



Minutes of meeting held on

Wednesday 23rd July 2025, Pitton Village Hall, 7:30pm.

Present: Cllr. Sarah Ackrill (Chair) Cllr. Paul Fredericks (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Steve Williams Cllr. Jonathan Peel
Cllr. Mark Sheppard Cllr. Chris Devine
Cllr. Gregory Cooper (WC) Leigh Samuel (Clerk)
PCSO John Taylor PCSO Jenny Moss
Chris Sankey - Flood Warden No members of the public.

Cllr Cooper. Report - Work is continuing to understand the detail of the reasons for the £4.853m overspend against budget, this is required to mitigate any future cost exposures. Issues for enquiry are Adult Social Care, Child Care Provision, Housing Benefit delays and the Central Government Business Rates Mechanism.

WC reconfirmed its commitment to work towards Wiltshire as a County being Carbon Neutral by 2030.

Housing Land Supply figure is currently 2.42, this is anticipated to improve significantly with a Large development in Chippenham shortly to be approved. This has been in process for c.10 years. Focus of Southern Area Board in September 2025 to be on Flooding. Recommends watching a video presented at the most recent Area Board Meeting which had a focus on "Get Flood Ready" He will circulate the link.

Actions now in place from June 2025 Southern Area Board for more regular attendance of police at PC meetings.

As in prior years the Council is in the quiet period of summer holidays.

PSCO John Taylor report - Advises numerous reports of hare coursing; it is that "time of year". Urged anybody who witnesses to report online or call 101. If it is taking place at that time, call 999. Also to reiterate that all valuables kept in sheds, garages and/or outbuildings, be secured. Take photographs of tools and equipment. Note their serial numbers and values for insurance purposes or possibility of returns to rightful owners.

119.25 - Apologies. Jane Cooksey - Tree Warden

120.25 - Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations.

No Declarations of Interest and decide upon any Requests for Dispensations.

121.25 - Exclusion of the Press and Public

No items on the agenda to be dealt with following the exclusion of the press & public.

122.25 - Urgent matters raised in Public Session.

No urgent matters raised in the public session, or any other urgent matters or items of information from councillors.

123.25 - Minutes

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on **25th June 2025** as a correct record, with the amendment of the typo regarding July's meeting date.

124.25 - Ongoing actions

The lease on the land for the Community Orchard and Nature Reserve in Pitton. Clerk to chase up the solicitors and put on agenda for August meeting.

(115.25) Cllr. Williams - Bench for Townsend Bus stop, Pitton. Following extensive sourcing, research and advice, it was unanimously agreed that the siting of a bench would be impractical and create health and safety issues; e.g. the numerous large vehicles that reverse around the junction of Church Lane.

The discussion did bring forth a request to have a seat sited at the bus stop in Oak Close, Farley. Cllr. Devine to take up the project and report back in August.

125.25 - Flood Action Group Report - Following receipt of the response of Environment Agency, the Flood Warden reports that WC now need to enter into formal agreements (Deeds of Easement) with the landowners for the siphon; for its use and future maintenance. Also that any landowner agreements should be registered by WC with the Land Registry on the titles of the land belonging to the landowners. This will mean that when properties are sold the new owner will be aware of the location of the flood alleviation infrastructure and who is responsible for its maintenance. (Full report available from the Clerk).

126.25 - Planning

a) To consider a response to the current Planning Applications received.

i) App No: **PL/2025/05788**. App Type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Proposal: T1 Silver Birch - Fell.

Site Address: **Bells Cottage, Church Road, Farley**, SALISBURY, SP5 1AD

Officer's Name: Caroline Gamble. Direct Line: 01225 718220

App Link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000FIFO9>

Closing date: **31st July 2025**. Response: **No objection**.

ii) App No: **PL/2025/05787** App Type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. Proposal: T1 Spruce - Fell. T2 2x Lawson Cypress - Fell. T3 Beech - Fell. T4 Douglas Fir - Fell. T5 2x Douglas Fir - Crown clean. T6 Dead tree - Fell.

Site Address: **Bells Farmhouse, Church Road, Farley**, SALISBURY, SP5 1AD

Officer's Name: Caroline Gamble. Direct Line: 01225 718220

App Link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000FI3i0>

Closing date: **31st July 2025** Response: **No objection**

iii) App No: **PL/2025/01639** App Type: Full planning permission

Proposal: Demolition of agricultural barns and erection of new dwelling

following part 3 class Q approval PL/2023/05576 and replacement dwelling PL/2024/03870

Site Address: **Land at Stockbottom Farm, Pitton Road, Salisbury**, SP5 1SU

Applicant: AP and TE Farwell. **AMENDED PLANS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

****RE-START APPLICATION****

App Link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000CsVEP>

Closing date: **30th July 2025**. Response: **No objection**

iv) App No: **PL/2025/04503** App Type: Householder planning permission

Proposal: Infill extension to rear of property to create new bathroom and rebuild rear wall on new line; increase height of roof to improve drainage and insulation; extended roof to front to create veranda; demolition of existing garage & construction of new garage.

Site Address: **Westerly, The Green, Pitton**, Salisbury, SP5 1DZ Applicant: Mr Simon Watson

AMENDED PLANS/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Further to our previous notification, please note we have now received amended plans and/or additional information for the above proposal.

App link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000EIV9R>

Closing date: **06/08/2025**. Response: **No objection**.

v) App No: **PL/2025/05933**. App Type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation Area. Proposal: T1 Flowering Cherry tree - 30% crown reduction. T2 Apple tree - 30% Crown reduction. T3 Weeping Willow tree - 30% crown reduction.

