

NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Mark Palmer

Tel: 07957 952784

mark.palmer@nerochevillages.org.uk

CLERK: Emily York

emily.york@nerochevillages.org.uk

Draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Neroche Parish Council held at Neroche Hall on Tuesday 21 April 2026.

In Attendance: Councillors Mr M Palmer (Chair), Mr J Parsons, Mr M Prosser, Mrs S Hayman, Mrs K Street and Mr D Macey

Also Present: Cllr Mrs Sarah Wakefield, Mrs E York (Clerk) and two parishioners.

Public Session: None

2025/169 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mr T Pope and Mrs F Gledhill.

These were recognised as approved absence for the purposes of s.185 of the Local Government Act 1972.

2025/170 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declaration of interest or dispensation.

2025/171 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting to be signed by the chair.

2025/172 Report from County Councillor

2025/173 Actions from the last meeting

- 1) Community Infrastructure Levy – It is noted that this is paid at 15%, increasing to 25% where a neighbourhood plan is in place
- 2) Airband – No update
- 3) Defibrillator - £995 for the unit plus an additional £495 for the cabinet to discuss and review this in light of budgeted spend towards SID unit. The replacement pads required are £130.

2025/174 Items of Report and Correspondence

None.

2025/175 Rights of Way Update

- T2/1 – Herepath to Ben's Wood

Nothing is noted on the modifications register. The amendment to the RoW has blocked access to the definitive footpath. It was agreed that Cllr Palmer contact the landowner and ask for the modification to the RoW to be formally applied for with Somerset Council.

- T2/7 – Dairy House Lane

Also requires a modification order. Cllr Palmer to discuss with the landowner.

It was agreed that the BHS be approached in respect of the modification order required for T2/1 to assist with the costs, given that the modification / provision of the permissive path was for the benefit of access for horses.

2025/176 Planning and Applications

33/26/0001/T – No Objection

15/26/0003 – No Comments

It is noted that the planning for Forest Farm has been approved.

2025/177 Local Community Network Update

Cllr Palmer attended the LCN meeting today.

- Richard Harrison (TWH) was present regarding the new development at Chard. 1/3 are affordable homes. Development includes the new Chard Football Club
- Highways have additional funds for road repairs
- Complaint from Stoke St Mary PC about highways contractors not removing their corrugated signs
- Somerset Preparedness – Oake PC have obtained a grant for a “power bank” of solar panels with battery storage. It is noted that the quote for panels at Neroche Hall is £22,000 for 16kW.
- Next meeting 7 July in Chard.

2025/178 Environmental Matters

It was agreed that two hedgehog signs be purchased.

All other matters are deferred to June 2026.

2025/179 Finance

- 1) The following items were agreed for payment:

Salary & Expenses of Clerk	£616.90
SALC Affiliation Fee	£55.30
ICO Annual Payment (Direct Debit)	£52.00

- 2) To record receipt of 50% of the precept for 2026/27

2025/180 Highways

- 1) To receive any update regarding potholes and local road repairs. Bickenhall to Ben’s Copse has been filled.

- 2) To note accidents in the locality since the last meeting. Accident on Staple Hill 2 weeks ago – car in ditch

2025/181 Community Matters

- 1) Cllr Parsons spoke with the Hall Committee – they will support the purchase of a generator for the Hall but do not have funds to contribute. The Hall is Grade 2 Listed. The electrics are below that required for insurance purposes and this is due to be remedied to include a change over function for the generator.
- 2) Neighbourhood Plan – Deferred to June 2026
- 3) Annual Parish Meeting is to be held ahead of the May meeting as a brief update from the Chair and a wider Parish Meeting to be held later in the year.
- 4) Newsletter – this is a matter for the Annual Parish Meeting
- 5) Heating Oil Subsidy – As circulated in advance of the meeting and to discuss with Cllr Wakefield and Gideon Amos.

2025/182 To consider Candidates for Co-Option

Charlotte Stamper was present at the meeting and introduced herself to the Council. Confirmation awaited from Somerset Council that no applications for an election have been received and pending this it was agreed that Charlotte be co-opted as Councillor for Orchard Portman and Thurlbear at the next meeting.

2025/153 Date of Next Meeting and Items for the Agenda

The Annual meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 May 2026 at 7.30pm in Neroche Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 21:25.