sent the original email, but has yet to get any response. The Clerk will contact Rob Wilson-North about the grant and ask him who is best to contact to take it forward. [Cllr Steven Pugsley and Cllr Frances Nicholson left the meeting]	Clerk
26/121	**To consider highways and transport matters.** - **Update on funding for a new SID** The Clerk has been told that the Avon and Somerset Police Grant has been paused for the time being. It was agreed to wait until any new grants come out to be able to purchase a SID. The Clerk will look out for any in the future.	
26/122	**To consider any Planning Matters.** No planning matters were discussed.	

26/124	**Finance** **i) To put forward any budget proposals for the 2027/28 budget.** The parish council will need to put some money aside for highways clearing and hedge trimming due to Somerset Council budget cuts. No other proposals were put forward. The Council currently has the right amount of general reserves for the size of the Council. The Clerk pointed out that Snowdrop Valley is one of the biggest contributors to the Council's budget. **ii) To receive and approve the schedule of payments and note receipts.** This was received and approved. Councillors have been having trouble signing up as signatories to the bank electronically, so the Clerk will ask the bank whether it can be done using paper forms and going into the branch in Minehead instead.	Clerk
26/125	**To note the correspondence which Councillors have received in the correspondence report.** This was received and noted by Councillors.	
26/126	**Items for consideration on the next agenda.** - The 2027-28 Budget. The Clerk is looking to have an FRWG meeting on the 7th of December to discuss the proposed budget ready for the next Council meeting on the 15th of December.	

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed: Dated:

Appendix:

i) Schedule of Payments

ii) Correspondence Report