

Churchill Parish Council



Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 12th May 2025

Present: Councillors J Bush, D Johnson, J Murray, M Simpson, R Baker, B Wilkinson, R Jeacocke, J Ronicle and Parish Clerk S Diaz.

Unitary Councillor P Keating was also present.

Public Questions-there were five members of the public present who raised concerns on the Crest Nicholson site at Pudding Pie Lane and road improvements. The Chief Operating Officer from Churchill Academy provided an update on leisure and sport activities available to the public.

- 25/FC5A To elect a Chairman and receive their declaration of office.
It was resolved that Councillor J Bush was elected as Chairman and signed their declaration of office.
- 25/FC5B To elect a Vice Chairman and receive their declaration of office.
It was resolved that D Johnson was elected as Vice Chairman and signed his declaration of office.
- 25/FC5C To receive any apologies of non-attendance.
Councillor M Baker sent his apologies which were accepted.
- 25/FC5D To receive any declarations of interest on agenda items.
There were no declarations on interest.
- 25/FC5E To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th April 2025.
It was resolved to confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th April 2025.
- 25/FC5F To note the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee held on 13.1.25 and 24.3.25 and resolutions adopted.
The minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee held on 13.1.25 and 24.3.25 were noted and the resolutions adopted.
- 25/FC5G North Somerset Council Matters
Councillor Keating reported that the Westlink bus service has received funding for another year from the Department for Transport. There will be amendments to the service including additional vehicles. The clerk will advise the Communications

Churchill Parish Council

Officer of hints and tips to help users of the service on the website and newsletter. Surveying has taken place at the proposed SEMH School in Ladymead Lane. Construction is scheduled to begin in September. Councillor Keating will ask if there are any updates on traffic management. He will also liaise with the Banwell Bypass for an update on the 20mph proposals for Ladymead Lane. An email was received from a resident asking if trees were being removed at the top of Ladymead Lane as part of the BSIP. Councillor Keating advised they are not being removed. He will follow up at the Full Council meeting at NSC for traffic management plans on the BSIP and raise that nature and ecology should be included as part of developers plans. The Parish Council asked if follow up by NSC Officers could be raised to ensure it has been carried out.

- 25/FC5H To resolve that the Parish council is eligible to use the General Power of Competence under the Parish councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 in that it has been at least two thirds elected and has a qualified clerk. It was resolved that the Parish Council is eligible to use the General Power of Competence under the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 in that it has been at least two thirds elected and has a qualified clerk.
- 25/FC5I To receive and approve the accounts for year ending 31st March 2025. The Parish Council resolved to receive and approve the accounts for year ending 31st March 2025.
- 25/FC5J To approve the Councils reserves for 2025-26
It was resolved to approve the councils reserves for 2025-26.
- 25/FC5K To approve the Council's Asset Register for 2025-26.
It was resolved to approve the Asset Register for 2025-26.
- 25/FC5L To approve the bank signatories for 2025-26.
It was resolved that Councillors J Bush, D Johnson, J Murray, R Baker, M Simpson and J Ronicle will continue as bank signatories for 2025-26.
- 25/FC5M To receive the Internal Auditor's report.
The Internal Auditor's report was noted.
- 25/FC5N To agree and sign section 1 of the AGAR Annual Return for 2024-25.
The Parish Council agreed and signed section 1 of the AGAR Annual Return for 2024-25, minute reference 25/FC5N. The Council declared no on sections 3 and 5. The explanations are as follows: Section 3-The general power of competence was not adopted after the Council elections but adopted in November 2024. This was an administrative oversight by the clerk. All members had been elected, and the clerk is CiLCA qualified. Section 5-The Financial Risk Assessment was approved by the Finance Committee in January 2025, but not by full council before 31.3.25. The minutes of the Finance meeting on 13th January and 24th March 2025 have been at approved as per minute reference 25/FC5F. The Council also noted that section 9

Churchill Parish Council

has been restated as a Sole Managing Trustee as previously it was declared that the Council was not the Sole Managing Trustee.

