

# Churchill Parish Council



## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Present: Councillors J Bush, D Johnson, J Murray, M Simpson, R Baker, J Ronicle, G Alleyne and clerk S Diaz and one member of the public.

Public Questions-a resident raised concerns on speeding in Ladymead Lane. The Council discussed traffic calming options.

- 25/FC12A To receive any apologies of non-attendance.  
Councillors M Baker and R Jeacocke sent their apologies.
- 25/FC12B To receive any declarations of interest on agenda items.  
Councillor J Bush declared an interest in item 25/FC12Q, Councillor G Alleyne declared an interest in 25/FC12I.
- 25/FC12C To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025.  
It was resolved to confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025.  
The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.
- 25/FC12D North Somerset Council Matters  
Councillor Keating did not attend the meeting. The Council would like Councillor Keating to follow up with North Somerset Council on the status of the Crest Nicholson development and if they have adopted the roads and the completed the safety audit. The Council also wished to report that speeding traffic remains on Ladymead and Pudding Pie Lane. There has been no change since the start of the year and remains a huge concern for the safety of pedestrians. The visibility issues of the crossing on Pudding Pie Lane near the school remain unchanged.
- 25/FC12E To consider the proposal to add Speed Indicator Devices to A38.  
It was resolved to approve the proposal to add Speed Indicator Devices to A38. The Council require the new SID's are purchased from the same supplier to ensure they are compatible with the Councils devices. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.
- 25/FC12F To appoint the internal auditor for 2026-27.  
It was resolved to appoint PATAS as the internal auditor for 2026-27. The

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resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.

25/FC12G To approve the quote to remove the soil at the recreation area.  
It was resolved to approve the quote to remove the soil at the recreation area. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.

25/FC12H To receive and authorise the payments for December 2025. All invoices have been examined, verified and certified by the clerk.  
It was resolved to approve the payments for December 2025. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.

Receipts CCLA £673.97

December 2025 Payments

<b>D DEBITS:</b>			<b>REF</b>	<b>Approval</b>	<b>Approval</b>
NEST	Pension contributions	<b>£188.45</b>	<b>DD</b>		
EE	Clerk Telephone-Taken 23 <sup>rd</sup> of each month, invoice available after 16 <sup>th</sup> of each month	<b>£20.71</b>	<b>DD</b>		
Water 2 Business	Taken 2 <sup>nd</sup> of each month-allotment water	<b>£9.00</b>	<b>DD</b>		
	Community Club Water	<b>£172.50</b>			
Unity Bank	Bank charges	<b>£10.65</b>	<b>DD</b>		
BT	Broadband	<b>£76.88</b>	<b>DD</b>		
Scribe	Civically costs for asset management	<b>£74.40</b>	<b>DD</b>		
<b>TO PAY:</b>					
Staff	December payroll	<b>£5092.44</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
VSA Cleaning	Community Hall Cleaning/allotment work	<b>£200.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Becky Walsh Courses	Marketing & Communications	<b>£500.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
S Diaz (Clerk)	Expenses (mileage)	<b>£65.47</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
St Andrews Press	Newsletters	<b>£77.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
K Lovell	Grass Cutting and maintenance at Community Club/open spaces	<b>£2357</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
	Clearance of book box debris from accident.				
	Stage Payment for Cricket Block	<b>£2500</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Middlecombe Nursery	Compost	<b>£12.24</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Pata Payroll	Payroll processing fees	<b>£81.51</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
J Bush	Refreshments during staff training	<b>£9.01</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Alvis Contracting	Annual hedge cutting	<b>£1260.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Corporate Cleaning Services	Dog bin emptying	<b>£240.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
WC Maunders	Joint fixing for guttering at Community Club	<b>£5.99</b>	<b>BACS</b> <b>BACS</b>		
ALCA	Staff training	<b>£140.00</b>			
R White & Son	Soil removal from recreation area	<b>£4800.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		
Churchill Reading	<b>Room Hire</b>	<b>£30.00</b>	<b>BACS</b>		

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Rooms				
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£17923.25</b>		
<b>Equals Card</b>	<b>November 2025</b>			
Amazon	Batteries for defib cabinet	£10.09	<b>Card</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£10.09</b>		

25/FC12I To consider the following planning applications: Applications received prior to the meeting will be discussed.

25/P/2338/ELE	Land To North Of The Oaks Churchill Green Churchill	Notification of National Grid Electricity Distributions intention to install 1no. replacement new electricity tower including a sealing pot end with underground cable located 15m away from existing tower 81/H10 which will then be dismantled and removed from site. It was resolved to make no comment on this application. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.
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25/FC12J To note the minutes from the finance and staffing committee meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 and consider the draft budget and precept request for 2026-27. It was resolved to note the minutes of the finance and staffing committee meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025. The Council discussed the budget and precept request for 2026-27. They are mindful to increase the precept by 7%. This will be confirmed after the band D figures are issued from North Somerset Council and will be concluded at the January finance and full council meeting.

25/FC12K To consider a response to the local plan.  
Churchill Parish Council resolved to comment on the following:  
The increase in traffic movements and their impact.  
Active travel.  
Flooding.

While Policy DP14, talks about highway safety at a high level, there is no quantifiable impact present.  
Principally our parish is made up of villages that do not have streetlights, pavements, or traffic calming, and in most cases lacks any maintenance (or investment).

