

WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL

Incorporating Clapton, Hewish, Woolminstone, Roundham & Henley Manor

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 23rd July 2026

Present: Cllrs J. Borland (Chair), C. Broom and J. Archer

Also in attendance was 3 residents, County Councillors Mike Best, and Clerk to the Council R. Richards

436 Members to receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given

Cllr Holt had sent her apologies and the reason given was approved.

437 To receive any Declarations of Interest (pecuniary or non-statutory) – None received

438 Open Forum including Somerset Councillors Reports - Public participation is welcome

Please refer to Section 3 of our Standing Orders [WCPC Standing Orders - May 2026](#)

Resident participation raised issues with the proposal to divert Public Footpath CH 27/21 including the lack of safety provided by the half barriers at the railway crossing and concerns that for safety reasons these should be replaced with full barriers. Also raised were the concerns over the danger of falling branches that overhang the road and properties along a stretch of road through Clapton. (See Item 445)

439 Approve the Minutes of the Council Meetings held 28th May and 18th June 2026

Resolved: Members approved the Minutes **Proposed:** Cllr Broom **Seconded:** Cllr Archer **Vote:** 3-0-0

440 Outstanding Items Update

- a) Joint Community Emergency Plan with Wayford PC

Wayford cancelled their July meeting so no movement on this yet.

- b) Speed Indicator Device reports

Cllr Archer reported that the information from one device has been downloaded and the second one will be download in the next few weeks.

441 Planning Matters

West Crewkerne Parish Council is a Statutory Consultee for Planning Applications and as such does not make the final decision on any application. Any decisions and comments made by the Parish Council will be reported to the Planning Officer. Somerset Council is the Planning Authority and will issue the final decision notice.

- a) Members to resolve Applications received: None
- b) Applications Decisions received: None
- c) Applications Awaiting Decision: 24/03010/FUL Land Adj to Crewkerne Straight TA18 8RJ

442 Finance

Members to approve the July Bankline payments and the previous two months bank reconciliations

Resolved: Members approved the Bankline payments and the bank reconciliations for May and June

Proposed: Cllr Borland **Seconded:** Cllr Archer **Vote:** 3-0-0

443 Document Review

- a) Councillors Code of Conduct
- b) Grant Awarding Policy
- c) Donations Policy

Resolved: Members reviewed and adopted all three policies

Proposed: Cllr Archer **Seconded:** Cllr Borland **Vote:** 3-0-0

444 Report from the Joint Burial Committee – See Appendix 1

445 Highways Matters and Flooding Issues including the availability of Flood Resilience Funding

After a brief discussion it was agreed that although there are several areas where flooding is a problem we cannot apply for funding unless we can come up with a solution to the issues.

Due to residents' concerns it was agreed that letters need to be sent to Open Reach and the owners of Clapton Court about the dangers of overhanging tree branches.

446 Public Rights of Way – Nothing to report.

447 Report from the latest Crewkerne and Ilminster LCN Meeting

Cllr Archer with input from County Councillors Mike Best gave a short report on the last LCN meeting including how things are moving forward.

448 Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk gave a short report including an update on HMRC taking the first Variable Direct Debit payment; the submission of the 2025/26 AGAR; and confirmation from the external auditors that they have received and logged WCPC notification of exempt status for the year.

449 Date of Next Meeting: 24th September 2026

Meeting Closed at 8.15pm

Approved by West Crewkerne Parish Council on: 24th September 2026 - Minute No: 453

Signed: *Julia Borland* Chair