

# Lydford on Fosse Parish Council

(Parish website: [lydfordonfosseparish.gov.uk](http://lydfordonfosseparish.gov.uk))

## Ordinary Council Meeting



Meeting of the above named Parish Council held on  
**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 1900 hrs in the Parish Hall, West Lydford.**

Present: Parish Cllrs Frampton (Chair), Purcell, Seehra

Also the Clerk and 3 members of the public

### Minutes

The Chairman opened the meeting. He advised that the minutes would be recorded, and that if anyone who did not wish to be recorded should make that clear to the Clerk.

#### 159/25 **Public participation session**

No comments received

#### Council Session

#### 160/25 **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllrs Fielding, Sloggett, Steel

#### 161/25 **Declaration of Members Interest**

None declared

#### 162/25 **To approve and sign the minutes of previous meeting**

These were duly approved and signed by the Chair

#### 163/25 **Report from County Councillors**

Cllr Sully sent her apologies, and the Chair briefly outlined the following points from her report which can be found in full on the parish website

- SC leader Bill Revans condemned attacks on faith buildings following the Manchester synagogue attack and said that hate has no place in Somerset.
- SC commits to increasing social housing to strengthen local communities
- SC announced a 20-year plan to boost the county's economy
- SC received £191k from Innovate UK to use drones for environmental monitoring and disaster response
- SC have appointed Newton Consulting to improve services and achieve savings over the next 5 years
- A consultation has been launched on standardising Sunday parking charges across the county
- Introducing 'Magic Notes' an AI tool to save social worker's time on paperwork
- A rise in recycling in Somerset
- Consultation launched on the draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- Grants to support businesses to 'go green' and help to reduce energy use/carbon emissions
- Sarah Dyke has called for national caravan licensing and registration system to address unsafe and unregulated caravans due to the problems they cause around Glastonbury
- Advertising Prevent Suicide in Somerset scheme, including the 'Orange Button' scheme

#### 164/25 **To revise schedule of Ordinary Meetings for 2025/2026**

A suggestion was made to cancel the December meeting given the socially busy time of year and the historical lack of SC issues making it a quiet month.

- **Motion** – The Chair proposed to cancel the December meeting, and this was unanimously agreed.

## The Built Environment

### 165/25 **Planning**

#### **New Planning Applications this month (0)**

#### **Applications decided since previous agenda (0)**

The placing of the recently acquired Tommy figures was discussed. These will be placed by the war memorials in East and West Lydford in time for Remembrance Day. Cllr Seehra will liaise with a member of the PCC to place these figures a week before November and take them down at the end of November.

## The Natural Environment

### 166/25 **Dog Bin**

The Dog Bin has been installed in East Lydford at the end of the track and is already in use.

## Highway & Transportation

### 167/25 **Highways**

The chair advised that a site meeting had been agreed with SC Highways dept, however unfortunately the representative has now gone on long term sick leave, an alternative representative for the meeting has been requested.

It was raised that a permanently placed solar-powered SID is in use in a nearby parish.

After discussion it was suggested and agreed that a trial placement of the SID, that has already been acquired by the Speedwatch team, should proceed.

### 168/25 **Speedwatch**

The Speedwatch Representative advised that the speedwatch site on the A37 is still in the process of being re-assessed for its suitability.

Three members of the Speedwatch team attended the Mendip Speedwatch AGM. Also in attendance was the Chief Constable, the Mayor of Frome and the Crime Commissioner.

The Road Safety Unit reported that the seven new unmarked speed enforcement vans are now ready for use. These vehicles can also be operated remotely.

### 169/25 **Bleed Kits**

The Chair reported that one bleed kit has now been installed at the church car park, and that the parish has been allocated a free bleed kit from Avon & Somerset police. The site for this one has already been agreed at Lydford Autos by the crossroads of the A37 and the B3153.

