Churchill Parish Council

Minutes of the Open Spaces and Allotments Committee Meeting on 21st September 2026

Present: Councillors J Bush, M Baker, J Comley, C Sexton and Parish Clerk S Diaz
There were four members of the public present.

26/OSA9A To receive any apologies of non-attendance.
Councillors G Alleyne, D Johnson and R Jeacocke sent their apologies.

26/OSA9B To receive any declarations of interest on agenda items.
There were no declarations of interest.

26/OSA9C To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2026.
It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2026.

26/OSA9D Allotments-Update on Budget v Spend.
The Committee discussed the allotments budget and noted that water costs had increased due to the dry weather and water use. Fees will be adjusted during the budget setting for 2027-28. Allotment rent income is lower this year due to tenants leaving and a gap before new tenants take over. The allotment maintenance costs were due to clearing the community allotment area and another overgrown unoccupied plot.

26/OSA9E Allotment matters for information
The allotment committee chairman and the clerk carried out an inspection ahead of the meeting and noted all plots other than the community allotment where occupied.
Allotment holders asked if the chairman Cllr J Bush could source some mushroom compost. The remaining items on the community area need to be cleared including the metal shed and seating. The communal shed in field once installed by the Parish Council will be repositioned on the new community allotment. Plastic pots are being left under the table at the entrance of field one. Can holders please remove any rubbish and put in their own bins at home. A resident in Langford has offered free bark mulch for anyone who would like it and tenants should contact the clerk for info.
The bees will be relocated to the old community area with wildflowers planted to support them.
The new community allotment will be covered in weed suppressant under

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gravelled areas to reduce maintenance.
The clerk will visit Osprey community allotment with Councillor Sexton on 8.10.26.

26/OSA9F To discuss additional planters and water butts in the parish

The committee discussed additional planters and water butts needed and compiled a list to include 6 water butts for placement at the hand, Memorial Hall, Cricket Pavilion, Front Street and on Cllr Sexton's property and rear of the community club. It was agreed that 12 tubs/planters would be needed and the clerk will request for help from the current schemes in the parish.

26/OSA9G Open spaces -Budget v Spend.

The open spaces budget is on target for this stage of the year. Additional expenditure for fencing at the Memorial Hall was noted. All other expenditure was for general maintenance.

26/OSA9H To discuss the planting scheme for the BSIP project

The planting scheme was discussed by the committee, and it was agreed that the scheme would work well. The clerk will ask if a Christmas tree can be planted on the roundabout with a possible outside socket for lights to be added.

26/OSA9I Open spaces-matters for information

The volunteer walking group has 2 members and councillor Comley is waiting for way markers and additional signage from North Somerset Council.
Councillor Comley asked if a dog bin could go just inside the kissing gate opposite The Nelson Arms. The clerk will liaise with the landowner and the dog bin contractor for feasibility.
The bench at Windmill Hill needs replacing, the clerk will ask if one of the current improvement schemes would fund it. A hedge at the rear of the Mushroom Farm footpath has been taken out but the landowner does not know by who. There is fencing on the footpath from Broadoak to Ladymead Lane but no signage or notices. The clerk will ask if it is part of the Banwell Bypass footpath works. There has been evidence of underage drinking in public spaces. The clerk will contact Morrisons and Touts to keep them informed.

Next meeting Monday 25 January 2027
End of minutes

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