

LOXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

18th May 2026

7.00 PM

In attendance: Chairman Shipton, Cllr Bassett, Cllr Davies, and Cllr Eden.
Also in attendance were four Residents, Unitary Cllr J. Tristram and the Clerk

The Minutes were taken by Clerk, Sally Ferguson.

01/26 -Cllr I. Shipton was proposed and seconded as Chairman and duly signed an acceptance of office.

02/26- Cllr. S. Bassett was proposed and seconded as Vice Chairman and duly signed an acceptance of office.

03/26 There were no declarations of interest.

04/26- The Minutes of 11th and 18th March 2026 were declared a true record and signed by the Chairman.

05/26- Public Speaking –The meeting was closed at 7.04 pm to allow the Public to speak. A resident spoke about the planned rebuilding of a wall, which ran alongside the highway. The wall was knocked down some time ago, and there had been discussions with North Somerset Council Highways about responsibility for rebuilding. There was concern that the Highway might be compromised, and the fact that there was a steep drop into a field on a narrow road. Unitary Cllr. Tristram and the Clerk would establish if a safety check on the road could be carried out by a Highways engineer, as it was thought it could be unstable. The meeting opened again at 7.17 pm.

06/26 Planning –

- 26/P/0906/TRCA 3 North Barn, Sevier Road, Loxton. BS26 2XE. T1- 3 stemmed cherry trees, large areas of decay from 30cm from the ground to 1.5 meters off the ground on 2 of the stems. Remove to ground level. The Council resolved to defer to the Tree Officer for a decision.
- This item came in after the Agenda was published. 26/P/0961/TRCA The Bow, Christon Road, Loxton. BS26 2XG. T1-yew-lift crown over road to achieve a 6m clearance. The Council resolved to defer to the Tree Officer for a decision.

07/26 Correspondence- All correspondence had been sent by email.

08/26-Standing Orders were approved, and it was resolved to adopt them for 2026- 2027.

09/26 Financial Regulations were approved, and it was resolved to adopt them for 2026 -2027.

10/26-It was resolved to remain as a member of ALCA and to support the Clerk's membership of SLCC.

11/26-It was resolved to approve the Scheme of Delegation-Planning 2026-2027.

12/26-The criteria for adopting the General Power of Competence were met with two thirds of Members being elected and the Clerk holding a CiLCA qualification. It was noted therefore that the Parish Council continues to hold the General Power of Competence for the current term of Office.

13/26 The Internal Auditor report was received and noted.

14/26 -The Annual Governance Statement 2025-2026 was approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

15/26 The RFO presented the signed Accounting Statements 2025-2026 which were approved and signed by the Chairman.

16/26-The Certificate of Exemption for 2025-2026 was approved and signed by the RFO and the Chairman. It was confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP and the Chairman and RFO signed to acknowledge this fact. The RFO announced the dates of the Inspection Period to be 3rd June -14th July 2026.

17/26 It was resolved to formally accept the grant of £400.00 from Mendip Hills Fund for a new bench. A decision was made to purchase a three-seater, 100% recycled material bench, as this type was maintenance free for 25 years, as well as eco-friendly.

18/26 It was resolved to approve payments for April and May, and to acknowledge those due before the next meeting in July.

- ALCA Annual Fee £78.27
- Salary April £237.79
- Home expenses=£26.00+Fuel £6.30 (Internal Audit) =£32.30
- HMRC Tax/N.I.= £59.20
- Internal Auditor £25.00
- Bank Charges £4.25
- Salary May= £167.64
- Tax/N.I.=£42.00
- Home expenses=£26.00
- Payman (Payroll)=£167.64
- Bank charges =£4.25

The balances of accounts after May payments are:

- Current Account=£751.10
- Deposit Account= £11,580.45 (Second half of Precept £3,850.00 still to come in September)

19/26 Reports

- Unitary Councillor-Cllr Tristram mentioned the Banwell Bypass was about 4 months behind schedule and was expected to be completed sometime in 2027.
- Highways/Footpaths -The large subsidence crack just before the bridge on Whitehouse Lane has still not been addressed. The Clerk would report this again online.
- Parish Acre- Chair Shipton would contact the tree surgeons now the trees were in leaf, so an inspection could be carried out for ash dieback
- Parish Orderly-Nothing to report.
- Community Hub- The new Dame June Whitfield building has been officially opened in a ceremony, by the President, Joanna Lumley.

20/26 There was one item to take forward to the next meeting on Tuesday 28th July at 7.00pm:

- To decide on the purchase of a GOV.UK email domain and website to be compliant with Assertion 10 of the AGAR.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm