DRAFT

PIMPERNE PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes for the above Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 14th October 2026. 7.00pm at Pimperne Village Hall.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk),4 Members of the public.
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Dorset Councillor Sherry Jespersen, Cllr S O'Connell.
1. Declarations of Interests: None received.
2. To consider granting dispensations as required: None required
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 2026.
-The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman. **Chairman**
4. DEMOCRATIC PERIOD:
-A resident reported that there is a lot of dog waste that is not being picked up, this is becoming a problem in the field behind the church, and in the churchyard also. PPC requests that all dog owners pick up and dispose of the dog waste in the correct manner. **Chairman**
-Mr King raised his concern that some of the wooden play equipment in the Junior play area needs to be treated with a wood hardener and filler to prevent further rotting. PPC agreed that he should purchase the required materials and carry out the work. **Chairman**
-New trees have been planted on the grass at the corner of Church Road and Bushes Road, unfortunately parents collecting children from the school are still parking on the grass. PPC to look into obtaining some dragons teeth to be placed on the grass to stop parking in this area. **Chairman/Clerk**
-A resident raised concerns that the culvert work being carried out in Church Rd was taking a long time as originally, it was meant to be completed in the summer. The Chairman confirmed that the work had taken longer than anticipated because the wall adjacent to the site is listed and the work had to be carried out slowly to ensure that the integrity of the wall is not compromised. **Chairman**
5. Hilltop Ward Report: No current update
6. MATTERS ARISING:
-Stonewater: The hedges are still overgrown at Yarde Farm, the Clerk to contact Stonewater again to request action. **Clerk**
-The Chairman attended Dorset Council's seminar on Community Conversations where parish councillors could raise issues with DC officers. One common issue being raised was the lack of service from DC Highways. This issue along with other matters will be discussed at a further meeting to be held on Friday 13th November in Pimperne VH.
-The Autumn newsletter has been distributed around the village – PPC extended their thanks to Cllr Richley on his hard work producing the newsletter. **Chairman**
-The Chairman expressed that he felt it was important to the village to have an outreach post office as before on a Friday morning. PPC to approach Iwerne, Sturminster and Six-Penny-Handley Post Offices to ascertain whether they would be interested in offering this service. **Chairman**
-The Chairman has raised the problems with the Methodist Chapel and Woodbury as there is further deterioration. Cllr Jespersen has suggested that we approach DC with further evidence of how the site has deteriorated and updated photos of the site. Cllr Tanner stated that he had revisited the site and that the vegetation is now spilling onto the road, the Clerk will report this on the DC website to request that the vegetation is cut back. It was suggested that it may be

beneficial to contact the leader of DC Cllr Nick Ireland. Cllr Barry Cooper has offered to assist the PC with this matter. **Chairman**

7- URGENT MATTERS:

-In the early hours of Wednesday 15th an accident occurred at the junction of Church Road and Collingwood Closed resulting in a car going through the fence of no 1 Collingwood Close, entering the garden and hitting the property. Unfortunately, the Parish Council noticeboard was also written off in this accident. The Clerk will investigate making an insurance claim for the noticeboard. PPC agreed to purchase 2 new noticeboards, one to replace the one in Church Road and the other to replace the noticeboard adjacent to the telephone box.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

a) New Applications:

P/HOU/2026/04828: 7a Manor Farm Close. Erect a single storey side extension and erect a terrace above. Enlarge rear windows. PPC did not have any objection to this application. **Clerk**

b) Approved Application:

c) Outstanding Applications: None

d) Other Planning matters:

-S106 Homefield –

-There has been a delay in the installation of the new fencing to the Junior Play area, as Infinity Playgrounds were not offering a warranty with the fencing. The Chairman has received a quote from the fencing manufacturer for a 10-year warranty for the fencing at a cost of £800.00. The Clerk has contacted DC Officer Andrew Galpin who has confirmed that s106 funding will cover the cost of the warranty. **Chairman/Clerk**

-Further to changes on the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework), it has been recommended that PPC have a review of their Neighbourhood Plan. The Clerk has written to Dorset Planning Consultant Jo Witherden to request a quote for this work to be complete on our behalf. Previously the NP has been supported by grant funding, however this funding is no longer available, meaning that the PC would be liable to pay for any future reviews of the plan.