Site Address: **COPPERS, 7 DAVIDS GARDEN, PITTON, SALISBURY, SP5 1ER**

Officer's Name: Caroline Gamble.

Direct Line: 01225 718220

App link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iO300000FOBf7>

Closing date: **06/08/2025**.

Response; No objection.

b) To advise outcomes of Planning Applications determined.

i) App Ref: **PL/2025/03699** - Removal or Variation of a Condition

Address: **Skythorns, White Way, Pitton, Salisbury, SP5 1DT**

Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on PL/2024/11398 to allow for design changes.

App Name: **Mr & Mrs W Steedman** Case Officer: Mary Rose Scott

Decision Date: 17 June 2025

Decision: **Approve with Conditions**

App Link: <https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iO300000DfeGX>

127.25 - Finance - All payments approved.

Google Workspace - £108.00

Dan Cooper. The Close. Replacement of 11 fence posts. £460.

Terra Domus. The Close. June '25 - £100

Clerk Salary. June '25 - £690.24

HMRC - Clerk Income Tax - £36.00

HMRC - Employer NIC - £42.52

Unity Trust Bank - balance reconciled on 30th June 2025 - £32,783.94

To advise the standing of balance in the bank as of 23rd July 2025: £32,675.94

128.25 - With thanks to Cllr. Fredericks for editing suggestions and adapting the NALC (National Association of Local Councils) model Financial Regulations. Discussed, approved and adopted. Clerk to formally edit and publish.

129.25 - Cllr. Peel - Proposal of purchase of new playground equipment for The Close, Pitton. Having decided upon a rocker, three quotes submitted (available upon request or on parish web site). Middle quote favoured for many reasons, including younger age range, discount and good customer service. Cllr. Sheppard enquired how easily can a 4 person rocker rock if only 1 person aboard? Cllr. Peel to check. Subject to satisfactory answers, the purchase was approved by council. A total of £1,141.20 inclusive of discount, VAT and delivery £1,141.20. Cllr. Peel also noted that bark would need to be purchased and infilled in the spring of 2026. There is still one fence post to be replaced. Dan Cooper has been approached having done the other 11 already.

Finally reported that, oddly, one grip handle has been “removed” from the climbing wall. Not broken off, not fallen off, not found anywhere on site - but unscrewed and removed. Very strange, but noted for future reference.

130.25 - Correspondence

Wiltshire's Housing Land Supply Statement. 25-04. No comments from council. Cllr. Gregory informs that a very large housing supply is thought to be proposed in Chippenham which would account for the majority of Wiltshire Council housing needs and therefore unlikely to be any plans determined for Pitton or Farley.

Resident's observation. More safety posts around Aymers Pond to denote the boundary. When grass is overgrown within the boundary, traffic approaching from Dunstable Crossroads may think that it's a solid verge, not a ditch. Council concluded that there are sufficient boundary posts around Aymers Pond as long as the grass is kept short. Request Parish Steward and TerraDomus to keep the grass levels low.

Impassable footpaths, PIFA 13 and PIFA 16. PIFA 16 resolved. Discussion brought about regarding volunteers for both villages; a new group in Farley and to ensure continuity in Pitton. Advertise in DVM, and usual circulars for volunteers. Tools supplied by PC, as is training for use of power tools, where appropriate.

Footpaths are not actually the responsibility of the Parish Council so, if unsuccessful, revert to Highways dept of WC, as advised by the Parish Steward.

Local Homes for Local People - An offer for local councils. Further discussion brought about regarding the merits of a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr. Gregory very much in favour. Majority of P&F councillors in favour. Cllr. Devine not in favour. Put on the agenda for the August meeting having re-read the report compiled by Cllr. Creasy in February, 2025.

Fraud and Protection Advice - Drop in sessions. For discussion. No Drop-in sessions required. Send the printed tri fold to DVM and usual circulars.

131.25 - Councillors' Reports

Cllr. Devine - Coronation Playing Field, next committee meeting 17th September 2025.

Community Speed Watch - There has been interest from another volunteer. To be approached again.

Cllr. Sheppard - Enquiry of the support bar for the swings in Coronation Playing Field. It has been taken away for repair.

Cllr. Williams - Nothing to report.

Cllr. Peel - Nothing to report.

Cllr. Fredericks (Vice Chair) - Revisit Housing Needs Survey result - available on the website.

Interestingly, has established that Wiltshire Council have retained three parcels of land around that which has recently been leased to RSPB.

A meeting is due between the three website organisers.

Cllr. Ackrill (Chair) - Seeks approval for P&F Parish Council to pay for Farley Coronation Field RoSPA, as in previous years. To be added to the August agenda for discussion.

Open invitation to other councillors to attend an online Chairs Network meeting regarding Annual Budget setting.

Cllr has spoken to Jane Cooksey, editor of DVM. There has been a new editorial committee formed. A report will be compiled in August for discussion at September's meeting.

132.25 - Clerk's Report

Concerns regarding the new "Digital Accessibility" and/or "Assistive Technology" were dismissed having established that the P&F website does have the required technology.

Correspondence received from WC regarding an overgrown hedgerow, reported by a delivery driver, in The Green at Pitton. Letter to be sent requesting it be cut back substantially so that it does not encroach onto the road

133.25 - Exclusion of the Press & Public during the discussion of Confidential Items

To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

134.25 - Meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Next meeting, **Wednesday 27th August, Farley Village Hall, 7:30pm.** All welcome.

Members of the Council must consider the following matters in consideration of their duties:

Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety, Human Rights.