

Churchill Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 14th July 2025

Present: Councillors J Bush, D Johnson, M Simpson, R Baker, B Wilkinson, M Baker, J Ronicle, R Jeacocke, Parish Clerk S Diaz and 3 members of the public.

Public Questions: A resident raised speeding concerns on the A38. It was agreed that he would do further research relating to the feasibility of a Speed Indicator Device. The information will be shared with the Council.

The owners of the Market Kitchen provided an update on the café and future plans.

25/FC7A To receive any apologies of non-attendance.
Councillor J Murray sent her apologies.

25/FC7B To receive any declarations of interest on agenda items.
There were no declarations of interest.

25/FC7C To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th June 2025.
It was resolved to confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th June 2025.

25/FC7D North Somerset Council Matters
Councillor Keating did not attend the meeting.
The Council would like Councillor Keating to ask the Roadworks team at NSC if they can consider when looking at all projects in the area, that not all are carried out at the same time and causing chaos for drivers in the parish.

25/FC7E To consider changing parish council emails/website to gov.uk.
It was resolved that the Parish Council would move to gov.uk emails in March.

25/FC7F To consider funding a Community Response Officer and sharing the cost with neighbouring parishes.
The Parish Council discussed this in detail and agreed to send a formal expression of interest to North Somerset Council for further consideration but without commitment until all information is provided.

25/FC7G To receive and authorise the payments for July 2025. All invoices have been examined, verified and certified by the clerk.
Receipts
CCLA £632.62

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Allotment rents and water receipts £31.67, S106 funds from NSC £721,

July 2025 Payments

It was resolved to approve the payments for July.

D DEBITS: -			REF
NEST	Pension contributions for 2024	£193.43	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 Community Club Water	£9.00 £172.50	DD
YU Energy	Gas community club	£99.76	DD
YU Energy	Electricity community club	£723.23	DD
Unity Bank	Bank charges	£11.70	DD
BT	Broadband	£76.88	DD
-TO PAY:-			
Staff	Salaries	£2747.65	BACS
HMRC	PAYE	£1173.93	BACS
VSA Cleaning	Community Hall Cleaning/allotment plot strimming	£160.00	BACS
Becky Walsh Courses	Marketing & Communications	£500.00	BACS
S Diaz (Clerk)	Expenses (mileage, printing).	£80.55	BACS
St Andrews Press	Newsletters	£77.00	BACS
Local Government Pension Scheme	Pension	£1058.88	BACS
K Lovell	Grass Cutting June and maintenance at Community Club/open spaces Stage 1 remainder payment of footings/works for Cricket Club Extension	£1401.00 £10845	BACS
M Miles	Mileage	£34.20	BACS
Corporate Cleaning Services	June dog bin emptying	£240.00	BACS
Fire Risk Assessments	Fire Risk Assessment renewal	£582.00	BACS
Walker Fire UK Ltd	Fire extinguisher service	£258.12	BACS
Aqueous UK Ltd	Website maintenance and management July to January	£57.60	BACS
Create Signs	Dog bin sign	£20.10	BACS
Dorset Fingerpost Services	Replica of SAC Triangle	£210.00	BACS
SPFA	Subscription	£15.00	
	Total	£20768.24	
Equals Card	June 2025		
Market Kitchen	Drinks	£7.42	
Amazon	Fire door signs	£9.31	Card
	Total	£16.73	Card

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25/FC7H To consider the following planning applications: Applications received prior to the meeting will be discussed.

25/P/1073/FUH	The Rock Cottage Doleberrow Churchill BS25 5NT	Proposed erection of a two storey extension and single storey extension with balcony above to the South-West elevation. It was resolved to support this application.
25/P/1098/FUL	Land South Of Dolemoor Lane, Congresbury	<p>Application for the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar farm complete with landscaping, associated infrastructure, and temporary construction access.</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to object to this application. This is the fifth 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</p>

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		<p>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> <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. The visual impact has a huge detrimental effect on an area close to the AONB.</p> <p>These applications should not be looked at in isolation as the area is being taken over by solar farms.</p>
25/P/1259/FUL	Engine Forge Bath Road Langford BS40 5DJ	Demolition of 1no. existing shed/store and the proposed erection of 2no. business units with parking and yard. It was resolved to support this application.
25/P/1271/FUH	10 Ladymead Lane Langford BS40 5EG	Proposed erection of a first floor side extension and alterations to the existing rear ground floor roof line. It was resolved to support this application.

25/FC7I

To discuss projects for CIL expenditure.

The Parish Council discussed the following CIL/Community project ideas:

Skate Park

Members of the Council spoke to representatives from RWE Renewables UK Solar and Storage Limited regarding the Community Fund from the solar farm at Honey Hall. There is an option to have half of the allocated funds in a lump sum and half as a yearly payment for 40 years. A plan of what would be best suited for the skate park will be provided by the company that installed it. The Rotary Club could be approached for part funding, fund raising from the young community, lottery/Sport England/Bristol Airport grants and CIL could be considered once costs have been provided.

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Community Shelter at the recreation field.

The Council discussed options to add on to the dug out for more extensive use for spectators and members of the public. There is approximately £2k from the S106 money to use toward it. The clerk will obtain some plans and costs to present to the Council.

Community Club Extension

The Council liaised with the Market Kitchen team who suggested a covered area/patio at the front of the Community Club and to use of the side patio during holidays. This would provide additional seating. The Market Kitchen would approach the Village Fund for a grant. This will be discussed at the August meeting. The Council will look at a PWLB and commercial loan for partial funding with CIL funds to fund an extension to include a larger kitchen/store room for the Market Kitchen and parish office.

Open Spaces

The Parish Council have registered an interest with North Somerset Council (NSC) to take over the Broadoak green space from 2026. The Council is waiting for a meeting with NSC to look at options. The Council would ask that a tree survey is completed before any commitment is made. There could be open space for a community orchard if NSC agree. A designated area could be provided for CLAGS.

MUGA

The Council agreed that the MUGA will need to be part of a 5-year plan as the cost is circa £250k. This will need to have staged works to prepare the paddock initially before adding a surface, and later low-level lighting. The SEND school suggests it will have a MUGA for community use so the council will see if that is available to residents and if it is used before considering progression with the MUGA. Due to the needs of the residents, the Parish Council are trying to utilise the CIL funds to achieve the projects important to the community.

- 25/FC7J To note the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting.
It was resolved to note the minutes of the Leisure Committee meeting.
- 25/FC7K To note the minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting.
It was resolved to note the minutes of the Finance and Personnel meeting.
- 25/FC7L To receive the clerks report.
The clerk sent her report prior to the meeting.
- 25/FC7M To discuss the parcel of land at Crest Nicholson.
The Parish Council agreed to write to the University of Bristol, asking for support regarding plans for a green space, on the piece of land initially reserved for community use on Pudding Pie Lane owned by Crest Nicholson.

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25/FC7N To add an additional water meter at the mains outlet of the community building.
It was resolved to add an additional water meter at the mains outlet.

25/FC7O To receive matters for information
Councillor R Baker wished to thank James and Kirsty from the Market Kitchen on their presentation.
Councillor Jeacocke circulated an updated document on the severity of the impact Bristol Airport expansion will have on the area.

The next Parish Council meeting will be 11th August 2025 at 7.30pm
End of minutes