- 25/FC5O To agree and sign section 2 of the AGAR Annual Return for 2024-25.
It was resolved to agree and sign section 2 of the AGAR Annual Return for 2024-25.
- 25/FC5P To note the appointment of BDO as External Auditors for 23-26 and note there are no conflicts of interest.
It was noted that the appointment of BDO as External Auditors for 23-26 and there are no conflicts of interest.
- 25/FC5Q To consider members for the following committees: Finance and Personnel, Leisure, and Open Spaces and Allotments.
The following members were appointed to Finance and Personnel: Councillors R Baker, J Bush, D Johnson, J Murray, J Ronicle and M Simpson.
Leisure members: Councillors J Bush, R Baker, D Johnson, J Ronicle, M Simpson and J Murray.
Allotments and Open Spaces: Councillors B Wilkinson, J Bush, M Baker, R Jeacocke and D Johnson.
- 25/FC5R To note the Internal Auditor for 2025-26.
The Internal Auditor for 2025-26 will be Bridget Bowen.
- 25/FC5S To receive and authorise the payments for May 2025
Receipts received: £CCLA 366.77 and allotment payments £430.

D DEBITS: -			REF
NEST	Pension contributions for 2024	£194.23	DD
EE	Clerk Telephone-Taken 23 rd of each month, invoice available after 16 th of each month	£20.71	DD
Water 2 Business	Taken 2 nd of each month-allotment water	£9.00	DD
	Community Club Water	£172.50	
YU Energy	Gas community club	£115.68	DD
YU Energy	Electricity community club	£735.84	DD
Unity Bank	Bank charges	£287.00	DD
BT	Broadband	£76.88	DD
-TO PAY:-		£13.35	DD
Staff	Payroll for May	£4984.20	BACS
VSA Cleaning	Community Hall Cleaning	£150.00	BACS
Becky Walsh Courses	Marketing & Communications	£500.00	BACS
S Diaz (Clerk)	Expenses (mileage, printing).	£95.85	BACS
St Andrews Press	Newsletters	£74.00	BACS
B Bowen	Internal Auditor fee	£290.00	BACS
PCAA	Annual subscription	£95.00	BACS

Churchill Parish Council

K Lovell	Grass Cutting April	£916.00	BACS
WSM Town Council	Dog bin emptying	£374.40	BACS
WC Maunders	Grass seed and white spirit	£20.28	BACS
Alvis Contacting	Drainage work carried out on the recreation field.	£8,967.41	BACS
Vision ICT	Email hosting	£264.00	BACS
Churchill and Langford Minibus Society	Community Support Worker Q1	£1250.00	BACS
Equals Card	Top up	£200.00	BACS
CCLA	Deposit to savings account	£80000	BACS
	Total	£99806.33	
March	To ratify the following payments		
Wards Tree Surgeons	Tree Removal at Turnpike paddock	£2940	BACS
K Lovell	Millennium stone cleaning and misc maintenance	£300	BACS
St Andrews Press	Surveys for CIL	£33.60	BACS
GB Sport	Play area inspection	£108.00	BACS
Equals Card			
March 2025			
Land Registry	Search for land ownership	£7.00	Card
Land registry	Additional search for land registry	£39.75	Card
Post Office	Postage	£3.35	
	Total	£50.10	
April 2025			
Amazon	Serviettes, napkins and frames for APM	£11.97	Card
Sainsburys	Refreshments for APM	£60.20	Card
Amazon	Pegs and nylon string to mark the allotment plots	£14.98	Card
Amazon	Teak oil for wood	£14.99	Card
Market Kitchen	Refreshments	£5.85	Card
	Total	107.99	Card

It was resolved to authorise the payments for May 2025

25/FC5S To consider the following planning applications. Please note that Applications received after this Agenda is published may be considered if comments are needed before the next meeting.