## Community Engagement & Support

### 170/25 **Neighbourhood Watch**

Our PCSO has advised that any vehicles blocking the public footway should be reported at the time on 101, and also recommended that, if reporting it online, photos be uploaded of the vehicles. A change of the Community Policing Boundaries means that from 3<sup>rd</sup> November our parish will no longer be under Street's community policing team but will transfer to Shepton Mallet's.

UV marker pens have now been provided to all households in the parish.

## Governance & Finance

### 171/25 **Financial Planning**

The Clerk advised that SLCC membership will be due in December, and that renewal therefore needs to be decided next month.

The half-yearly internal audit is now due, and paperwork will be collated for the Internal Auditor.

#### **Payments due (See appendix 1)**

#### **To agree accounts for September '25**

Payments due and bank balances were agreed and signed.

#### **Clerk Credit Card**

It has been noted more this year that some payments can only be made by credit card, and that the use of a personal credit card is not best practice. It has been suggested that a Multipay Credit Card, issued through Unity Trust Bank (the PC's current bank) may be the way forward.

The benefits of improved control of spend, designed for councils, was discussed and fees involved. The Chair suggested that, if councillors agree, the clerk submits an application for the card. This was proposed by Cllr Seehra, seconded by Cllr Purcell and unanimously carried.

#### **HR Committee meeting**

The newly formed HR Committee, chaired by Cllr Seehra, met on 29<sup>th</sup> September to review the Clerk's salary. It was agreed to increase the pay scale by two grades, and the salary to be reviewed annually. The next normal meeting of the HR Committee will be in September 2026.

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### **Correspondence Received**

A complaint was received by the Clerk regarding the manner a situation was dealt with in the church grounds where an owner with their dog off-the-lead was aggressively confronted. Although not specifically a PC issue, it was agreed that it is important that we strive to remain civil with each other at all times, but also that dog owners demonstrate appropriate respect for the churchyard by obeying its rules. The details of the complaint will also be shared with the PCC.

### Sc Snippets -

- Secondary school applications are now open and close on 31<sup>st</sup> October
- The Mendip Local Plan part 2 has now been formally adopted
- The Yeovil Library and Literature Festival is taking place between 17<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> October
- SC has issued a public apology for recent delays to recycling collections
- A reminder was given that the clocks go back on 26<sup>th</sup> October and that this is also a good time to check batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms
- A Business Mentoring Program is available, offering personalised guidance for new and up-and-coming business leaders
- Rural England Prosperity Fund has been relaunched offering grants and support to local businesses and community projects
- 'Made Smarter Southwest' is an initiative which offers support to small and medium business to help them adopt digital technologies
- The SW Enterprise Fund also offers grants for new businesses and young (under-30) entrepreneurs
- 'Unlimited Awards' offers support for social entrepreneurs (those running not-for-profit projects)
- The Food Standard Agency are offering free online tools to help businesses to stay food safe
- Defra's 'Adopt' program offers support to on-farm trials to develop innovative solutions to agriculture, horticulture and forestry challenges and opportunities
- The National Cyber Security Centre is offering advice on strengthening cyber resilience and response to retail businesses

Greater details on all of these are available on the PC website

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### **Agenda items for next meeting**

Cllr Vacancy  
Environment Agency  
Bleed kit  
Budget draft  
SLCC membership  
Playground Update  
LCN update

**The date for the next meeting was confirmed as 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7pm**

Meeting finished at 2000hrs

Minutes prepared by Ann Parkhouse, Parish Clerk

## **Appendix**

### **1) Payments Due**

Name of Payee	Description of Payment	Amount
J Frampton	HeartSafe Bleed Kit Dispenser	£283.75
SM Landscapes Ltd	Sports Field Maintenance - Sept	£165.00

A Parkhouse	Clerk Salary – Sept '25	£279.40
A Parkhouse	Expenses – Covans UV Marker Pens (NHW)	£ 22.50
Lydford Parish Hall	Hall hire – July/August	£ 34.00

DRAFT

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_