

DRAFT

PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL

**The Minutes for the above Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 13th May 2026.
7.00pm at Pimperne Village Hall.**

PRESENT: Cllrs P Slocombe (Chairman), Cllrs. A Argles, C Beckford, S O'Connell, M Richley, M Strange, J Tanner.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk), 5 Members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Sherry Jespersen.

1. The Election of the Chairman and the signing of the Acceptance of Office.

-Cllr Slocombe was re-elected as Chairman and signed the Acceptance of Office.

2. The Election of the Vice Chair and the signing of the Acceptance of Office.

-Cllr Tanner was re-elected as Vice Chair and signed the Acceptance of Office.

3. To appoint the following officers:

-**Tree Warden:** Cllr Strange

-**Rights of Way Officer:** Cllr Argles

-**Highways Officer:** Cllr Argles

-**Flood Warden and Community Resilience Officer:** Cllr Tanner

-**Village Hall Representative:** Cllr Slocombe

-**Transport Officer:** Cllr Richley

-**DAPTC Officer:** Cllr O'Connell

-**Communities Officer:** Cllr Beckford

4. To consider granting dispensations as required: None required

5. Declarations of Interest: None required.

6. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2026.

-The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman

7. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:

-A resident asked whether there was any further update for the removal/ replacement of the larger Instavolt signage at the EV Charging centre, and whether there needed to be WC in situ at the centre. The Chair confirmed that the signage on the highway had been replaced with signage more in keeping with the surroundings, however we await the larger signs to be replaced. There is no provision for a toilet to be installed at the centre.

Chairman

8. Hilltop Ward Report: No current update

9. MATTERS ARISING:

-Local Government Boundary Commission – Ward Boundary changes to be placed on June agenda.

-PPC to write to Simon Hoare M.P. for follow up information from the Flood Resilience Meeting held on the 19th March.

Chairman/Clerk

-Cllr Strange requested that PPC write to Mr E Lukins to confirm that they would not be paying for the Plane tree outside of the church to be pollarded.

Chairman/Clerk

10- URGENT MATTERS: None raised.

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

a) New Applications: None received.

Chairman/Clerk

b) Approved Application:

c) Outstanding Applications:

-P/ADV/2025/07004: Proposal: Retain 4.no. non illuminated double-sided signs attached to existing lamp posts. PPC Objects

Clerk

-P/FUL/2020/0041: Erect 15 houses. 40% Affordable.

Chairman

d) Other Planning matters:

-Woodbury/ Former Methodist Chapel site: No response from Mr Mulholland received. **Clerk**

-S106 Homefield: Clerk and Chairman still working on the quotes and allocation of funds with DC Officer A Galpin. **Chairman/Clerk**

-Franwill Site S106: The details of this application remain the same. **Chairman**

-EV Charging site:

e) Tree Applications: None received.

Cllr Strange

12. Pimperne Community Field:

-The latest batch of 120 tree saplings from the Woodland Trust were planted into the perimeter hedging on 15th March and some have already been removed by unknown persons. The PC would like to remind residents that the field and the boundary hedging are the responsibility of the PC and hedgerows/ saplings/ trees or grass should not be removed or tampered with by anyone without the permission of the PC.

Cllr Strange

More trees have been secured, and another 420 free saplings from the Woodland Trust's scheme for community projects with an expected delivery in November.

Cllr Strange

The new meandering pathway around the field looked good until it was mown over. **Cllr Strange**
It has been reported that weed killer has been put down at the property where the PC paid to have the brambles removed.

Cllr Strange

18 fruit trees were delivered and planted on 10th May, this is a bit late for planting, these trees will require watering during the dry summer period.

Cllr Strange/Chairman

-PPC to write to the owners of the properties on the boundaries of the field to update them on what will happen in the next phase of the work on the field.

Chairman/Clerk

-The Chairman/Clerk to write again to the resident in Boyte Rd, requesting that he reinstate the boundary chain link fence and posts which he has removed.

Chairman/Clerk

13. Finances:

a) The Clerk had circulated the financial report for April 2026.

Clerk

b) Payment Approval: The Parish Council approved the following payments.

Clerks Salary:	At agreed rate.
HMRC PAYE	£ 161.24
Bank charges	£ 4.25
Grant Pimperne Sports Society	£ 1,554.00
Village Hall Hire	£ 75.00
Farwell Contracting Ltd	£ 900.00
DAPTC Subscription	£ 594.09
Martin Park Gardening Services	£ 1,320.00

The Clerk confirmed that the VAT reclaim for 25-26 had been received into the Bank Account.

The Clerk confirmed that the first instalment of the precept 26-27 had been received into the Bank Account.

Clerk

The books will be collected from the Internal Auditor on Friday 15th May.

