

Notice of a Parish Council Meeting

Monday 20 January 2025 commencing at 7.00PM

Huish Episcopi Primary School, North Street, Langport TA10 9RW

All members of Huish Episcopi Parish Council are summoned to attend:

Cllr Robert Crumb
Cllr Barry Horsgood
Cllr Jane Redfearn

Cllr Julia Gadd – Chair
Cllr Graham Lock
Cllr Val Saunders

Cllr Arwyn Harris – Vice Chair
Cllr Peter Porter
Cllr John Wood

Julie Ferguson

**Julie Ferguson – Huish Episcopi Parish Clerk
14 January 2025**

Equality Act 2010

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, and any disability), Gender Equality, Crime & Disorder, Biodiversity, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Recording of Council Meetings

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 allows both the public and press to take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on all public meetings (including on social media).

Any member of the public wishing to record or film proceedings must let the Chairman of the meeting know prior to, or at the start of, the meeting and the recording must be overt (i.e., clearly visible to anyone at the meeting), but non-disruptive. This permission does not extend to private meetings or parts of meetings which are not open to the public.

Members of the public exercising their right to speak during the time allocated for Public Comment who do not wish to be recorded or filmed, need to inform the Chairman who will instruct those taking a recording or filming to cease doing so while they speak.

Huish Episcopi Parish Council will be discussing all the items listed on the Agenda:

The agenda specifies the business that it is proposed to transact (Local Government Act 1972 Sch.12 para 10 (2)(b)) and the Council cannot lawfully decide any matter which is not specified in the agenda (Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119)

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Tel: 07365 293954 E-mail: clerk@huishepiscopiparishcouncil.org.uk

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 minutes)

This section (at the Chairman's discretion may last up to 15 minutes) is not part of the formal meeting of the Council and minutes will not be produced. Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960 s 1 extended by the LG Act 1972 s 100.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- **Somerset Councillors (SCllrs)**
- **Greater Sedgemoor Recovery Scheme**

AGENDA

24/118 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (LGA 1972 s85(1)).

24/119 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Council members to declare any interests, including any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

24/120 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

To **APPROVE** and sign the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 18 Nov 24 (LGA 1972 sch12,para41(1)).

24/121 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

24/122 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

- Public Path Diversion Order – Footpath L 12/17 (part) and L 13/4 (part).
- Have your say on Somerset's Budget for 2025
- SC New Fostering Campaign
- Important update for Better Buses for Somerset
- Wessex Water Community drop-ins
- SALC Community Health & Wellbeing Grants
- Somerset Bus Partnership – Update on Bus Funding
- SC Devolution EOI – Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire
- Levels & Moors LCN meeting notes, dates and bulletins

24/123 PLANNING – Decisions REPORT.

24/124 PLANNING – Applications.

- 24/02961/S73A. Application to vary Condition 03 to adjust the proposed operational lifespan of the project from 25 years to 40 years relating to the Appeal Allowed Decision for 13/03053/FUL; Solar PV development including ground based racking systems, mounted solar panels, power inverter stations, transformer stations, substation, deer/security fencing and associated access gates, and CCTV/security cameras mounted on free-standing support poles (Revised Application). Location: Solar Site, Land North Of Tengore Lane, Long Sutton, Langport.

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24/125 FINANCE - To **REPORT** November and December 24 receipts.

Nov & Dec 24 Receipts		
Payee	Particulars	Amount
UNITY TRUST BANK	CREDIT INTEREST OCT24-DEC24	£ 1,122.05
HUISH EPISCOPI ACADEMY	CAR PARK RENT	£ 860.77
TOTAL		£ 1,982.82

24/126 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** December 24 (REPORT) & January 25 payment schedule.

Huish Episcopi Parish Council Jan 25 Payment Schedule				
Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount	
1	TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6853 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00	REPORT
2	SOMERSET LANDSCAPES LTD	RANGER NOV 24	£ 1,056.00	REPORT
3	N J HIGGINS	ALLOTMENT FENCE POSTS	£ 552.00	REPORT
4	HUISH cum LANGPORT PCC	GRANT	£ 1,750.00	REPORT
5	LANGPORT AREA CIO	GRANT	£ 10,000.00	REPORT
6	TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6894 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00	
7	WESTCOTEC	SID BATTERY	£ 160.20	
8	R CRUMB	REIMBURSE LITTER PICKING	£ 34.80	
	TOTAL	Jan-25	£ 13,565.00	

24/127 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** the Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation to 31 Dec 2024 and **NOTE** the Budget Q3 review (1 Apr 24 – 31 Dec 24) (APPENDIX 1).

