

Puncknowle & Swyre Parish Council

Situated in the Bride Valley, on the Dorset Coast

Chairman: Cllr J. Marsh

Vice Chairman: Cllr P. Bullen

Clerk: Mr Jonathan Moore

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Village Hall, Puncknowle, on 1st July 2025

Present: Cllr J. Marsh (Chair), Cllr P. Bullen (Vice-Chair), Cllrs G. Fry, M. Buckland, C. Marsh, N. Rawlings.

In Attendance: Clerk J. Moore, Cllr S. Holland (Dorset Council), seven members of the public.

1. Public Time

- Not part of the formal meeting. Minutes cannot be produced under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (s.1) (as extended by the Local Government Act 1972, s.100).

2. Apologies for Absence

- Alex Bishop.
- David Bird.
- Cllr S. Bowsher.
- Cllr B. Bowsher.

3. Declarations of Interest

- None declared.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Minutes of 3rd June 2025 agreed and signed as a correct record.
- Proposed by Cllr P. Bullen, seconded by Cllr F. Marsh – all in favour.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- None.

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6. Update from Dorset Council

- Wild Camping – Abbotsbury & West Bexington: Multi-agency meeting held; focus on data gathering; concerns expressed about lack of direct intervention.
- Reporting resources: Residents encouraged to report issues via official channels (Dorset Police for crime; Dorset Council portal for fly-tipping; Dorset Council services for anti-social behaviour).
- Household Recycling Centres (HRCs): Booking system to be introduced to ensure site sustainability and to prevent out-of-county use; no site closures planned.
- Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site – Strategic Review: Stakeholder meeting held on 21 May; report awaited.
- Dorset Economic Strategy 2024–2029: Priorities include economic growth, attracting investment, creating high-value employment, and strategic negotiations with regional and national partners.
- Council Tax email scam alert: Fraudulent emails impersonating Dorset Council reported. Legitimate emails only come from @dorsetcouncil.gov.uk; Dorset Council does not send unsolicited links.

7. Chairperson's Report

- Two councillors attended the Flowerdew Farm appeal. Awaiting decision from the planning appeals team (expected August).

8. Clerk's Report

- Community engagement – WhatsApp Alert Group: Agreed to roll out the link to the community.
- Finance management – Scribe software: Following a month's trial, the clerk recommended switching to the full version. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the purchase.
- Proposed by Cllr G. Fry, seconded by Cllr F. Marsh – all in favour.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

- Steering Committee briefing (Cllr P. Bullen): Withdrawal of MHCLG/Locality funding has caused uncertainty; existing technical support may continue until March 2026.
- DAPTC and NALC have urged councils to lobby MPs and consider motions supporting funding.
- AECOM Design Guide work is unaffected.
- Dorset Council confirms the right to submit a Plan under the Localism Act and to arrange examination and referendum.
- Consultant Amy Burnett has indicated willingness to assist.
- Steering Group (26 June) will review completed work, options to complete the plan, and funding requirements; a report will be brought to the Parish Council in September.
- Housing Needs Survey report is expected to be released shortly.
- Youth Event (27 May) report circulated to councillors; comments to be sent to Brian.

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- Chair to sign petition on the Council's behalf.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

- Youth Focus Group held on 27 May at Puncknowle Village Hall; facilitated by Nikki Northover; 13 attendees including 8 young people aged 9–20.
- Feedback: desire for more youth activities; appreciation of heritage and the rural/coastal environment; concern about dangerous roads and lack of pavements; wish for housing to support and attract younger residents.
- Attendees produced a mind map and other feedback to inform a Youth Survey to be circulated in the summer.

10. Traffic Speed in the Villages

- 20mph limit: It was **RESOLVED** that the initiative will proceed. Proposed by Cllr G. Fry, seconded by Cllr F. Marsh – all in favour.
- Funding for Speed Indicator Device (SID): A local business has made a pledge of support.

11. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

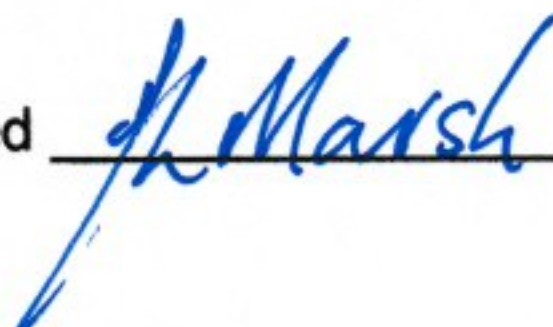
- Neighbourhood Watch & Community Police: Nothing significant to report. Noted that the disturbance (noise) from the Clubhouse reported is typical for the time of year and not intrusive.
- Allotments: Following a councillor visit on 26 June, letters to be sent to allotment holders to ascertain future plans regarding maintenance and upkeep.
- • Footpath – Overhanging trees and shrubs have been dealt with by the adjoining landowner.
- Playing Field Committee: K. Hussey reported missing battens on a seat; Cllr N. Rawlings to obtain fence post covers; Cllr G. Fry requested two sheets of ply to undertake repairs.
- Transport: No updates.
- Village Hall: No meetings recently held.
- Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP): Meeting upcoming – Cllr G. Fry to attend.
- DAPTC: No updates.
- Puncknowle, Swyre & West Bexington Website: Meeting to be held in September to discuss the way forward.
- Emergency Planning: No updates.

12. Planning

- Applications:
- P/FUL/2025/03553 – Vurlands Farm, Coast Road, Swyre DT2 9DB: Removal of 2 ancillary mobile homes and 1 mobile home; conversion of existing barn to form 2 dwellings with 2 garden stores, landscaping and parking. Parish Council supports the

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proposal to meet low-cost housing targets. Proposed by Cllr G. Fry, seconded by Cllr F. Marsh – all in favour.

- Decisions: None reported.

. Other Planning Notices (for information only)

- P/CLE/2025/03510 – Confirmation of established curtilage and ancillary accommodation associated with the main house (Vurlands Farm).
- P/CLE/2025/03511 – Siting of mobile home used as a residential dwelling (Vurlands Farm).
- EN/2025/00277 – Planning enforcement enquiry: Operational development (Looke Farm House, Looke Lane, Litton Cheney).
- EN/2025/00113 – Planning enforcement enquiry: Swyre Retreat Holiday Park (alleged residential dwellings).

13. Highways Issues

- Flooding on Rectory Lane: Cllr P. Bullen to propose a meeting on Tuesday 8th July to consider remedial options.
- Footpath – Overhanging trees and shrubs have been dealt with by the adjoining landowner.

14. Correspondence Received

- Full list available from the Clerk on request.

15. Finance

- It was **RESOLVED** that the items listed below be authorised for payment.

Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Gross (£)	VAT (£)	Total (£)
Signage	Mole Valley	X	14.50	0.00	14.50
Tree-Cutting	S.H. Tree Care	S	550.00	110.00	660.00
Stationery	Amazon	S	16.64	3.33	19.97
Grass Cutting	Chesil Beach Garden Services	S	255.00	51.00	306.00
Playing Field Inspection	K. Hussey	X	42.50	0.00	42.50
IT Services	Cloudy IT	S	13.10	2.62	15.72

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Clerk Net Salary	Jonathan Moore	X	385.96	0.00	385.96
PAYE/NICs	HMRC	X	96.60	0.00	96.60
		Total	1374.30	166.95	1541.25

- Proposed by Cllr F. Marsh, seconded by Cllr G. Fry – 1 abstention.
- Bank reconciliation and spending-to-date against budget circulated to members and signed by the Chairman.

16. Information Items

- St John Ambulance course – 8th July at the Village Hall.
- Village Fête – Cllr P. Bullen raised the forthcoming fete. Andrea Self, one of the coordinators, outlined the details.

17. Public Time (matters raised at the end of the meeting)

- Up to 15 minutes for electors, residents of the parish or adjoining parishes to raise any items of information or propose issues for future Council meetings.
- A resident raised concerns regarding the bus stop at Vurlands. The Council noted the matter, which has since been resolved.

18. Date of Next Meeting

- To note that the Council's next meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd September 2025 commencing at 7.30 pm.
- Meeting closed at 8.56 pm.

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F. Marsh 02.09.2025