

Spaxton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on
Monday 6th July 2026 at
at Spaxton Village Hall at 8.00pm

Members present: The Chairman - Martin Brown, Richard Bufton, Shelly Duggan, Mike Hodson, Tim Roe Joshua Schwieso, Amy Weir

Somerset Councillors present: None

Members of the public present: Phil Ham, Caroline Ham, Vernon Hughes

Public Session:

It was noted that the Deadline for the Local plan Scoping Consultation is 24 July 2026.

Two members of the public spoke regarding overgrown rights of way they have noted on public footpaths around Spaxton. Councillors discussed options to address this and it was agreed that Cllr Tim Roe would arrange for areas that have been noted to be cleared. Clerk to provide a footpath map. The status will be reviewed in three months at the meeting on 5th October.

It was noted any issues on public rights of way should also be reported directly to Somerset Council on the Rights of Way website - <https://roamsomerset.go.uk>

The formal meeting commenced at 20.21pm

1. **Apologies for absence:**, Kathryn Frawley, Katrina Hinkley, Ian Jeanes
2. **Dispensation requests.** None
3. **The minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 6th June 2026 were agreed and signed.
4. **Matters arising:**
 - Parish Council positions were filled as follows :

Chairman	M Brown
Vice Chairman	R Bufton
Cooks Cottages Reps	J Schwieso & M Hodson
Allotment Rep	S Duggan
Spaxton Village Hall Rep	K Hinkley
Aisholt & Merridge Village Hall	A Weir
Footpath Officers	R Bufton
LCN & Transport Liaison	M Brown
Emergency Liaison	M Brown
Hinkley Point SSG rep	M Hodson
QHJAC Rep	J Schwieso
Farming Liason	T Roe
Climate Adaption Plan	K Hinkley
Salt bins	A Weir

20.36 – Vernon Hughes left the meeting

- Parking in Four Forks, update. It was agreed Homes in Somerset would be contacted for an update on their next steps.
- Traffic speed in village. It was agreed that additional speed watches would be arranged to collect evidence. An article to be written by Cllr Brown for the Community news on speed issues. It was also agreed the Clerk would send a letter to Highways outlining the concerns.
- Hedges. It was agreed that a request for hedges to be cut as per the usual schedule should be made.

5. Reports:

- **Allotments** -
 - One allotment to be vacated. Clerk to confirm deposit amount to be returned.
 - Clerk to confirm whether letters advising of a deposit increase were sent in 2025.
 - One allotment holder has requested allotment size be reduced to half allotment - confirm.
 - It has been noted that dog poo has been seen being thrown over the hedge into the allotment. Clerk to write to household.
 - Allotment availability to be advertised in the Community news.
- **CLT** – Cllr Hodson provided an update on progress. The legal contract has been signed and most preconstruction agreements have been completed. An invoice for £4,200 for the legal work on behalf of the Parish Council is expected and was approved by the Councillors.
- **Flooding sub-group** - Nothing to report. Cllr Brown will look into what maintenance actions are required next.
- **Footpaths** – Clerk to follow up with SC on issues raised regarding the rights of way 30/16, 30/17 & 30/18
- **Hinkley Point SSG** - Nothing to report
- **LCN** – A highways meeting about transportation was held which Cllr Brown has followed up.
- **QHJAC** - Nothing to report

6. Financial items:

a) Statement of accounts as at 5th May 2026:

- Current account £15,442.97 credit
- Capital Reserve account £9510.67 credit

b) The following payments were agreed:

001030	£145.00	Somerset Association Local Councils – 3 x training courses
001031	£564.60	H Schwieso – Clerk Salary April – June 2026
001032	£141.40	HMRC – PAYE April – June 2026
001033	£30.00	A Young – Auditor

7. Planning items:.

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

New applications:

45/26/00013 Mr & Mrs Jeanes, Notice of Proposed Agricultural Devt. Land to the West of, Cannington Road, Keenthorpe, Bridgwater. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed erection of an agricultural building.

Decision: Approval of Details required

8. Correspondence received:

- Enquiry regarding hedge cutting provision. Request for more details for tender in 2027.

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

It was agreed that the Clerk would write to SC Planning to express concern regarding the reduction in the planning consultation periods.

10. Date & time of next meeting: Monday 6th July at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 21.31pm