

Hinton St George Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Monday 19th May 2025
At St. Georges Village Hall, Hinton St. George

Present: Cllrs R. Lewin, P. Reynolds, F. Voss, A. Barber, and P. Lanham
Somerset Councillor J. Roundell- Greene and J. Chant (Parish Clerk).

Members of the Public 4 members of the public

The meeting opened at 7.15 p.m.

1. Apologies.

Cllr S. Ashton, and M. Herbert

The Chair invited members of the public to speak at this point of the meeting, but no one wished to do so.

2. Minutes from the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th May 2024

Were approved and signed as a true and correct record of what took place.

3. Matters Arising

The Clerk confirmed that the reports on the Pelota Wall had been considered, and work is due to commence towards the end of May.

4. Hinton St George Parish Council Chairman's Annual Statement.

The Chair began by thanking members of the public and Somerset Councillor J Roundell- Greene for attending the meeting.

He stated that it had been a very full year, and a key milestone had been the start of the Conservation Area Appraisal, which included two public meetings. The Heritage Consultant was now preparing the draft document, and the village will be consulted once this is ready. He thanked the members of the working party, which included Cllrs P Reynolds and P Lanham.

The Chair confirmed that the Parish Council had submitted detailed responses to the first stage of the draft Local Plan being prepared by Somerset Council and that the Clerk has attended several meetings on the plan which will run from 2028 – 2046. The Parish Council also continues to review and comment on planning applications within the village, including those for works to trees.

He thanked Cllr A Barber for his continued work on the 5 defibrillators in the village ensuring the correct checks are being done and he felt the next challenge was to ensure people undertook the basic training, so they knew how to use one. Some of the previous sessions had low attendance, so another session will hopefully be held in the Autumn.

The Chair expressed the Council's frustration that the flooding issues along Merriott Road have still not been resolved, and he thanked the Clerk and Cllr P Reynolds for their efforts. He also expressed thanks from the Parish Council to Somerset

Signed

Date

Councillor J Roundell – Greene for her support in raising this with Somerset Council and he assured people efforts will continue until the necessary action is taken.

On a happier note, he thanked Cllr P Lanham for the work he had done with the lighting engineer, which has improved the level of lighting in that area, ensuring it is much more in keeping with the Conservation Area.

He expressed dismay at the disastrous impact on the night sky due to the light pollution for the Golf Club and assured people the Parish Council has commented to planning and enforcement at Somerset Council and they will pursue this issue and would encourage members of the public to complain.

The Council has continued its efforts to try to improve safety at the A30 junction, and some progress has been made with hedge reduction. The Parish Council have also commented on a planning application along this stretch of the A30 requesting additional signage and a speed reduction.

He confirmed that the Parish Council speak to Highways about all roads in the Parish and meetings with the Highways Supervisor have resulted in some work to Summer Lane and other roads, but now the focus is on Lopen Road as there is a serious issue with water from local springs which has not been addressed.

The Chair confirmed work to the Pelota Wall to stabilise and improve some of the back surface will start soon and he expressed thanks to the Reading Room Trust for their contribution to the costs.

During the year, the Parish Council was pleased to continue its support to the Hinton Hound and the grass cutting at St Georges Churchyard and he was particularly pleased they were able to support the restoration project for St. Georges Bells as it was wonderful to hear them ring out across the village.

He thanked all the volunteers for their time and efforts on various activities and projects around the village, and gave special thanks to Don Morecombe for all his efforts ensuring the footpaths were regularly checked and well maintained.

The Chair also thanked Mark Pitman for his continued excellent work around the Parish, which this year had included the usual grass and hedge cutting, but also refurbishment of some Heritage signposts and the notice boards.

He then thanked the Clerk for her support for the Parish Council throughout the year and the amount of effort she puts into her role as Clerk for the Parish.

5. Matters to report.
Nothing to report.

6. Correspondence
None received.

Meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Signed

Date