

Clerk to WFPC: Andrew Harrison, Email clerk@winterbornefarringdon-pc.gov.uk, Tel 01305 534661

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 18th February 2026 at 7.00pm – at Upwey and Broadway Memorial Hall

1. PRESENT & APOLOGIES:

Present: Chair – Mr Charles Norman. Councillors: Mr Raymond Williams, Mr Graham Brant, Mr Roger Holehouse, Mrs Morag Titley

Dorset Council: Mr Roland Tarr

Clerk to the Parish Council: Andrew Harrison. **Apologies:** Mr Oliver Wilson, Mr George Titley, Mr Alec Walters

Members of the public: No members of the public

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS.

2.1. There were no declarations.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – no members of the public were present.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of 19th November 2025. The minutes were accepted by the council and signed by the Chair.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5.1. It was generally agreed that all other matters arising were covered by agenda items.

6. DORSET COUNCIL UPDATE

6.1. Mr Tarr informed the council that funds had been set aside for gully cleaning. Cllr Holehouse noted that the gullies at Whitcombe were in a satisfactory state but the drains to the gully had a tendency to become blocked. Cllr Williams noted that Herrington had flooded which was not unusual, but was draining quickly. The Chair noted that Monkton flooded in December, with the gullies being dug out afterwards, a job which would have been better done in the autumn. He further noted that the ditches were now filled with debris that would need clearing. Mr Tarr undertook to ask about this, and to investigate the practicality of local meetings or discussions next autumn to pre-emptively address any issues.

6.2. Mr Tarr informed the council that he would like to speak at a future meeting about local devolution and combined authorities.

6.3. The Chair informed Mr Tarr that he was seeing lots of roadside litter from both McDonalds and KFC, he did report this to Dorset Council but it appeared that little was being done.

7. PLANNING, ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

7.1. Flooding. The clerk shared a groundwater update from the Environment Agency. The Chair noted that flooding had been occurring for the last month, but it appeared that road closures due to flooding were being shown quickly on Google Maps, minimising disruption.

- 7.2. A352 at Whitcombe. There was some discussion in the context of the current flooding and the risk of speeding vehicles aquaplaning. Mr Tarr said he would continue to press the issue at every opportunity.
- 7.3. Railway engineering work - Yeovil to Dorchester West - 28th February-8th March - the clerk informed the council that the branch railway line between Dorchester West and Yeovil Pen Mill would be closed between these dates with a bus replacement.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Full details of planning applications and decisions can be viewed at:
<https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>

- 8.1. **P/HOU/2026/00504** - Erect single storey extension, 25 Coombe Valley Road, Weymouth DT3 6NJ [[link](#)]. Neighbouring parish new householder application for discussion, no objection, approved 19th March.
- 8.2. **P/VOC/2025/06666** - Application for approval of reserved matters for access, layout, scale, appearance and landscaping in relation to outline applications WD/D/16/000739 and WP/16/00253/OUT (with variation of condition 1 of reserved matters approval P/RES/2021/04983 to amend the approved plans), LAND NORTH OF LITTLEMOOR ROAD, WEYMOUTH [[link](#)]. No objection from WFPC, still under consideration.
- 8.3. **P/FUL/2025/05863** - Retention and extension of agricultural building, LAND NORTH OF GREENACRES, WINTERBORNE MONKTON, DORCHESTER DT2 8NP [[link](#)] No objection from WFPC, approved 4th December.
- 8.4. After-date planning applications - one, to vary permission already granted at 21 Coombe Valley Road (Replacement of porch with single-storey extension to front elevation) - amend layout of front entrance door & sidelight & re-use of existing front entrance door, no objection.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1. New email and website arrangements - the clerk informed the council that the new email address (clerk@winterbornefarringdon-pc.gov.uk) was live and that he had sent notifications to people the council regularly correspond with. He continued that the old email address would stop working in the next month or so. He concluded that the council would also soon have a new and accessible website on the parish council domain to replace the existing site, which is now quite old and does not comply with the latest accessibility standards.
- 9.2. Banking arrangements - the clerk informed the council that online banking was now set up for him and Cllr Holehouse, however the Chair and Cllr Williams were struggling to gain access. The clerk continued that he had visited Lloyds Bank in Weymouth who had confirmed that councillors had been following the correct procedure. There was some discussion about the presence of Lloyds advisers in Dorchester library who may be able to assist.

The clerk further informed the council that in the meantime he was able to make online payments on his own, but in practice did not spend money without the express authorisation of the council. As an additional financial safeguard he had begun to send copies of the bank

statements to councillors with the meeting packs.

- 9.3. Review of standing orders - the clerk informed the council that he had struggled to do much with the new model standing orders but hoped to do so for the May meeting and to have circulated a copy for review ahead of time.
- 9.4. Clerk's report - the clerk informed the council of an invitation from Engie for a meeting of the Rainbarrow Farm community engagement group, online on Thursday 12th March 18:00 - 19:00. The Chair agreed to attend and the clerk undertook to ask Engie once again for them to correspond directly with the Chair and Cllr Holehouse.

10. INTEREST AND INFORMATION

- 10.1. Cllr Brant informed the council that the fingerpost at Culliford Tree had disappeared following an earlier accident. Mr Tarr undertook to check this and determine if it had been recovered by Dorset Council staff.

11. TREASURERS REPORT

- 11.1. Accounts 1st November - 31st January - circulated to councillors with bank statements prior to the meeting.
- 11.2. Precept for financial year 2026-27 - the clerk informed the council that the precept request was submitted before Christmas and accepted by Dorset Council. He noted that he had now received the taxbase calculation, this council's part of the precept costing a band D household £4.98 more when compared with the 2025-26 financial year (£26.94 in 2025-26, £31.92 in 2026-27).
- 11.3. Payment - clerk salary - £2284.00. Proposed Cllr Holehouse, seconded Cllr Norman, carried unanimously.
- 11.4. Payment - HMRC clerk PAYE - £571.00. Proposed Cllr Norman, seconded Cllr Williams, carried unanimously.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 20th May 2026

The meeting closed at 19:49 (7.49pm).

<p><u>The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 20th May at the Elworthy Church Hall, Winterborne Monkton DT2 9PT, commencing 19:00 (7pm)</u></p>
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