-Cllrs Tanner and Argles suggested that it might be prudent to wait until the Dorset Local Plan is published in 2029, before carrying out a review of our plan. This will be discussed further at future meetings. **Chairman**

-PPC have contacted DC Planning Enforcement regarding new windows installed at no. 4 Bridge View cottages, these are listed buildings and the new window installation is not in keeping with the other listed cottages. **Chairman/Clerk**

-The Clerk has responded to the DC Local Plan Scoping Consultation. **Clerk**

-The Boundary Commission Review- The Clerk has responded to these proposals. **Clerk**

-Franwill Site S106: This s106 funding for this site has not been agreed. **Chairman/Clerk**

e) Tree Applications: None received. **Cllr Strange**

9. Pimperne Community Field:

-As there has now been some rain the volunteers have stopped watering the trees on the field for the time being. We await the grass to be cut by Mr. Lukins, and the hedgerows are due to be trimmed in November. PPC wished to thank Cllr Strange who had mowed the pathway around the field. It was decided to delay purchasing any further fruit trees. New saplings are due in November from the Woodland Trust, these are to fill in gaps in the hedgerow and to replace saplings that have been vandalized. **Chairman/Cllr Strange**

10. Finances:

a) The Clerk had circulated the financial report for September 2026. **Clerk**
b) Payment Approval: The Parish Council approved the following payments.

Clerks Salary:	At agreed rate.
HMRC PAYE	£ 161.44
Bank charges	£ 4.25
The Blandford School: Autumn Newsletter	£ 369.60
Viking Direct: Printer ink and box of printer paper	£ 123.53

c) The Clerk confirmed that the second payment of the Precpt had been paid into the PCC Bank Account **Clerk**
d) The Clerk has commenced working on the budget for 2027 – 2028.
e) PPC approved the purchase of new noticeboards

11. Brief Update:
a) Tree Warden Report:
-The tree at the junction of Paul Bakers Lane and Church Road will be felled on 15th October as it has affected the wall of the adjacent house, Church Road will be closed whilst this work is carried out. . **Cllr Strange**
b) Flood Warden:
-Clearly summer has now passed, and Autumn rains are upon us. Cllr Tanner requests that the riparian owners of the Pimperne stream ensure that the drains and gullies are clear.
The PC has written to Simon Hoare MP requesting him to contact Wessex Water, the Environment Agency and Dorset Council to confirm what action has been taken to prevent future flooding happening in Pimperne, also to request that we have not received the promised report on the meeting held in the VH in March regarding the flooding in Pimperne. The flooding last January in the village was more serious than we thought Cllr Tanner had visited a house affected by the flooding where the owner was camping out of the property due to the damage.
Cllr Tanner
c) Highways:
-Cllr Argles and the Chairman had reviewed the list of highways items that need attention in the village, and the Chairman has written to the new DC Highways Officer Daniel Cammell requesting that these items be actioned, and to request a site meeting in the village to go through the items that need to be carried out. **Cllr Argles/Chairman**
-The recent community conversation meeting highlighted that many parish councils are unhappy with the service from DC – re highway maintenance and cutting back hedges etc. it was discussed whether it is possible for parishes to do this work themselves at a cost –The Chairman to contact a contractor to get quotes for cutting back grass verges and for clearing weeds from the pavements in the village. **Chairman**
d) Rights of Way: No current update.
d) Village Hall:
-The Clerk has finalised the new licence agreement between the PC and Hamwic Education Trust.
Chairman
-The white lining in the car park will need to be repainted next year. **Chairman**
-f) DAPTC: Cllr O'Connell is to attend the Autum Conference on 22nd October. **Cllr O'Connell**
g) Transport Officer: No current update
12. Community Officer Property checks: Cllr Beckford
-Junior Playground:

-A large hole has been made in the bank below the balance beam which has created a mud slide.
-There are mushrooms growing in the grass adjacent to the multi-play unit.
-**Multi-Play Area:**
-The blue paint on the shelter is starting to peel away.
-There is a large hole developing in the far goal post which needs to be filled.
-**Benches:**
-PPC thanks Cllr Beckford for sweeping away the leaves and cleaning the seat outside of the church.
-Cllr Beckford had also pruned nettles and brambles from around the bench in the community field.
-Bus Shelter:
-Cllr Beckford had swept the bus shelter and removed a large amount of straw/hay which had blown in.
Cllr Beckford.
-Grit bins: The grit bins will be checked in November; they are due to be refilled by DC.
Cllr Beckford
13. **Speed Watch:**
-There have been 3 speed watches conducted 2 at Yarde Farm and 1 at Letton. Derek Andrews is getting confirmation from the police that they can carry out speed watches at Down Road. **Chairman**
14. Correspondence –Simon Hoare MP is hosting a forum for local councillors and clerks on Friday 20th November at the Corn Exchange in Blandford. Cllr O'Connell/ Cllr Strange to attend. **Clerk**

15. Any other business: None raised.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.29pm.

-Date & time of next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday November 11th 2026, at 7pm.