Clerk

14. Brief Update:

a) Tree Warden Report:

-A resident from Fiveways Cottages has approached Cllr Strange regarding the large Beech tree outside the property which is blocking light and causing damage to their brickwork, Cllr Strange

has approached DC for advice regarding this matter. Temporary TPO to be raised.

Cllr Strange/Clerk

b) Flood Warden:

-A dry spell and warmer weather has resulted in a lessening of water flow in the stream. The flood risk season has to a large extent diminished from ground water flooding, however, flash flooding on the A354 remains from the increasing number of cloud burst situations. On April 23rd Dorset Council, The Environment Agency and Wessex Water were present in the village hall to answer questions from residents of both Pimperne and Blandford. Unfortunately, due to a lack of publicity this was poorly attended. I put out social media postings and informed Blandford Town Council of the event. The Environment Agent stated information was sent to me and the Parish Clerk but both myself and Jan did not receive any information. I asked Wessex Water for assurances regarding the safety of drinking water at times of flooding and high-water tables. I have received an answer via email stating that a lay person would I think would consider satisfactory. I asked the EA if they had independently analysed the flood water rather than just relying on data from WW. I did not receive a satisfactory answer on the 23rd of April and nothing since. Lastly, I do not believe that our M.P has yet either given the PC or placed on social media a report on the meeting held on the 19th March. May I ask fellow Councillors to consider writing to our M.P. requesting that a report is sent so that we may refer to the answers given by the three agencies for reference so allowing us to follow up actions where possible. **Cllr Tanner**

c) Highways and Rights of Way:

-Highways:

-The Chairman is to arrange a meeting with DC R Skeats to walk around the village and discuss the following Highways issues as confirmed by Cllrs at this meeting: **Chairman**

-The new roundel on the A354 has been past Anvil bend towards Salisbury has been agreed, we await a date for this to be completed. **Cllr Argles/Chairman**

-Protruding slab on the foot/cycle path on the A354 – Letton.

-Church Rd: Footpath depression and raised water meter box outside Church Lodge.

-Growth of weeds narrowing the foot/cycle path on the A354 – Letton.

-Bus Markings outside of the Former Farquharson Arms and The Willows.

-Kerb stones impeding the flow of water, nr Old Bakery.

20mph repeater signs, where are we permitted to have more and how much will they cost.

-Speed limit from Old Bakery Close towards Blandford to be reassessed.

-Arlecks Lane – The PC do not believe that there is a solution to the ongoing issues with the traffic in Arlecks Lane – request advice on this from DC Highways Officer.

Cllr Argles/Chairman

d) Village Hall:

-There have been further queries raised regarding the Licence Agreement between Hamwic and the PC concerning allowing access to parents to park in the VH car park during school drop off/collection time. Chairman to consider the response to these queries. **Chairman**

-f) DAPTC:

-Cllr O’Connell had circulated some documents from the DAPTC regarding surveys carried out regarding communications between Town and PC’s and Dorset Council. (SORE).

Cllr O’Connell/Chairman

-Cllr O’Connell has been booked onto the next Planning Forum to be held 16th June in Dorchester. The Chairman also to attend this event. **Cllr O’Connell**

g) Transport Officer: No current update

Clerk

15. Community Officer Property checks:

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-The PC would like thank Mr S Harper who has done an excellent job painting, inserting the glass and installing the new door to the BT box book swap. Mr Harper has also stated that he will repaint the rest of the BT Box. **Chairman/Clerk**

-Benches on the A354 opposite Langbourne is overgrown and needs cutting back. **Cllr Beckford**

-wooden strut on seat outside the Church is broken. **Chairman**

-Bus shelter – Floor swept and bench cleaned. **Cllr Beckford**

-Junior Play Area:

-Wood topping section is missing from the chain link fence and a further section is loose.

-Basket swing still awaiting repair **Chairman**

-Fence post loose, by ‘No Dogs Sign’. **Chairman**

-Rope has been replaced on the three posts leading up the wooden steps. **Chairman**

-Multi-Play Area: The play bark beneath the swings need attention

-Hedgerow needs cutting back as it is obstructing the green sign **Chairman**

Chairman

16. Speed Watch: The next speed watch session will be held on Friday pm in Church Rd.

Chairman

-The Speed Watch Team are looking for more volunteers, if you wish to join the team email the Clerk on: clerk@pimperne.org.uk

17. Correspondence:

-An email from a resident has been received raising concerns regarding the planting of the trees on the field. Chairman / Clerk to write to the resident.

-The PPC has received an invitation from the Pimperne Sports Society, Open Morning this coming Saturday morning to visit the pavilion and see the work that they have completed in the pavilion kitchen. The Open morning is open to anyone to attend. PPC Chairman will be attending. **Chairman**

18.-Items of the next Agenda:

Local Government Boundary Commission.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm.

-Date & time of next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 10th June 2026 at 7pm.