

Dilton Marsh Parish Council

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Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on
Thursday 17th September 2026 at the Memorial Hall, Dilton Marsh at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr J Jones (Chair), Cllr Ness, Cllr Ghani, Cllr Williams, Cllr Gibbs, Cllr Dopheide and Cllr R Jones.

In attendance: Nicola Duke (Parish Clerk).

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: None.

3535	Apologies for absence Cllr Morland was absent.	
3536	Declarations of Interest and Dispensations to Participate None.	
3537	Minutes of Council Meetings The minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th July 2026 were approved for accuracy with one amendment and adopted (<i>proposed Cllr Dopheide, seconded Cllr R Jones</i>).	
3538	Parish Council Vacancies Members noted the current vacancies on the Parish Council and the lack of expressions of interest to date, and considered methods for a recruitment drive to fill the vacant seats. The vacancies would continue to be publicised in the usual way.	
3539	Wiltshire Council Report Wiltshire Councillor Mike Phillips had sent apologies for absence.	
3540	Planning Applications and Decisions a) Members resolved the Council's comments on applications received and not previously responded to as listed below:	
	PL/2026/02472	Land Rear of 117, High Street, Dilton Marsh Reserved Matters Application for Landscaping, Appearance, Layout and Scale for 54 dwellings following outline planning permission PL/2023/01880 approved at appeal (APP/Y3940/W/24/3352160). Members resolved that previous comments would stand.

b) To agree the comments to be sent to Wiltshire Council in respect of any planning applications or appeals received after 11th September 2026 (if any): None.

c) Members noted the below listed planning decisions:

PL/2026/09937	Cuckoos Rest, 28 Fairwood Road, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4EL	Side extension to first floor along with alterations to front elevation & internal layout, plus the inclusion of 28b Fairwood Road within the existing curtilage of 28 Fairwood Road. Approve with Conditions
PL/2025/07258	Fairwood Lakes Holiday Park, Fairwood Road, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4EL	Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) of application 20/11097/FUL relating to site layout, lighting, ecological enhancement and lodge details. Approve with Conditions
PL/2026/03003	14 Stormore, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4BH	First Floor Front and Rear Dormer with render external walls and slate roof Approve with Conditions
PL/2026/02267	The Willows, 7B Stormore, Dilton Marsh, Westbury, BA13 4BH	Proposed timber shed in garden. Approve with Conditions

3541	Finance (reports previously circulated) a) Council expenditure due as below listed was approved with the addition of a payment to Cllr J Jones in the amount of £105.68 for community orchard expenses (proposed Cllr Ness, seconded Cllr Williams). b) Members received and noted the Bank Reconciliation Statements July and August 2026. c) The list of Earmarked Reserves August 2026 was noted and approved (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr R Jones). d) The Budget Report as at end of August 2026 was noted and adopted (proposed Cllr Ness, seconded Cllr Dopheide). e) Members noted the receipt of £3,000 for the sale of the mower and £450 for the sale of the container unit and considered any appropriate virements and/or allocations for the funds. It was resolved that the funds would be transferred to the EMR 330 Playing Field (proposed Cllr Ness, seconded Cllr R Jones).																														
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3542	Highways and LHFIF (reports previously circulated) Members received reports and updates noting that the next LHFIF meeting was 24th September 2026, including: a) Highways Improvement Request Form regarding an ongoing vehicle access and road safety issue on Shepherds Mead, Dilton Marsh – It was noted that the request from the resident had been withdrawn and therefore no further action was required. b) Request for an assessment for a potential zebra/pedestrian crossing outside Fairfield College, Dilton Marsh – Following debate, it was resolved to submit a Highway Improvement Form to Wiltshire Council for assessment (proposed Cllr Dopheide, seconded Cllr Ghani).																														
3543	Playing Field and Playing Field Working Group (information previously circulated) a) Members received a report from the Working Group (notes of meetings previously circulated) and considered the below listed decisions required: a. Confirm the working group’s selection for container replacement to enable the order to be placed – Cllr R Jones reported that two quotes had been received a) £27,948 or b) £33,540. It was confirmed that the quotations had been prepared on a like for like basis. The working group recommended the purchase of the container from Containers and More in the amount of £27,948. This recommendation was resolved (proposed Cllr Dopheide, seconded Cllr J Jones). The required deposit of 30% on placement of order was also approved (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr Williams). Members noted that an EMR																														

