NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: Mark Palmer Tel: 07957 952784 mark.palmer@nerochevillages.org.uk
CLERK: Emily York clerk@nerocheparishcouncil.gov.uk

Draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Neroche Parish Council held at Neroche Hall on Tuesday 15 September 2026.

In Attendance: Cllrs Mr M Palmer (Chair), Mrs K Street, Mr D Macey, Mr M Prosser, Mrs C Stamper, Mrs F Gledhill

Also Present: Mrs E York (Clerk), Cllr Mrs S Wakefield

Public Session: There were no parishioners present at the meeting

2026/62 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Cllrs Mr T Pope, Mrs S Hayman, Mr J Parsons
This was recognised as an approved absence for the purposes of s185 of the Local Government Act 1972.

2026/63 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations
There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

2026/64 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting
The minutes were approved without amendment to be signed by the Chair.

2026/65 Report from the County Councillor
The Report from the County Councillor was circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting. It is available on the Parish Council website.

- Somerset Council are in Category A for council finances which has been verified by accountants.
- Curland planning is yet to be determined.
- Call for Sites now has an interactive map – HELAA. Somerset Council (SC) are still accepting sites.
- White lining works have been carried out in the Parish but the SLOW hasn't been renewed on the road and signs are still missing at the top of Staple Hill. It was agreed that it be arranged for Kate Brown to meet with Councillors.
- Free health and wellbeing drop in – 1 October 2026 at Trull VH. Open to all to help planning for changing circumstances

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- Cllr Palmer raised that gully clearance seems to be confined to the easily accessible and obvious drains. Cllr Wakefield to raise this matter with highways team
- Orchard Portman – Cllr Wakefield to confirm if SC will do a landscape survey and if this is carried out/ commissioned by a group of PCS if this will be accepted
- Demonstrations in Taunton are due to Taunton Council having declared it a "Town of Welcome".
- Govt provides figures for asylum seekers - 900 in Somerset but there are only approx. 300. Refugee status takes two years.
- There is a Govt funded Afghan scheme. SC have approx. 5 houses on this scheme.
- You must have a connection to Somerset to apply to be on the Housing Register
- Societal change drives the need for more houses. There is a not a link to any immigration policy.

2026/66 Actions from the minutes of the last meeting

1. Neighbourhood Plan
   There is a procedure to follow. Cllr Palmer investigating and to look into whether the costs could be shared with West Hatch and / or Stoke St Mary Parish Council
2. Annual Parish Meeting
   This is confirmed for 13 October. There is an outline plan in place:
   - Intro from Cllr Palmer
   - TWH Update (Colin Fisher – Stoke St Mary PC)
   - Hornets and Hedgehogs

2026/67 Planning and Applications

To discuss and review planning applications received since the last meeting:
None were received.

2026/68 Items of Report and Correspondence

1. To receive the resignation of the Clerk
   It is noted that the Clerk has handed in her notice of resignation and her employment term will come to an end on 30 September 2026.

2026/69 Rights of Way Update

To receive any update relating to Rights of Way.
Cllr Palmer met with the Area Warden. A contractor will be tasked with stiles and bridges which are in need of repair.

2026/70 Report from the Local Community Network

To receive any update from the Chard and The Blackdown Local Community Network
Nothing to report. It was agreed that this item be removed from future agendas.

2026/71 Finance

The following items were approved for payment:

- Salary and Expenses of Clerk £541.49

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2026/72 Highways

It is noted that the ditch from Mill Farm to Lonesome Pine has been inspected by the Highways Superintendent.

1. Lines and Signs
   As reported earlier in the meeting.
2. To record any accident in the parishes since the last meeting
   17/08 – Car overturned by the Manor
   24/08 – Car in ditch on Staple Hill
   Cllr Gledhill requested to share the PC accident data and map with Traffic Management. This was agreed unanimously.
3. SID Update
   W3W locations of SID devices and update of next steps from Traffic Management are still outstanding.

2026/73 Environmental Matters

None were reported. It was agreed that this matter be removed from future agendas.

2026/74 Community Matters

1. Contingency Plan Update
   Quote is awaited from the electrician. Cllr Palmer to follow up with John Learoyd regarding Forest Electrics.
2. Taylor Wimpey Update
   A full update will be given at the APM.

2026/75 Date of Next Meeting and Items for the Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 October 2026 at Neroche Hall at 7.30pm

The meeting was declared closed at 20.55

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