



# **TATWORTH AND FORTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tatworth & Forton Parish Council Held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7pm Main Hall Tatworth Memorial Hall**

**Present: Chairman Councillor: R Down, Councillors: S Adams, C Brown, C Doel, R Jacobs, L Matthey, K Patay, E Peadon, B Quinn, M Rees, and R Wardell. Somerset Councillors J Baker and C Payne, PCSO H Harriason.**

Locum Clerk David Mears

2 Members of the Public present and no Press.

The Members of the Public were invited to address the Council about any matters not already on the agenda but declined.

### **Reports from Somerset Councillors**

Somerset Councillor Jason Baker read from his report which has been circulated to the Councillors and placed on the website.

Somerset Councillor C Payne read from his report which he will forward to the Clerk to be circulated and placed on the website.

**191/25 Apologies for Absence** – to receive apologies for absence (Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972)

Peter Chapple – Holiday

**192/25 Declarations of interest** Under the Localism Act 2011 (sections 26-37 and Schedule 4) and in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any interests which are not currently entered in the member's register of interests or, if he/she has not notified the Monitoring Officer of it.

198/25 Councillors R Down and C Brown. Will leave the room.

198/25 Councillors L Matthey, S Adams and B Quinn. Will not leave the room as no pecuniary interest.

**193/25 To approve and sign as a correct record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025**

Proposed by Councillor L Matthey, Seconded by Councillor M Rees. 10 in favour, 1 abstention.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 be signed as a correct record.

#### **194/25 Chairman's Announcements**

The children's Halloween Party Disco held at Perry Street Club was very well attended. The Parish Council should thank Perry Street Club for holding it.

The Police arrived at a funeral at St John's Church regarding cars parked in Manor Farm Close by people attending the funeral. However, they did not attend regarding a drugs complaint in the village. The Chairman was angry about this and felt the priorities were wrong.

PCSO Hayley Harrison was introduced as the new PCSO for Chard. She will be covering the Parish. She reported 4 incidents in Tatworth and Forton in October and answered questions from the Councillors.

#### **195/25 Report from Councillor Matthey regarding Perry Street Club**

Councillor L Matthey has now been accepted on the Leadership Team as the representative from the Parish Council and is helping the Club with its finances. The financial situation is very serious, every avenue is being followed to help recovery. It was suggested that the Club should sell off the Perry Street car park to aid finances but the Environmental Agency's flood map includes the car park so they are not able to utilise that.

#### **196/25 Christmas Lunch 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December update from Councillor Claire Brown**

Lunch at Tatworth Memorial Hall on 1<sup>st</sup> December has been booked for 40 people. Likewise, lunch at St John's Rooms on 8<sup>th</sup> December has also been booked for 40 people.

The invitations have been printed and are ready for distribution.

#### **197/25 To consider setting up an "Award for outstanding contribution to the residents of Tatworth and Forton Parish"**

The idea is to choose somebody who contributes a lot to the Parish, not necessarily a resident. Councillor R Down will chair and the Councillors will put forward nominations. Discussions were held as to what the award should be.

This item should be put before the Finance Committee for them to set a budget.

Proposed by Councillor R Down, Seconded by Councillor B Quinn. All in favour.

**RESOLVED:** This item will be put before the Finance Committee for them to set a budget for the award.

#### **198/25 Invoices for Payment:**

Perry St Club (Youth Halloween Party)	£250.00 No VAT
Matthew Giles (Rubbish removal, strimming allotment plots)	£100.00 No VAT
Business Supplies Group (Inkjet for office printer)	£151.92 Inc VAT
SALC (Councillor Training)	£135.00 No VAT
Country Lawns & Trees Ltd (Coombses Pond)	£5072.12 Inc VAT

MACS Design & Print (Printing newsletter)	£329.00 No VAT
Wright Tree Surgery (Dead tree Coombses Pond)	£620.00 No VAT
Glasdon (Waste bin Coombses Pond)	£245.92 Inc VAT
Tatworth Memorial Hall (Office and room hire)	£471.00 No VAT
B E Powell & Sons (Maintenance 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter)	£2637.90 Inc VAT
Vision ICT (Hosting emails)	£192.00 Inc VAT
PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Audit)	£378.00 Inc VAT
Claire Brown (50% deposit Christmas Lunch)	£1038 No VAT

Defibrillator payments re minute number 183/25. Tatworth Playing Fields, St John's Church Hall, Forton Community Association, Tatworth Memorial Hall, Perry St Club. 5 payments of £50.00 each.

#### Burial Account

B E Powell & Sons (Maintenance Cemetery 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter)	£2856.90 Inc VAT
B E Powell & Sons (Maintenance closed churchyard St Johns)	£780.00 Inc VAT

Net Staff Salaries £1477.96

There was discussion regarding the payment to Country Lawns & Trees Limited who had increased their original estimate by £500 for the pond work which had not been agreed by the Council.

*Councillors R Down and C Brown then left the room.*

*Councillor K Patay took over the chair*

Proposed by Councillor L Matthey, Seconded by Councillor B Quinn. All in favour.

**RESOLVED:** The payments as listed have been approved for payment except for the payment to Country Lawns and Trees.

*Councillors R Down and C Brown returned to the meeting*

The payment to Country Lawns and Trees was then discussed again.

Proposed by Councillor K Patay, Seconded by Councillor R Jacobs. 9 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention.

**RESOLVED:** Only the original amount given by Country Lawns and Trees in their estimate should be paid plus the additional £95 which had been agreed. The clerk can bring this to the next meeting.

#### **199/25 Matters which the Councillors wish to report. No Decisions can be made**

Councillor K Patay:	Has contacted the Planning Officer re a Grade 2 listed property in Forton which is not in a good state of repair.
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Somerset Councillor Connor Payne:	Has started a petition to reduce the roadworks being carried out in Chard. Please could the Councillors sign it.
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**DATE NEXT MEETING: 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025 Meeting closed: 8:45pm**