	had been established for the purchase of the container at a previous meeting. b. Review and discuss the attached feedback analysis from the survey and agree what additional items should be progressed immediately, and what needs further investigation – Cllr Dopheide introduced the item and reported on the feedback analysis which had been circulated to members. Following debate, it was agreed to proceed with the following items, which could be achieved over the winter months, with the working group reverting to the Council with costed proposals at a future meeting: i. Additional seating ii. Installation of an accessibility swing iii. Replacement of swing seats iv. Installed of paved area to surround new container and landscaping b) Members considered a quotation for the removal of brambles at 86 High St following tree works in the amount of £96.75. This was approved (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr Gibbs). c) Replacement signs – Members considered allocating funds for the purchase of a replacement information sign at the playing field and it was agreed to reconsider this item once the new container had been installed, so that the signage for this could be considered at the same time.
3544	Parish Council Website Members considered the previously circulated quotations for the provision of a new website and way forward and, following debate it was resolved to establish a Media Team to take this forward and identify the preferred option within the budget previously set (previous minutes refer); Cllrs J Jones, Ghani, Gibbs and the Parish Clerk were appointed to the group (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr R Jones). A meeting would be arranged as soon as possible.
3545	Parish Maintenance a) Handyman Scheme – Members considered a report on in year budget options for the funding of a handyman scheme (July minutes refer; information previously circulated) and considered the longer term impact on the precept should the initiative be supported (report previously circulated). Following debate, it was resolved to use the Council's current contractor for ad hoc tasks required during the current financial year and include a formal budget for use during 2027-28 (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr R Jones). b) Flower boxes – Cllr J Jones reported prices had been obtained for the provision of new recycled plastic boxes at a cost of approximately £2,000. In addition, a quote had been received from a resident to replace the wooden boxes at a cost of approximately £450. It was agreed that replacements should be made using sleepers with metal strips around the bottom to provide protection against strimmer damage and should also be lined to assist with watering. It was resolved to accept the quotation from the residents and allocate £450 to create three new flower boxes from the EMR Green and Wellbeing Fund (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr Gibbs). c) Graffiti at Stormore woods – Cllr R Jones reported that there had been an instance of graffiti at the woods, this had been reported to the police and the landowner.
3546	Parish Council Projects and Updates <i>(copy of current report previously circulated).</i> Members received and noted the brought forward project list as attached, noted available updates and considered decisions required on the below items:

	a) LEVI Wiltshire Project – Members reviewed and noted the Rural Package proposal, taking into account the circulated report from Cllr Dopheide. b) Defibrillator Training – Members considered arranging a training session noting the associated donation of £50 to the training provider and resolved to proceed to arrange an event (proposed Cllr J Jones, seconded Cllr Williams). c) Party in the Park ‘Dilton Fest’– Members discussed the 2026 event and received and considered a booking request for 2027 (booking form attached; report from Cllr Dopheide listed in Project Report). It was agreed to invite representatives to meet with the Chair and Cllr Dopheide prior to the next PC meeting. In addition, Members noted the following updates: • Additional planting of sprouts, kale and cabbage had been carried out at the Community Orchard. • The Clerk would circulate the latest play area inspection once received. • Cllr Gibbs reported on her thoughts to potentially scale back the event being planned to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Dilton Halt. She would circulate further information, which could be discussed at a future meeting. • Cllr Dopheide reported that consideration may need to be given to installing a third bench at the Community Orchard.
3547	Correspondence Wiltshire Council re: Briefing Note no. 26-17, Winter Resilience Support and Emergency Preparedness Update (previously circulated) – Noted.
3548	Date of next meeting Cllrs Dopheide and Ness reported that they would not be able to attend the next scheduled meeting on Thursday 15th October 2026. Given the potential issues with the quorum it was agreed to move the meeting to Thursday 22nd October 2026.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15 pm.