25/P/0809/FUL	Land To The West and East Of The Strawberry Line,	Ground mounted photovoltaic solar farm together with Battery Energy Storage, associated equipment,
---------------	---	--

Churchill Parish Council

	<p>Brinsea Road, Congresbury</p>	<p>infrastructure and ancillary works with new substation off Drove Way</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to object to this application.</p> <p>This is the fourth very large local solar farm proposal to seek to feed into the local (regional) arm of the national grid 132kV network. The three earlier ones (22/P/1450/FUL, 23/P/2159/FUL, 24/P/1101/FUL) now have planning permission. The total solar electric power output represented by these four farms (plus 13/P/2382/F, 8MW) and based on their ticket specification is about 200MW. Yet geographically speaking, all these sites are effectively adjacent. This introduces a situation whereby <i>very local</i> meteorological changes could affect all four almost simultaneously (within a very few seconds).</p> <p>The potential outcome is that a transition from heavy cloudy overcast to bright sunlight could take place rather abruptly at all four sites nearly simultaneously. Consequently the local arm of the national grid would experience a power surge <i>in production</i> from low to high power output on this same brief time scale. This surge might well cause tripping of the safety devices on the local grid arm, thus causing a power -outage on that arm. This is certainly an unlikely event. But do not make the mistake of assuming that, because this is a low probability event, it can be ignored. Undoubtedly, the consequences of any such an event will be serious.</p> <p>In the past, grid network power surge design has concentrated on largely uncontrolled and potentially unexpected surges in consumer demand whilst producers of electric power, by contrast, have been considered to be well- controlled. Amongst renewables and for the major British energy sources, wind and sun, control is less straightforward. Wind-driven sources, however, can be controlled aerodynamically and the transients are also slowed by mechanical inertia. For solar photovoltaic sources, however, such control has yet to be considered, but so far, since the individual solar sources are mainly comparatively small and widely-distributed, these rather rapid power transients have caused little trouble overall. This present local solar concentration in North Somerset alters that situation profoundly.</p>
--	--------------------------------------	---

Churchill Parish Council

		<p>We should recognise that it is without precedent in the UK.</p> <p>We should also note that battery storage is now being installed on the large solar sites. Unfortunately, battery storage design and control is at present directed at rapid transients in demand, but not supply.</p> <p>Such a potential power supply transient could indeed be dealt with, for instance by using battery storage capacity as a buffer. But this would require important new considerations regarding the control of battery charge. Thus (on some occasions) the battery bank would need to be partly discharged in <i>anticipation</i> of a possible surge in supply. Implementation of such a procedure would require relevant local meteorological data as input and appropriate algorithms for control. It would also require much careful design and considerable planning. We, Churchill Parish Council, are concerned that these implications should now be confronted explicitly, at the planning stage, <i>before</i> the proposed installation is undertaken.</p>
25/P/0856/AOC	Land South Of Bristol Road And North Of Bath Road Churchill	<p>Request to discharge condition numbers 20 (Pedestrian & Cycle Site Plan and Implementation Timetable) and 23 (Construction method Statement) from 22/P/0564/OUT</p> <p>It was resolved to make no comment on this application.</p>

- 25/FC5T To consider the renewal for the Parish Council insurance.
The Council insurance policy has not been sent but the renewal is due on 1.6.25.
The Parish Council agreed that once received the clerk would circulate the policy to approve by email and make payment prior to 1.6.25 to ensure the Council has continuous cover. This will be ratified at the next meeting.
- 25/FC5U To consider the quote to use Civicy for Asset Management.
It was resolved to approve the quote to use Civicy for asset management.
- 25/FC5V To consider the Councils response to Crest Nicholson Homes regarding the land on Pudding Pie Lane.
It was agreed that the Council would liaise with local residents who have expressed their concerns regarding the plot of land derelict state. The Council will finalise their plans for the site before taking further action.

Churchill Parish Council

- 25/FC5W To confirm the application to North Somerset Council for S106 funds for the extension of the cricket club.
It was resolved to send all plans, quotes and confirmation from NSC planning stating that no permission is required to the S106 team at North Somerset Council. The quote was awarded to DS Build who subcontracted to K Lovell to carry out the work.
- 25/FC5X To consider the quote to add water meters to the Cricket Pavilion and Community Club.
It was resolved to approve the quotes to add water meters to the Cricket Pavilion and Community Club.
- 25/FC5Y To receive the clerks report
The clerks report was sent prior to the meeting.
- 25/FC5Z To receive matters for information
Councillor Bush advised that several road name signs were damaged in the parish, the clerk will report this.
Due to availability the Finance meeting will take place on Monday 7th July not Monday 21st July at 7.15pm.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 16th June 2025 at 7.30pm

End of minutes