

Minutes of the West Coker Parish Council Meeting  
Dawes Twineworks Visitor's Centre, 94 High Street, West Coker BA22 9AU  
**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2026 at 7:30pm**

**Present:**

Cllr A Perry (Chair), Cllr D Neal (Vice-Chair), Cllr A McPhee, Cllr B Hampshire, Cllr C Barker, Cllr A Chubb, Cllr R Aitken, Cllr C Guthrie, Cllr A Blight, Cllr B Andrews.

**In attendance:**

Kate Fullerton – Clerk, one member of the public.

**i) Public Session – to hear any matters from the public**

There were no public session items.

**ii) To receive reports from Somerset Council Councillors**

The report had been received before the meeting and had been emailed to all councillors.

**19:30 – Meeting opened.**

**1/25/198 To receive and consider any apologies for absence and to resolve to accept or refuse them**

No apologies had been received.

**2/25/199 To receive any declarations of interest for items on this agenda**

None were declared.

**3/25/200 To approve the Minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2026**

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2026 were approved as a true and accurate record.

**4/25/201 To review actions from the Minutes of the last meeting**

All actions from the previous meeting had been reviewed and were complete.

**5/25/202 To receive a report from the Wardens**

**a) Footpath Warden – Cllr Chubb**

A gate post had been removed outside No.1 Halves Lane and required replacement (behind the stone).

**ACTION: Cllr Neal/Ranger**

**b) Tree Warden – Cllr Blight**

Cllr Blight had reviewed application 26/00339/TCA and was satisfied with the proposed tree works.

**c) Environmental Warden – Cllr Andrews**

Cllr Andrews reported that he had planted seventeen trees on County land, with more are to be planted at the recreation ground.

**d) Flooding Warden – Cllr Guthrie**

There was nothing to report.

**6/25/203 Planning**

**a) Applications:**

- i. 26/00339/TCA – 49 High Street, West Coker, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 9AS – Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery work to No. 1 Larch Tree within a Conservation Area.

**RESOLVED:** No comment.

**b) To consider any recent planning applications from Somerset Council (South), received in the days after the agenda had been circulated and prior to this meeting. Interested public and parish councillors; please refer to (South) Somerset Council planning portal for details of planning items that might be discussed under this item:**

No additional planning applications had been received since the agenda was published.

**c) South Somerset Planning Decisions**

No planning decisions for the parish had been issued by Somerset Council.



**7/25/204 Parish Councillors' continuation plan (prepping for retirement of long-standing councillors) and plan for the mentorship of newly appointed councillors.**

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Barker was to draft a piece for the Ropewalker advising the community of likely upcoming vacancies and opportunities for residents.

**ACTION: Cllr Barker**

**8/25/205 To set a date for the Annual Parish Meeting (1<sup>st</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> June).**

**RESOLVED:** The date was set as 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2026, 7pm – 8.30pm at Dawes Twineworks, following the discovery of a clash with a previously proposed date of the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**9/25/206 Sampson's Wood - to receive an update on the transfer of the lease to West Coker Parish Council**

There was no update at this time.

**10/25/207 Bunford Heights Equipped Play Area (LEAP)**

**a) To receive an update from Somerset Council.**

No update had been received from Somerset Council.

**b) To consider any further action required.**

The Clerk was asked to continue following up with the Somerset Council Legal Department.

**ACTION: Clerk, Cllr Hewitson**

**11/25/208 Parish Ranger - to note upcoming work for the Ranger**

- Digging out the bubbling drain near Manor Farm flats
- Re-erecting the post at Ridge Lane.
- Clearing the pavement/road from Gooseacre to the Ropewalk.

**ACTION: Cllr Neal, Ranger**

**12/25/209 To share information on Local Community Network (LCN) matters – Chair Perry and Cllr Neal.**

Chair Perry and Cllr Neal reported that they had attended the Highways Workshop earlier that day. Somerset Rivers Authority had also attended and had distributed leaflets on Riparian Rights to riverside properties. It was noted that the Highways Workshop would be a quarterly meeting.

**13/25/210 Yeovil Town Council (YTC), request for financial support for the Octagon Theatre Project – to note meeting date for further discussions.**

Councillors noted the preferred meeting date of 24<sup>th</sup> of February at 2.30pm for further discussions. Cllrs Perry, Barker, Aitken, McPhee, Hampshire and Neal wished to attend.

**14/25/211 Village Pound – Cllr Aitken.**

Cllr Aitken reported that he was carrying out background feasibility work on transforming the pound into a sunken lanes museum. A formal proposal would be brought before the parish council if viable.

