

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>**  
**JANUARY 2026**

**Present:** Ian Cannock (Chair) Fiona Crockett, Tricia Wastvedt, Tim Marchant, Lisa Coles and Jean Fossaceco (Clerk)

**Also Present:** A member of the public and John Whittock

A new councillor was appointed – John Whittock.

1. **Apologies:** Fiona Gourley and Matt McCabe
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** None declared
3. **10 Minutes public participation:** Bids are being sought by B&NES for a new recycling contract. This has not been widely publicised; however, the criteria appears to match the service B&NES currently offers. The clerk will ask the Local Authority about this.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:** All in order.

<b>5. Clerk's Report</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>TIMELINE</b>
As distributed. Councillors have either attended training or are scheduled to later this month. The clerk is also undertaking training. The Council approved the new website and myself and councillors will activate their new gov.uk email addresses informing people of the change in due course. Additional Data Protection and Freedom of Information paperwork will be adopted in due course.	JF	By next meeting
<b>6. Ward Councillor Report</b>		
FG has spoken to B&NES about improvements to the Cinder Path but is yet to hear back.		
<b>7. Financial Matters</b>		
<b>Clerk's Salary</b> £1,048.00-HMRC-£262.00-Clerk's Expenses £59.33 - approved <b>ALCA SUBSCRIPTION 2026/27</b> - £122.17- approved <b>ALCA Training Invoice</b> - £35.00 (already paid) - approved <b>Invoice for the location of the septic tank and works for access</b> - £1,582.00 plus £316.40 VAT = £1,898.40 (already paid) - approved <b>Parish Online Invoice</b> - £300.00 (already paid) – approved <b>Dunkley's Payroll</b> - £50.28 (already paid) - approved <b>Quotes from Contractors for the Play Area/ Recreation Field –</b> Consideration was given to a variety of quotes with one local company being awarded the contract for 2026/27 on the basis of the level of service offered, their experience and available equipment. All companies will be informed of the decision by the clerk.	JF	ASAP
<b>Play Area Inspections quote for 2026/27 - £101.00 plus VAT per quarterly inspection</b> – following discussions a unanimous decision was made to accept the quote taking into account the service offered and the modest increase in price. The clerk will inform the Local Authority.	JF	ASAP
<b>Precept 2026/27</b> – following extensive discussions a decision was reached unanimously to increase the Parish Council precept by 5% equalling £11,948.75 for the next financial year. The clerk will return the precept form to B&NES Finance.	JF	ASAP
<b>8. Planning</b>		
<b>25/04569/FUL</b> - Oak Cottage, 91 White Hill Shoscombe Bath Bath and North East Somerset BA2 8LU Erection of a new single storey glass room to the front elevation. Following discussions, comments regarding light and the use of local materials will be submitted directly to the Planning Office by the clerk.	JF	ASAP

<p><b>25/04860/VAR - Variation of Condition</b> - Land and Buildings West of St Julians Farm St Julian's Road Shoscombe Bath Bath and North East Somerset. Following discussions, a response of 'object' to the removal of the variations/conditions was agreed and will be submitted to B&amp;NES Planning by the clerk.</p> <p><b>25/04859/FUL</b> – Overdale, 25 Rag Hill Shoscombe Bath Bath and North East Somerset BA2 8LS - Erection of rear and side extension and alteration to dwelling. Following discussions, a response of 'support' was agreed and will be submitted to B&amp;NES Planning by the clerk.</p>	<p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>	<p>By the response deadline</p> <p>By the response deadline</p>
<p align="center"><b>9. Climate, Nature and Sustainability Working Group</b> Nothing to Report</p>	<p>TW</p>	
<p align="center"><b>10. Village Hall and Recreation Field – Report distributed</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transparency Code-VHMC agendas, minutes &amp; meetings – it was agreed the clerk would ask the secretary to forward a precis of the minutes to us as the Parish Council/Trustees and to the Village Newsletter.</li> <li>• Air Source Heat Pumps – following some concerns about the need for planning permission for the heat pump motors as they are visible with one being in a vulnerable position with regard to potential theft, research has taken place with a view to having the pumps relocated. This will be further investigated with the VHMC.</li> <li>• Accessible disabled toilet – it was suggested an options study be commissioned to assess viability, minimum dimensions and costs; potentially with applications to charities for funding. The Council have been told there is an experienced individual who could undertake this. It will be raised at the VHMC meeting.</li> <li>• Car park drainage to eradicate the mud pool – as a result of the excessive rain recently, the area next to the village hall leading towards the road has become very muddy as there is insufficient drainage. Some research has taken place and this could be resolved with some preparation work being undertaken. This could be followed the installation of a storm water storage container and will be raised at the next VHMC meeting.</li> <li>• B&amp;NES have agreed to install a sign on the roadside towards the Hall – Village Hall and Recreation Field and there is the opportunity to install a sign by the entrance to the car park. The PC are in favour of this.</li> </ul>	<p>JF</p> <p>TM</p> <p>TM</p> <p>TM</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>By next VHMC meeting</p> <p>Raise at VHMC meeting</p> <p>Raise at the VHMC meeting</p>
<p align="center"><b>11. Sustran's Update</b>– FCr – Report distributed</p>		
<p>A meeting regarding Route 24 took place at the school with the Head Teacher, PC representative, the Chair of Governors, Ward Councillor and Alban Luffman – Sustran's Project Manager in attendance. Discussions included further safety measures including a speed warning to cyclists, the possibility of a footpath from the Village Hall car park to the Cinder Path and a car park. A further meeting is to take place in March.</p>		
<p align="center"><b>12. Councillor Reports</b></p>		
<p>A) <b>HELAA/Local Plan</b> – No further updates</p> <p>B) <b>Public Rights of Way</b> – Our Ward Councillor has spoken to B&amp;NES about the potential to widen the Cinder Path; she has yet to hear back. Following an application to B&amp;NES for a Traffic Regulation Order for Byway BA25/33 by a Wellow resident due to excessive recreational traffic making it unsuitable for horses and pedestrians and an increase in fly tipping, a request for</p>		