24/128 FINANCE - To **APPROVE** the BUDGET for 2025-26.

24/129 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** the PRECEPT Request for 2025-26.

24/130 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** a £50 budget/spend for replacement flags.

24/131 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** a grant request from Langport and Huish Episcopi Memorial Field Committee for £1600.

24/132 FINANCE – To **CONSIDER** a grant request from Huish Episcopi Academy for £2000:

Aims, objectives or activities of the organisation: Secondary School, Education. Shared use leisure centre with Lifestyle Fitness, serving the local community.

Do you target a specific age range? If so what is it? Academy Age Range is 11-18 Leisure Centre – all ages

Do you target disabled groups? Yes – swimming and exercise referral

What is the funding to be used for? Refurbishment of community sports hall.

Please clearly state how the funding you are applying for will benefit residents of Huish Episcopi? The academy's sports hall is a central hub for indoor sports and community activities, but it is currently in very poor condition. The worn and outdated environment impacts both the quality of learning for students and the experience for community users.

We propose a complete redecoration of the sports hall to restore its aesthetic appeal, safety, and functionality. A refreshed facility will provide a welcoming space for a variety of indoor sports, events, and community activities. This investment is particularly important given the increased demand for indoor recreational spaces due to population growth in the area.

Key Benefits:

- Restores safety, usability, and attractiveness for all users.
 - Encourages participation in diverse sports and activities, especially during colder months.
- Enhances the overall recreational offering in the community to support a growing population.

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Do you currently receive funding from other sources and, if so, from where and how much? State funded secondary school, however, the primary purpose of this funding is for the education of students and not the wider community.

Are you applying to other funding organisations for support and, if yes, who are they? Somerset Council, Langport Town Council

24/133 FINANCE – To CONSIDER a grant request from Landmark Langport for £7500:

Aims, objectives or activities of the organisation. The charity was created in 2019 out of the Town Trust to preserve, maintain, develop and promote The Hanging Chapel, The Town Hall, Town Gardens and Ridgway Hall as community hubs for the benefit of the residents of Langport and the wider neighbourhood, particularly Huish Episcopi. Landmark Langport is governed by a Board of Trustees who manage and maintain the three buildings.

The Hanging Chapel is an ancient monument leased to the Portcullis Masons' Lodge; the Town Hall is a mix of public function rooms and rented office space (Langport Town Council is a tenant) whilst its Undercroft is rented as market retail space; the Walter Bagehot Town Garden with its new community garden links Bow Street to the common; and the busy Ridgway Hall is nearly always fully booked by a wide variety of community and activity groups, and it is the home of the thriving Youth Club.

The Trustees are determined to do their best to look after the Town Hall and gardens, Ridgway Hall and Hanging Chapel on behalf of the residents of Huish Episcopi and Langport as best they can. But after decades of poor investment and maintenance, especially to the Town Hall, the challenge really cannot be underestimated.

Do you target a specific age range? If so what is it? Age Range: All ages

Do you target disabled groups? We welcome all groups. A stairlift to give access to all has been fitted earlier this month, October 2024. A longer-term fundraising campaign and grant application process to Heritage Lottery Fund has just begun. This will include the installation of an external lift at the rear of the building giving a better quality of access to all residents, as well as a new roof and other important upgrades to the whole fabric of the building.

What is the funding to be used for? This grant from HEPC will be used to match fund our own fundraising in order to repair and replace the broken guttering and to replace four of the eight urgently needed replacement windows of the Town Hall. We intend to continue fundraising over the next two years for the other four windows. However there are four in the two offices facing Bow Street where the glass is currently in danger of falling out and the frames are completely rotten. Quotations have been sought from local companies and are in the region of £2,200 per window plus painting. We have fundraised ourselves over the last few months and are confident that with a grant from HEPC we can see this project through to completion.

Please clearly state how the funding you are applying for will benefit residents of Huish Episcopi? As reported to you recently data research of our regular hirers and user groups, at the Town Hall and Ridgway Hall, show the following results:-

From 7 user groups, totally 180 weekly attendees:

- 8% came from Langport
- 23% from Huish Episcopi
- 69% from other villages

Of the young people attending Langport Youth Club:

- 13% came from Langport
- 32% from Huish Episcopi
- 55% from other villages

Residents of Huish Episcopi are offered the opportunity to:-

- book halls and room space for running regular and one-off events

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- attend classes and events that are widely advertised in Huish Episcopi through posters and community social media pages

- socialise at such events with other local residents

- make new friends and to meet up with old ones in a safe and welcoming environment

Please also note that currently as at October 2024, 60% of the Landmark Langport Trustees are Huish Episcopi residents and 40% live in Langport.

