

Spaxton Parish Council

**Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 3rd August 2026 at
at Spaxton Village Hall at 8.00pm**

Members present: The Chairman - Martin Brown, Richard Bufton, Shelly Duggan, Tim Roe, Joshua Schwieso, Amy Weir, Katrina Hinkley, Ian Jeanes

Somerset Councillors present: Cllr Mike Caswell

Members of the public present: One member present

Public Session: No matters

The formal meeting commenced at 20.03pm

- 1. Apologies for absence:**, Kathryn Frawley, Mike Hodson, Cllr Brian Bolt
- 2. Dispensation requests.** None
- 3. The minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2026 were agreed and signed.
- 4. Matters arising:**
 - Traffic speed in the village and the risk for pedestrians was discussed. It was noted that the 30mph sign near the Chapel is overgrown and needs clearing. Clerk to write to Highways regarding the missing 30mph sign and the concerns regarding the speed of traffic through the village. .
 - Spaxton Flower Show allotment award – A winner has been agreed. Clerk to send note to Chair of Flower Show Committee.
 - Act to Adapt - A grant of £1000 has been received. A talk is being arranged by Katrina Hinkley in September – date to be confirmed.

Tim Roe joined the meeting at 20.37

- Hedges - The hedge cutting progress was discussed.
- Extension of Local Plan consultation deadline - Clerk to write to SC advise that we wish to be included in the consultation.
- Election of Parish Representatives to the QHJAC. The members supported the proposal for Joshua Schwieso to be put forward as the QHJAC Parish Representative.
- Spaxton Community News - Clerk to write to SCN and update the list of Parish Councillor roles .

5. Reports:

- **Allotments -**
 - Meeting arranged for 4 August to discuss issues with ragwort, weeds and the grass track on the allotment. It was suggested long-term empty plots could be grassed which will be considered.

Cllr Mike Caswell left the meeting at 9.01pm

- **CLT** – The legal process is progressing. The Parish Council has paid the legal bills which will be reimbursed when the sale is completed.
- **Flooding sub-group** - Nothing to report.
- **Footpaths** – 30/17 + 30/18. A diversion for the blocked path has been proposed by the Footpath officer and an update is expected.
- **Hinkley Point SSG** - Nothing to report.
- **LCN** - The LCN Connectivity Plan was discussed.
- **QHJAC** – JS attended the meeting of the QHJAC. Concern regarding the deregulation of planning in the AONB was noted. The impact of climate change on the Quantock Hills was discussed at the meeting including the potential effect on species such as moss & lichen, the risk of fire due to drought, and the impact on pests.

6. Financial items:

- a) Statement of accounts as at 3rd July 2026:
 - Current account £17,217.72 credit
 - Capital Reserve account £9552.61 credit
- b) The following payments were agreed:
 - 001034 £4,200 Porter Dodson - Professional fees for the sale of land, INV792036
 - 001035 £80.99 HMRC (repayment to H Schwieso) (cheque 001032 cancelled)

7. Planning items:.

Applications decided since the last meeting as per the published agenda.

45/26/00014 Mr & Mrs Jeanes, Notice of Proposed Agricultural Devt. Land to the West of, Cannington Road, Keenthorne, Bridgwater. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed erection of an agricultural building.

Decision: Prior approval refused due to overbearing and access

New applications: No new applications.

8. Correspondence received:

- A request from Spaxton Village Hall for support with the maintenance of the playing fields has been received. The request was considered and the demands on the budget reviewed. It was agreed a contribution of £1250 would be made to the upkeep of the Playing Fields.

9. Matters of report and items for the next meeting.

- Bridgwater Data Centre - Clerk to email regarding benefits to the local community.

10. Date & time of next meeting: Monday 7th September at 8pm at Aisholt and Merridge Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.31pm