

**Minutes of the Stawley Parish Council Meeting held at Appley Pavilion at
7:30 pm on the 6th October 2026**

Parish Councillors present: Chairman, Paul Musgrove (PM)
Pat Sweet (PS)
Sarah Jones (SJ)
Olga Dawer (OD),

Others present:- Councillor Dave Mansell (DM),

Item	Action
1. Apologies for Absence Matt Vellacott (MV), Councillor Gwil Wren (Somerset Councillor)	
2. Declarations of Interest – None	
3. Minutes of Last meeting The minutes have been published on the Stash website after acceptance as a true record by those present at the last meeting.	
4. Matters Arising not Covered Elsewhere None	
5. Finance - The current bank balance is £4,804.54 and the Unity Bank is £10,474.27 - Invoices presented for signature: - Zurich Insurance - £214.00 - Microsoft for one year drive subscription - £54.72 - Heartbeat for Kittisford Defib service - £151.20 - A VAT rebate of £122.99 has been received from HMRC	PS
6. Planning Greenham Cottage field – no further news. The property is still on the market and the estate agent is aware of the outstanding enforcement order on the gate removal Hedge appeal. This appeal is still outstanding. The Planning Inspectorate ‘lost’ the original appeal but still have it on their file with the rest of a large backlog. Somerset Council continue to chase them for an answer.	
7. Community Nature Reserve. Nick Benge briefed the Council on the idea behind having a Community Nature Reserve based upon the Stockingford Stream. There will be a meeting on the 22 nd October to flesh out the idea with landowners in the area. The Council agreed to support the idea and will have a member at the meeting.	PM

8. Road Calming – The Chairman thanked Councillor Dave Mansell for his very helpful guidance on speed limits which had been sent to all the Parish Councillors. The issue of vehicle speed in our Parish was discussed. It was agreed that • a map of the proposed area for data collection in order to justify a speed limit or other means of calming vehicles will be forwarded to Councillor Mansell for action by Somerset Council • the cost of signage to deter people from speeding through specific areas will be sought • the school will be approached to determine whether they could have a lesson or lessons to encourage the children to influence parents to drive safely.	PM PM OD
9. Succession Planning – The Chairman and the Responsible Finance Officer (Councillor Sweet) will celebrate a decade in post in January 2028. New blood would be very useful to ensure the Council did not become stale. It was determined that an article should be written to appear in the Parish News in the middle of 2027 to find the new blood.	
10. Website Domain name and hosting - The website, stash.org.uk, is hosted at the moment by a company based in the USA. The renewal is due on the 16th October. It was agreed that the website should be moved to a UK based host. Parish Councils are being encouraged to use a .gov.uk domain name. That for Stawley would be stawley-pc.gov.uk and will be registered when we move to a new website at the end of 2027.	PM
11. Reports from Members • Roads –. Repairs to Greenham bridge may necessitate in some closure. • Footpaths – There is one spare fingerpost. The owner of the land at the west end of the Appley – Cothay footpath will be approached to see if it can be placed there.	SJ
12. Any Other Business – • Councillor Mansell briefed the Council on the dire financial situation at Somerset Council. • The Council agreed to donations to the Wivey Link and Wivey Cares of £250 each.	PS
13. Date of Next Meeting TBC	

Meeting closed at 8:47pm