

Dilton Marsh Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 20th February 2025 in the Memorial Hall, Dilton Marsh at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Irving (Chair), Cllr Jones, Cllr Gibbs, Cllr Williams, Cllr Leigh, Cllr Dopheide, Cllr Morland and Cllr Ness.

In attendance: Nicola Duke (Parish Clerk), Wiltshire Councillor Suzanne Wickham and one member of the public.

Members of the public were invited to make representations to the Council on any matters relating to the work of the Council or to raise any issues of concern:

- Mr Mike Phillips was introduced to the Council, as the Conservative candidate standing for election to Wiltshire Council in the forthcoming local elections (May 2025).

3325	Apologies for absence Cllr Howells, due to a prior engagement – accepted. Cllr Collins, due to a work commitment – accepted.
3326	Declarations of Interest and Dispensations to Participate None.
3327	Minutes The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th January 2025 were approved for accuracy and adopted (<i>proposed Cllr Leigh, seconded Cllr Gibbs</i>).
3328	Wiltshire Council Report Wiltshire Councillor Suzanne Wickham reported the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The proposed WC budget was due to be debated by Full Council week commencing 24th February 2025; the Council's budget had been prepared without the need to take the full 5% increase permitted.• Wiltshire Council was planning to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer•• and DEFRA regarding the impact of inheritance tax for farming families; this would be to express its dismay at the potential impact on farming families and the associated changes which would result to the countryside.• Cllr Wickham continued to liaise with residents along the High Street regarding previously reported drainage and culvert issues.• The planning application for land south of Clivey had been refused by the Planning Officer; highway matters had been the primary reason for this refusal.• There was no update on the outcome of the planning appeal for land behind 117 High Street, which was still showing as 'in progress' on the PINS site.• More wildflower seed was available, should it be needed.• A recent meeting of LHFIG had approved the installation of 30 mph roundel signs along Fairwood Road. The works would be completed once a batch order had been compiled.• The Highways Engineer had undertaken to review the status of the footpath adjacent to Clay Close along the High St, following the Council's submission of a LHFIG form

	<p>regarding its overgrown nature and general poor condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LHFIG had also recommended a survey be carried out in relation to the reported parking problems along Petticoat Lane. Cllr Jones confirmed that this was in hand and the final version was being drafted ready for imminent issue. • The traffic survey along Woodland Drive, requested by the PC, had been completed with an 85th percentile speed of 11.3 mph and a mean speed of 9.72 mph. Given these speeds WC would not proceed with any consideration of traffic calming measures. • The traffic survey along the High Street outside of the entrance to Alan Powell Lane had also been completed. The 85th percentile speed had been recorded at 31.23 mph with a mean speed of 27.01 mph. It was reported that these speeds were not of a level at which action could be taken. 							
3329	<p>Planning applications and consultations</p> <p>a) Members resolved the Council's comments on applications received and not previously responded to as listed below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>PL/2024/10578</td><td>Rose Villa, 79 High Street, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4DP</td><td> <p>Single-storey utility room addition, a two-storey eastern extension with living and dining rooms, a kitchen/breakfast room, a master bedroom with en-suite, and a single-storey kitchen extension. Additionally, a double garage will be constructed on the western edge of the property – Amended Plans</p> <p>PC comment – No Objection (proposed Cllr Irving, seconded Cllr Jones)</p> </td></tr> </table> <p>b) Members considered the comments to be sent to Wiltshire Council in respect of any planning applications or appeals received after 13th February 2025:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>PL/2025/00988</td><td>Land opposite 2a Clivey, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4BQ</td><td> <p>Proposed erection of a 2 storey 4-bedroom self-build dwelling house</p> <p>It was agreed to defer consideration of the application to the March meeting, in order to give members sufficient time to review the plans. The Clerk would seek the necessary (short) extension from WC.</p> </td></tr> </table>		PL/2024/10578	Rose Villa, 79 High Street, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4DP	<p>Single-storey utility room addition, a two-storey eastern extension with living and dining rooms, a kitchen/breakfast room, a master bedroom with en-suite, and a single-storey kitchen extension. Additionally, a double garage will be constructed on the western edge of the property – Amended Plans</p> <p>PC comment – No Objection (proposed Cllr Irving, seconded Cllr Jones)</p>	PL/2025/00988	Land opposite 2a Clivey, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4BQ	<p>Proposed erection of a 2 storey 4-bedroom self-build dwelling house</p> <p>It was agreed to defer consideration of the application to the March meeting, in order to give members sufficient time to review the plans. The Clerk would seek the necessary (short) extension from WC.</p>
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	c) Members noted the below listed planning decisions:																													
	PL/2024/11387	8 Fairways, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 3RU	Proposed single storey rear extension. Proposed bay window, front door and canopy roof to front elevation. Proposed remodeling of dormer windows Approve with conditions																											
	PL/2024/06523	Land South of Clivey, Dilton Marsh, Wilts	Erection of up to 85no. dwellings, access, open space, landscaping, supporting infrastructure and associated works (Outline application relating to access - Resubmission of PL/2023/01048) Refuse																											
3330	Neighbourhood Plan It was noted that Wiltshire Council’s Regulation 16 consultation had now concluded and an examiner had been appointed to carry out the independent examination.																													
3331	Finance a) Council payments due as below listed were agreed (proposed Cllr Jones, seconded Cllr Dopheide). b) Members received and noted the Bank Reconciliation Statement January 2025 (previously circulated).																													
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3332	<p>Governance and Policy Documents (information previously circulated)</p> <p>Members considered the below listed documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Risk Documents 2025 b) Model Financial Regulations c) Investment Policy d) Model Publication Scheme <p>Following debate, it was agreed to establish a working party to review the documents and prepare final drafts for consideration at the March meeting. The working group would comprise Cllrs Dopheide, Leigh and Ness, with the Clerk in support.</p>
3333	<p>Asset Transfers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Members received an update on the transfer of land at Penknapp from Wiltshire Council (December minutes refer), noting that Cllrs Irving, Jones and the Clerk had attended a zoom meeting with the relevant WC officer. It had been confirmed that there were no other POS notices due for issue by WC and members therefore considered the allocation of the required £600 to enable the land transfer to proceed. Following debate, it was resolved that the funds required be allocated in order to enable the asset transfer process to proceed (proposed Cllr Irving, seconded Cllr Jones). b) Members revisited whether the PC wished to enter into a license agreement with WC for the management of land at Boyers Triangle (January minutes refer). Following debate, it was resolved not to proceed with any formal arrangement but to explore with WC the potential for establishing a further pollinator corridor/wildflower area on the site (proposed Cllr Leigh, seconded Cllr Dopheide).
3334	<p>Grounds Maintenance 2025-26</p> <p>Members had received a report from the Clerk on quotations received for grounds maintenance at the Playing Field for the 2025-26 season. Following debate, it was resolved that the contract be awarded to Ideal Grounds Maintenance with a one-year contract to be reviewed in February 2026 (proposed Cllr Dopheide, seconded Cllr Leigh). Having had regard to the prices quoted for bin collections within the tenders Members resolved to continue the current contract with Idverde (current cost £864 per annum) (proposed Cllr Irving, seconded Cllr Jones).</p>
3335	<p>Speed Indicator Device</p> <p>Cllr Jones reported on the possible placement of a SID, and the potential of purchasing another unit for deployment in the parish. It was confirmed that the new SID was due to be installed on Friday 28th February and the older SID would be moved to its more permanent home at the bottom of Tower Hill. It was hoped that its presence would slow the speed of traffic travelling up Tower Hill however, as the site was no longer approved for Community Speed Watch, the data from the unit would have no formal value for reporting purposes.</p> <p>Cllr Jones raised the potential of the purchase of a second SID device, explaining that the solar panels on the older device would soon need replacement at a cost of £500 and that is was therefore more cost efficient to purchase newer devices, rather than incur this recurring cost. Members agreed the logic of having a SID in operation at both Clay Close and the Clivey end of the village and the Clerk was asked to present quotations for a second device to the March meeting. Having permanently placed units was felt to be especially important given the health and safety implications of moving the devices. Cllr Jones confirmed that the data from the new SID's would be reported to the police and could be used for enforcement purposes.</p>
3336	<p>Parish Council Projects and Updates (copy of current report previously circulated)</p> <p>Members received and noted the brought forward project list. The following additional reports</p>

	<p>and updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Jones reported on the progress of the recently launched Neighbourhood Watch scheme; new notices had gone up throughout the village and would be expanded on shortly. • Cllr Leigh confirmed that the quotations from Greensward for the verti-draining and weed and feed of the playing field could now be confirmed with the contractor. • It was noted that the Clerk needed to obtain definitive information from the Football Club as to their plans for the forthcoming season and their use of the Playing Field. • Cllr Irving reported that the installation of the History Society signs continued to progress with Wiltshire Council, albeit slowly. <p>The below listed Councillor Reports were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Williams reported that the Dilton Marsh sign coming into the village from the A36 was overgrown. Cllr Jones confirmed that the Parish Steward had been asked to attend to this. • Cllr Williams expressed concern at the pavement parking which was occurring opposite the Weavers Pub. Cllr Jones reported that this issue had been previously taken to LHFIF and the installation of yellow lines had been considered. However, it had been felt that this would simply displace the parking elsewhere in the village and not solve the problem. Following discussion, it was agreed to contact the Weavers Pub and ask for appropriate parking notices to be displayed, which would ask patrons to park considerately and avoid encroaching on to the pavements. The pavement parking was noted to be an offence and Cllr Jones report this to the PCSO. • Cllr Ness reported that it appeared that the .gov email addresses had been harvested. The Clerk reported that Cllr Dopheide had also reported this and the email provider had been informed. It was noted that there was no action which could be taken other than for members to block the email address from which the spam emails were being sent. • Cllr Irving asked that the Parish Steward be tasked with clearing up the vegetation and excess soil under the noticeboard on the corner of Fairwood Road. • Cllr Gibbs asked that the Football Club plans for the forthcoming season and their general requirements of the playing field be added to the Project and Update List, to that this could be monitored.
3337	<p>Correspondence (information previously circulated) CPRE re: Best Kept Village Competition 2025 – Members agreed to consider the information relating to the competition further and reconsider at the March meeting.</p> <p>Dilton Dash re: Use of playing field – the request to use the playing field on Sunday 15th June 2025 was granted.</p>
3338	<p>Meeting schedule Thursday 20th March 2025.</p>

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50 pm.