MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHOSCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7th MAY 2026

Present: Ian Cannock (Chair), Jean Fossaceco (Clerk), Lisa Coles, Tim Marchant, John Whittock and Fiona Crockett.

Also Present: Fiona Gourley (Ward Councillor)

Joe Williams was voted in as a new Councillor.

1. **Apologies**: Tricia Wastvedt
2. **Declaration of Interests for this meeting:** None Declared
3. **10 Minutes public participation:** None Requested
4. **Minutes of the last Meeting:** All in order

5. Clerk's Report	**ACTION**	**TIMELINE**
As distributed. Clerk will ask the Everything Shoscombe website co-ordinator to add a link to the new Parish Council website, the clerk will send the Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust link together with all financial attachments to JWil together with training links. A letter received by a parishioner regarding safer walking routes around the village will be discussed at the next meeting. ***Agenda Item**	JF JF	ASAP ***Agenda Item
6. Ward Councillor Report		
FG updated the Council on a number of items including a possible safer route to school (particularly in view of their support of Active Travel), planning training and the possibility of a Westlink service between Shoscombe, Wellow and Bath. She will keep us informed of any developments.		
7. Financial Matters		
Financial Matters: **Presentation of Financial paperwork:** 1. Annual Governance Statement 2025 to 2026 – section 1 - JF 2. Annual Accounting Statements 2025 to 2026 – section 2 - JF 3. Certificate of Exemption – JF **All approved by the Council** – The clerk will forward the Certificate of Exemption to external auditors **Date of Exercise of Public Rights** – 27th May to the 15th July – Monday to Friday at a mutually convenient time and place. Notices will be displayed on all notice boards. **Payments out:** **Clerk's Salary**- £1083.50 – HMRC - £270.00 and expenses £105.72 including internal audit expenses and additional printing paper – all approved – proposed LC and seconded FC. **Clear Councils annual insurance premium** - £918.26 was approved and will be renewed as per our 3-year agreement. The clerk will forward payment. Proposed – IC and seconded – LC. **Newsletter** - £850.00 including £200.00 from the Church **ALCA** – Training £35.00 and £14.00 (already paid) **Dunkley's Payroll** - £50.28 (already paid) **Milsom Metalworks**-additional bolts and metalwork-£93.60 (already paid) **Shoscombe Community Benefit Society** - £400 towards expenses for the bid for the Apple Tree Inn (already paid) **Payments in:** **Precept -** £5,974.38 **Church Newsletter Contribution -** £200	 JF JF

CIL Payment from B&NES - £2038.03 – further discussions will take place regarding this at the July meeting giving consideration to suggestions of the purchase of some cherry trees for the Rec and using some to assist with Active Travel. ***July Agenda Item**	JF	***July Agenda Item
8. Planning		
Draft Planning Format – JW – this, which suggests a more structured approach, will be discussed in further detail at the July meeting - ***Agenda Item.** **The Local Plan –** B&NES are still going through the cycle of strategic and local plan updates covering the period up to 2042 following the UK government reset of mandatory new housing targets for many areas, including B&NES, to be approximately double that previously. The draft Local Plan consultation is planned to start in summer 2026 running through till public hearings before government examiners in late 2026 with adoption planned for 2027. Currently it contains options for land to the north of Shoscombe but south of the A367 to be considered for between 550 to 700 residential properties and for an expansion of Bath Business Park westwards and north-eastwards for additional employment land. https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/documents/s88784/E3636%20-%20Appendix%201%20-%20Local%20Plan%20Options%20Document%202025.pdf The parish council will review and comment on the draft local plan when published and will keep the community informed via the Newsletter and the new council website. https://shoscombeparishcouncil.gov.uk/our-village/	JF Parish Council	***July Agenda Item Once consultation dates are published
9. Climate, Nature and Sustainability Working Group – No Updates		
10. Village Hall and Recreation Field		
1) **Air Heat Source Pump/Loose Cable/Mudslide/Drainage** – the relocation/caging of the Heat Source Pump to the rear of the Hall is still under discussion/ with regard to the loose cable, TM and LC will liaise as to how this could be removed/ specifications and quotes are being sought regarding the drainage issue. 2) **Disabled accessible toilet** – an assessment has been completed and this is being considered. 3) **New Boules pitch** – 'Use at players risk' signs have been installed and displayed but clerk to contact the boules team and request, with their expertise and knowledge, that they undertake a risk assessment of the newly fitted pitch and forward this to the Council and the Village Hall Management Committee. It was noted that there is evidence of moles so far this year but the previous year's trenches should be filled, this is in hand.	TM/LC VHMC JF	By July meeting Ongoing ASAP
11. Councillor Reports		
A) HELAA/JSP/Local Plan – see planning **B) Public Rights of Way –** Footpath BA23/24 has been obstructed for a number of years and this has been investigated by JWit who has contacted B&NES and our Ward Councillor. He will forward photographs to assist with this issue. JWil will also look into this. **C) School –** Report distributed – the Hadrian's Wall fund raising walk went well and the Council were sent photographs by Fossa of how the Council's donation towards new EYFS play equipment had been used which was much appreciated**.**	JWil	ASAP

D) Highways/Hedge Cutting – Preparation work is still underway regarding the SLOW road signage along Double Hill but this is in hand. The requested 40 mph limit between the Mercedes Roundabout and Wellow will not be considered until 2027/28. There is a visibility issue along the roadside along Wellow Lane and Hang Hill due to roadside cutting not having taken place. TM will report this on Fix My Street. **E) Church/Burial Board-** pea shingle has been laid on the driveway with more to be laid.	TM	ASAP
12. Review of Standing Orders		
These were approved – all in favour.		
Dates of Next Meetings: **9th July - Parish Council meeting** **22nd July 2022 – Parish Liaison** **10th September – Parish Council meeting** **21st October – Parish Liaison**		