

UNCONFIRMED

**MELLS PARISH COUNCIL
(mells-pc.gov.uk)**

Minutes of Mells Parish Council held in the Barn on Tuesday 13 May 2025

- 01.05.25 PRESENT:** Cllr John Earl – Chair, Cllr Steve West, Cllr Jan Seewooruttun, Cllr Alan Brady, Cllr Claire Freeman, Cllr John Henderson – Vice Chair, Cllr Vince Turner, Cllr David Seviour, Cllr Clare Asquith
In Attendance: Joy Book – Clerk,
Members of the public: 0
- 02.05.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Barry Clarke – Somerset Council
- 03.05.25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr West declared an interest in item 09.05.25 i.
- 04.05.25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** None
- 05.05.25 APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON 8 APRIL 2025**
Previously circulated. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 06.05.25 SOMERSET COUNCIL - COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** (Forwarded prior to meeting)
- i. **Consultation Launched to Help Shape the Future of Pharmaceutical Services:** A consultation has been launched to help assess the current and future needs of pharmaceutical provision in Somerset. Closes on 16 June https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/public-health/pna-consultation-2025/supporting_documents/PNA%20First%20Draft%20202528%20for%20consultation.pdf
 - ii. **Frome School Streets Consultation:** In April 2024, Frome Town Council implemented the Frome Safer School Streets trial to create a safer and more pleasant environment for those travelling to and from school Reduce traffic and congestion and improve road safety. Closes 30 May 2025 <https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/active-travel/frome-school-streets-consultation/>
 - iii. **Great Green Directory Application:** The Great Green Directory is a one stop shop where Somerset residents can go to find local, sustainable and environmentally friendly businesses to help make eco and ethical choices when choosing products and services. The directory will be featured on our main Somerset Council website. If you are a local Eco-Business who would like to be listed in our new Great Green Directory, we would love you to be involved. Closes 30 November 2025. <https://somersetcouncil.citizenspace.com/climate-and-environment/great-green-directory-application/>
- 07.05.25 MATTERS ARISING**
- i. **Paddock lease:** Awaiting confirmation of registration of the lease with Land Registry. The committee are now seeking advice from many agencies regarding the placement of a building on the paddock.
 - ii. **Pavilion lease and future of recreation ground:** The Directors have agreed to attend the June meeting.
 - iii. **Councillor vacancies – Co-option:** No interest has been expressed.
 - iv. **Quarry noise:** Residents have met with Vincent Pitt, Area General Manager who has taken onboard the various concerns and will look into ways to alleviate them where possible.

08.05.25 HIGHWAY AND FOOTPATH ISSUES:

- i. **Condition of grass triangle – Bottom Lane:** A resident has asked if they can plant a tree on the land which has been given approval subject to agreeing what type of tree.
- ii. **Speeding vehicles in Vobster:** Clerk will make further enquiries regarding the survey that is required to start the progress to implement a change of speed.
- v. **Park Corner:** No further information.
- vi. **Speeding traffic and mud on road - Lime Kiln Hill:** No further information.
- vii. **Water seeping through tarmac – Little Green:** More patching has been undertaken but this does not address the underlying issue.
- viii. **Pavement near Mells Park:** This is not a problem at present.
- ix. **Layby by Vobster bus shelter:** Highways do not object to this in principle. Clerk to ascertain what is required to move this forward.

09.05.25 PLANNING

- i. **New applications:**
2025/0800/HSE: Replacement of front porch with two storey extension – Willow Cottage, Vobster – no objections.
- ii. **Other planning matters:** None

10.05.25 CORRESPONDENCE:

- i. **Mells magazine – future funding:** Cllr Henderson will meet with Peter Corbett to establish what is required for the long term future of the magazine before the PC commits to funding.
- ii. **Citizens Advice – request for funding:** PC gave a donation in December 2024 so will postpone any further funding until later in the year.

11.05.25 ACCOUNTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank account: Lloyds at 13 May 2025 - £16,688.52
 Barclays at 20 April - £13,068.50

i. **Payment of accounts – April**

Clerk's Salary & expenses (April)	£334.68
HMRC PAYE (Period 2)	£80.40
J W Witt (151257) bin emptying	£81.58
Easy website monthly fees (hosting & support)	£39.60
12 Cloud Payroll (CS-S26-00541)	£6.00
David Seviour –truck, plants, gravel for outside Vobster Inn	£245.50
Sign fixing works	£16.77

ii. **Receipts:** Precept £16,500.

iii. **Annual Governance Part 2 Exemption Certificate 2024/2025 – approval and signing:** Previously circulated. All in favour of signing this certificate as the PC's gross income and expenditure is below £25,000. Clerk will forward to the external auditor.

iv. **Approval and signing of Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2024/2025 – approval and signing:** Previously circulated. All in favour of approving the above. Chair and Clerk signed and dated form.

v. **Approval and signing of Section 2 Accounting Statements for 2024/2025:** Previously circulated. All in favour of approving the above. Chair and Clerk signed and dated form. The Clerk has arranged to drop off the accounts with the internal auditor tomorrow.

12.05.25 ITEMS TO REPORT / ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- i. **Fallen tree across path:** Cllr Asquith to establish whose land it is on.
- ii. **Village signs - theft:** Various village name signs have been removed and put up in different villages around the area. Any suspicious activity should be reported to the police.

13.05.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 10 June 2025 at 7.15pm in the Barn.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Printed name: _____