Do you currently receive funding from other sources and, if so, from where and how much? Landmark Langport has the following other applications and expected earned income in the financial year 2024/25

- Application to Langport Town Council for 'regular', continued funding: £5,000

- Rent and hires: £32,900 (approx.) which is a 40% increase on the previous year

Are you applying to other funding organisations for support and, if yes, who are they?

- Donations and local fundraising Target: £3,000 ^[1] (including in-kind donations)

- Application in process to Somerset Community Foundation £5,000

- We have started the process of research into Lottery Heritage grant applications for the roof renewal project

- We are also researching a number of other Trust and Foundations for ongoing support

24/134 FINANCE – To APPROVE an allocation from the S106 monies to the following projects:

- a. £35000 towards a skate park at the Memorial Field

24/135 REPORTS – To receive reports and consider any future agenda items¹:

- a. Allotments
- b. Committees
- c. Working Parties
- d. Parish Councillors

24/136 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

24/137 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 17 February 2025 at 7.00pm, Huish Episcopi Primary School, Langport, TA10 9RW. All agenda items to be notified to the clerk by Fri 7 Feb25.

END OF AGENDA

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APPENDIX 1

HUISH EPISCOPI PARISH COUNCIL Q3 BUDGET SUMMARY					
Receipts and Payments Summary for the year ending 31st March 2025					
	Last Year	This Year	This Year	This Year	This Year
RECEIPTS	2023/24	2024-25	Allocated budget	Budget remain (£)	Budget remain (%)
Precept	£ 73,325.00	£ 88,200.00			
Deposit Interest	£ 3,851.11	£ 3,471.05	£ 2,000.00		
Allotment Rent	£ 1,736.00	£ 152.00	£ 1,728.00		
FBTA/Wayleave/Academy	£ 3,097.92	£ 2,431.67	£ 4,245.77		
VAT refund	£ 1,686.10	£ -			
Other receipts	£ 48.00	£ 860.77			
Donations	£ -	£ -	£ -		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 83,744.13	£ 95,115.49	£ 7,973.77		
PAYMENTS					
Emoluments	£ 11,243.01	£ 9,524.72	£ 12,500.00	£ 2,975.28	24%
Admin Expenses	£ 2,050.03	£ 1,961.98	£ 2,500.00	£ 538.02	22%
Audit	£ 455.00	£ 465.00	£ 800.00	£ 335.00	42%
Parish maint	£ -	£ 518.95	£ 1,000.00	£ 481.05	48%
Allotments	£ 607.96	£ 1,628.93	£ 1,500.00	-£ 128.93	-9%
Ranger	£ 8,812.61	£ 7,910.00	£ 12,000.00	£ 4,090.00	34%
Insurance	£ 707.83	£ 758.09	£ 1,000.00	£ 241.91	24%
Car park	£ 555.00	£ 1,110.28	£ 2,000.00	£ 889.72	44%
Subs	£ 913.49	£ 921.43	£ 500.00	-£ 421.43	-84%
Training	£ -	£ 30.00	£ 500.00	£ 470.00	94%
Community Projects	£ 1,320.00	£ 1,915.00	£ 5,000.00	£ 3,085.00	62%
Grants and donations	£ 14,087.10	£ 4,815.00	£ 15,000.00	£ 10,185.00	68%
Grant (Youth Club)	£ 8,000.00	£ 9,000.00	£ 8,800.00	-£ 200.00	-2%
Grant (Memorial Field)	£ 8,500.00	£ 8,500.00	£ 9,350.00	£ 850.00	9%
Trees (Memorial Field)	£ 3,640.00	£ -	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	100%
Grant (Landmark Langport)		£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00	£ -	0%
Grant (Churches)	£ 1,750.00	£ 1,750.00	£ 2,000.00	£ 250.00	13%
War memorial	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	100%
Bus Shelter cleaning	£ 135.00	£ -	£ 250.00	£ 250.00	100%
VAT incurred on payments in	£ 1,891.75	£ 1,948.47			
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 64,668.78	£ 62,757.85	£ 88,200.00	£ 25,442.15	
Excess of Receipts over Payments		£ 32,357.64			
plus balances b/fwd		£ 183,719.38			
Balances c/fwd	£183,719.38	£ 216,077.02	CASHBOOK TOTAL		