HORTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting held on 09th October 2025 in Broadway Methodist Church @ 6.30pm

ATTENDANCE. Cllrs Barry Mosley, Chair, Peter Babbington, Ann Winter, Mike Schmidt, Jack Martin. Z Bougourd, Clerk.

- 4388 Public Forum there were two members of the public present.
- 4389 Somerset Councillors Report no report had been received.

Apologies for absence – Cllr H Massey had submitted apologies – accepted. Cllr Johnson did not attend.

- **Approval of minutes 11th September 2025 & matters arising.** The minutes were approved and signed. There was a correction to Cllr Schmidt's name.
 - i. Co-option/Cllr vacancy update. Clerk advised that the electoral services at SC had been informed that there another casual vacancy has occurred. There are currently two vacancies, one is vacancy is eligible for so-option. The notice will be posted on the Horton & Broadway Facebook page.

4391 Finance:

- a. Bank reconciliations to date: Clerk tabled the bank reconciliations from April 2025 to date. Approved & signed.
- b. Bank statements to date. Clerk tabled bank statements for September 2025 approved and signed
- c. Payment requests/regular payments. No payment requests were tabled
- d. Payroll/HMRC/Clerk. Clerk advised that the HMRC return for September had been filed and a hard copy sent to HMRC pending an activation code to enable online submissions.
- e. Bank Mandate. It was agreed to leave the current mandate as operative and the Clerk will advise NatWest of the changes in due course.
- f. Clerk noted that the next meeting would focus on the 2026/7 Budget which needs to be approved at the first meeting in January 2026.

4392 Planning:

Honey Cottage, Proposal: Demolition of single storey extension and replacement with part two storey extension Location: Honey Cottage Puddlebridge Horton Ilminster Somerset TA19 9RL Application Type: Householder Application Application Number: 25/02229/HOU. The applicants were present at the meeting – the PC fully supported the application. Clerk will advise SC Planning accordingly.

25/02327/NMA | Non-Material Amendment to approved application 20/01985/FUL for changes to the external cladding. Old Pottery Garage Shave Lane Horton Ilminster Somerset TA19 9QP. Notification only.

- **Council Matters:** CiLCA Clerk training agreement with SCLL. Clerk tabled the agreement for paid support for the duration of the course the cost will be split between three Parishes; time commitment is expected to be approximately 6 hrs per week plus attendance in Wells for up to five in person study days. This agreement and funding was agreed: Proposed by Cllr Martin, seconded by Cllr Mosley. Agreed unanimously.
- 4394 Council Matters: AGAR Assertion 10/email/website updates. Clerk noted that the AGAR

return for this financial year has an additional assertion (Assertion 10) which requires that Councils confirm that the website and email addresses are gov.uk. This is a UK Government requirement – Clerk is due to attend a webinar regarding Assertion 10 and will revert with more information in due course. The current webhost can facilitate a change to gov.uk domain. Clerk to ascertain costs.

- **Council Matters** consider and update Policies: The Policies below were tabled Cllrs will read, consider and bring them back to the next meeting for adoption.
 - a. Standing Orders
 - b. Financial Regulations

4396 Standing Items:

- a. Monthly updates:
 - i. <u>Highways/Village maintenance:</u>
 - 1. Verges from the bench/SID on Hanning Road through to the A358 are cut monthly through until November, assume starting in March/April weather dependent and "no mow May".
 - 2. Bullen Moor Lane (Goose Lane to Pauls Lane footpath), spring and autumn cut back of vegetation.
 - 3. Cllr Martin will prepare an annual schedule of grounds maintenance for consideration at a future meeting.
 - 4. Footpaths: It was noted that some footpaths are becoming very overgrown, ? where responsibility rests for maintenance.
 - ii. <u>Playing Field</u> Metal bins have been removed/ red Biffa Bin is now the only bin in the park. Cllr Mosley will check usage of bin and that the fortnightly contracted emptying schedule is in place. If incorrect usage of the bin is noted, a sign advising users of restrictions may be installed.
 - iii. <u>Update re Horton Village Hall</u> Cllr Winter noted that a new booking system was now in place and any bookings should be made directly with the Hall.
 - iv. <u>Speed Indicator Devices</u> data from Cllr Martin. Data from the SID was tabled and discussed. Agreed to retain data pending residential development plans. The post for the second SID has been ordered by Cllr Mosley, once received a second SID may be purchased.
 - v. <u>Traffic Issues</u>: Cllr Mosley will arrange a site visit with Rebecca Vaughan (SC Traffic Management) to discuss traffic flow into and out of the Village.
 - vi. <u>Bus shelter refurbishment/decoration</u>. Cllr Babbington will arrange for the redecoration and supply invoices for reimbursement.
 - vii. <u>Defibrillator:</u> Electrical supply/SSE/Invoices. Clerk is still trying to have meaningful contact with SSE and will continue to do so. SSE have been asked to disconnect the supply, but this would appear not to have been actioned yet. Clerk will continue to request this.
 - viii. Horton Projects:
 - viii Church grant application. to approve grant application. After careful consideration and discussion re available funds against budget, it was agreed that a grant was not viable for this financial year.

Meeting closed at 20.15hrs. Next meeting November 13th @ 6.30pm in Broadway Methodist Church.