**ACTION: Cllr Aitken**

**15/25/212 Financial and regulatory matters**

**a) To receive a new quote from Somerset Council for emptying bins in the parish.**

A new quote for bin emptying had not yet been received, so the item was deferred. Cllr Blight suggested that no fees should be due as the remaining bins on the quote were on county-owned land. The clerk was to progress this.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**b) To approve the following payments:**

i.	K Fullerton – Clerk salary March 2026	£ 1489.95
ii.	K Fullerton – Monthly expenses (wfh, MS365) March 2026	£ 46.52
iii.	P Sandford – Rec Grd Grant Caretaker salary March 2026	£ 153.87
iv.	Somerset Council – Pension March 2026	£ 499.06
v.	HMRC – PAYE March 2026	-
vi.	Premier Landscaping – Ranger January 2026	£ 560.74
vii.	B Andrews – reimbursement for trees + delivery	£ 93.27
viii.	Somerset Landscapes Ltd – Inv SLL36539 WC Rec Grd Grant	£ 7970.04
ix.	ElanCity Ltd – Inv SAJ/UK/2026/03280 Solar SID	£ 3252.04
x.	Premier Landscaping – Ranger February 2026	£ 875.00
xi.	BT – WIFI JP Inv January - PAID BY DD 16/01/2026	£ 25.43

**RESOLVED:** Cllrs Barker and Neal were given authority to proceed with authorising the above payments.

**ACTION: Cllrs Neal, Barker**

**c) To agree the sum for bank transfer between WCPC accounts.**

The Clerk advised that a transfer of £10,000 between WCPC accounts would be required.

**d) To receive the bank reconciliation.**

The Clerk presented a bank reconciliation dated 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2026, showing a capital balance of £171,944.55

**16/25/213 Highway Matters**

**a) To monitor sluice gate issues.**

There had been no update from Somerset Council regarding the sluice gate issues.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**b) To note a meeting date of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am High Street/Dibbles Lane – RH (FWAG), LN (SC Highways), Ranger, KD (landowner), NS (resident).**

A meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> March, 10am at High Street/Dibbles Lane was noted. Cllrs: Perry, Neal, Andrews, Barker to attend.

**c) Water run-off issues from The Ridge, running down through Snails Terrace/Churlands Close – to receive and comment on a report from Roy Hayes/FWAG.**

A formal report from FWAG regarding water run-off from the Ridge was still awaited. Cllr Neal was to speak to the affected resident.

**ACTION: Cllr Neal**

**d) Dibbles Lane (formerly Sleight's Lane) – outstanding works by Somerset Council and landowner.**

Outstanding works on Dibbles Lane were to be addressed at the upcoming meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2026.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**e) To receive Road Defects Report from Somerset Council.**

The Road Defects Report had been received.

**f) To note any blocked drains or potholes reported online by councillors and any follow-up required by the parish council.**

Blocked drains from Sleight's Lane to Pye Farm (south-side) were to be reported by Cllr Barker. Cllr Blight said that the drain that she had reported had not yet received attention. The Clerk was asked to report sunken drains outside Dawes to Lee Norman at Highways.

**ACTION: Cllr Barker, Clerk**

**g) A30 resurfacing preparations**

A30 resurfacing were noted as almost complete.

**h) To note road closure notices.**

Reviewed and noted.

**17/25/214 To receive proposals and information regarding the new pavilion project and playing field refurbishment**

**a) To receive two further quotes for the installation of a footpath from the pedestrian gate to the tennis courts.**

Two further quotes for the footpath installation had not yet been obtained; the Clerk was meeting contractors in the coming weeks.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**b) To obtain quotes for a replacement toddler-multi piece of equipment.**

A quote for replacement toddler equipment had been requested from Somerset Landscapes Ltd but not yet received.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**18/25/215 To receive the following reports**

**a) Recreation Ground for Children – Chair Perry**

Chair Perry had nothing to report.

**b) Dawes Twinetworks – Cllr Aitken.**

Cllr Aitken thanked Cllr Barker for assistance during a challenging meeting about re-homing historical equipment. Two items of machinery had been selected for renovation and display.

**c) West Coker Commemoration Hall (WCCH) – Cllr Hampshire.**

Cllr Hampshire reported that the patio work was complete and looked excellent, with a new drainage system. A recent jumble sale had raised £951.00. A film night and a bingo night were scheduled. Members congratulated Cllr Hampshire on the WCCH's success.

Chair: Mrs Anita Perry, Corner Barn Farm, Primrose Hill, East Coker, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 9NH  
Telephone: 07968 506607 Email: [anitamperry@hotmail.com](mailto:anitamperry@hotmail.com)  
Clerk: Ms Kate Fullerton, 25 Helena Road, Yeovil BA20 2HQ  
Telephone: 07712 398985 Email: [clerk@westcoker-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westcoker-pc.gov.uk)



**19/25/216 To receive correspondence**

All correspondence had been circulated by email before the meeting.

**20/25/217 To note items for the next agenda**

- LGPS – Employer pension contributions reducing for next period.
- LEVI – to consider locations for Local Vehicle Infrastructure.
- Councillor succession.
- Annual Residents Meeting arrangements.
- Financials – Year end.
- Internal Audit
- AGAR 25/26

**ACTION: Clerk**

**21/25/218 To note the date of the next meeting**

2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026, 7.30pm, Ordinary Parish Council Meeting.

**20:39 Meeting closed.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_