NSC need to acknowledge that a development of x houses in a village will result in a y- additional vehicles, and z- additional traffic movements, either in that Parish itself, or impacting a neighbouring Parish, and thus deprecating the quality of life of residents.

This needs to form part of the planning application itself.

Mitigation for each development must be included in the planning application, and a direct contribution to the Parishes impacted - be this monetary or additional infrastructure.

North Somerset Local Plan 2041 (Pre-submission Plan, pp 301-302) lists housing site

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allocations for 191 houses within the areas of Ladymead, Jubilee and Pudding Pie lanes yet there is scant detail on how the area will be made safer for active travel particularly to and from schools. Please also consider the proposed new SEND school in Ladymead Lane.

Pavements and crossing points do not exist along many stretches of these narrow lanes. Ladymead Lane provides the key north-south link to A38 yet it has no pavements, it is very narrow and a 30-mph speed limit. The proposal states sites should be "master planned together and consider cumulative traffic impacts and access arrangements particularly in relation to Ladymead Lane" but the aspirations seem vague and lack detail.

Cumulative traffic impacts from recent developments (300+ houses which have doubled the size of the two villages of Churchill and Langford) in the wider area have rendered these lanes too dangerous for active travel at many times of the day and action is required. There is an urgent need for a comprehensive review of road safety for active travel and for safety measures to be implemented before any further housing development commences at these locations.

Flooding appears to have low significance in the plan, due to the issues in the county it was expected that it has its own section.

North Somerset Council need to acknowledge we are a very low-level lying region, prone to flooding.

This needs much more in-depth analysis presented here, mitigation plans developed, and local infrastructure and deployment plans put in place.

These mitigation strategies need to form part of each planning application - and not just another capture pond that pushes the problem downstream.

CPC welcomes the aspiration described under DP17- Public Transport Accessibility - that states "All residential development should be within reasonable distance of a direct and frequent bus service providing access to a good range of facilities, services and jobs via a direct, safe and attractive pedestrian route." Churchill and Langford villages, however, have seen a vast increase in new housing in the past 6 years whilst at the same time public transport has declined. The road network has got busier and some of the main roads have no footpaths, so it has become increasingly dangerous for pedestrians. We note that this has led to vulnerable people being less inclined to leave their homes leading to isolation related health issues. The social housing, whilst important, is often allocated to people whose family network is in Weston super mare and so transport to and from there is an issue.

These rural villages are not geographically linked in a way that allows for one through service to provide its needs. Churchill now has an hourly service to Bristol and Weston super Mare. While links to Banwell, Winscombe, Wrington, Wells and Weston super Mare are not on regular frequencies. The Rural Link service, Yatton to Bristol Airport requires pre-booking and ceases at 1530 hrs.

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Churchill Parish has been covered by the Demand Responsive Transport project which provides facilities at what must be a substantial loss to the taxpayer and only satisfies 50 percent of the requests made (Smallwood, 2025). It is suggested the service is unlikely to survive long term as it seems unaffordable. At the same time significant funds are being spent on public transport capital projects such as bus lanes and even in one case a major roundabout enhancement where very few buses operate. Importantly, there are many funds available from different sources which are not coordinated. Sums currently being spent on local bus and health transport should be examined together, to assess whether this can be organised better locally through common budgets. There is the need to ensure that there is a regular frequency of services around the villages and feeding into Bristol, Weston super mare, Wells, the major railway station and main arteries.

*Smallwood T (2025). Report to Transport Select Committee by Trevor Smallwood OBE, DL (Somerset), past Executive Chairman of Badgerline Group and FirstGroup, OBE in 1994 for services to public transport.*

- 25/FC12L To consider purchasing a yearly wreath for the Remembrance Ceremony. It was resolved to approve the purchasing of a yearly wreath for the Remembrance Ceremony. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.
- 25/FC12M To consider the option to add two 22kw chargers at the recreation area. This was deferred until the January meeting while further costings are obtained.
- 25/FC12N To discuss improvements to the Skate Park. The Parish Council discussed various options for the Skate Park. Councillor Alleyne, the Clerk and the Communications Officer will work together to liaise with the young people and residents of the parish to establish what would best suited in the community. Funding streams and quotes will be researched to present back to the Council.
- 25/FC12O To receive the clerks report. The clerk sent her report prior to the meeting.
- 25/FC12P To consider renewing the Community Support worker for 2026-27. It was resolved to renew the Community Support Worker for 2026-27. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded.

The following item was moved to the end of the agenda. Councillor Bush left the meeting prior to this item being discussed.

- 25/FC12Q To consider the heads of terms for a footpath at the allotments. It was resolved to accept the amended Heads of Terms for a footpath at the allotment. The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded
- 25/FC12R To consider the offer to purchase the land at Pudding Pie Lane.

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This item was deferred until the January meeting.

25/FC12S

To receive matters for information

Councillor Bush reported that Police support has been inadequate in a recent spate of damage to properties and anti-social behaviour. The clerk will write to the Chief Constable at Avon & Somerset Police to invite him to a Parish Council meeting to discuss the matter further.

Councillor Ronicle advised that the Speed Indicator Devices will continue to be moved around the parish to collect data on speeding.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30pm

End of minutes