



TATWORTH AND FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tatworth & Forton Parish Council Held on 3rd September 2026 at 7pm At Tatworth Memorial Hall, Main Hall

**Present: Chairman Councillor R Down, Councillors: S Adams, C Doel,
K Patay, E Peadon, M Rees, J Stevenson, R Wardell, Somerset Councillor
C Payne and Police Representative H Harris**

Clerk N Tinley

There were 6 Members of the Public present and no Press.

Public Participation

None.

Report from Somerset Councillor

Somerset Councillor C Payne stated that August is always a quiet month and he had nothing to report but wanted to attend the meeting to contribute and answer questions.

Report form PCSO Hayley Harris

The Police Station is very short staffed and with the low reported incidents in the Parish those resources have been allocated to Chard. There are 2 or 3 new PCSOs starting in September so Parish coverage will be improved.

Chairman Down contested the crime figures presented as there has been a lot of drug dealing reported to the Police. The matter was discussed at length and PCSO Harris promised to investigate and gain evidence. Once sufficient evidence is gathered a team can be arranged to enter the premises.

Councillor K Patay and members of the public raised the matter of high speed driving through Forton both night and day. PCSO Harris requested number plates. There will be more detection vans allocated.

PCSO Harris confirmed that a PCSO will attend the surgery on 18th September.

PCSO Harris was thanked for attending and left the meeting

153/26 Apologies for Absence

Councillor L Matthey
Councillor B Quinn

Holiday
Working

Somerset Councillor J Baker

Holiday

154/26 Declarations of interest

Councillor R Down 165/26 Payments – He will leave the meeting.

155/26 To approve and sign as a correct record Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th August 2026

Proposed by Councillor M Rees, Seconded by Councillor J Stevenson. All in favour.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th August 2026 be signed as a correct record.

156/26 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman thanked the Horticultural Society for hosting the village show and for presenting the allotment cup.

St John's Church Harvest Service will be held on 20th September and Remembrance Service on 8th November.

157/26 Report from Councillor Matthey regarding road safety concerns raised at Community Surgery, discuss and agree response

Chairman Councillor R Down deferred this matter to the next meeting as Councillor L Matthey was on holiday.

158/26 Update from Councillor Brown on youth events held this summer and planned outdoor cinema event on 26th September

The bus trips were enjoyed by all that attended. Unfortunately, a number of people had said they were attending but then did not.

There is a lot of interest for the outdoor cinema event. The cost is being covered by SALC, allowing the Parish Council to provide food for the children that attend. Councillor Down is trying to persuade local organisations to organise the food, if not then a food van.

159/26 To approve the application to Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC) Community Health and Wellbeing fund for our outdoor cinema event

Proposed by Councillor K Patay, Seconded by Councillor M Rees. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The application to SALC to support the outdoor cinema event has been approved by the full Council and the event will go ahead on 26th September.

160/26 To appoint a Councillor to replace Peter Chapple as our Bus Champion

There were no volunteers for the role. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

161/26 Now telephone numbers have been removed from the website approve a data base of Councillor telephone numbers for Councillor use only. Not to be passed on without individual approval

Proposed by Councillor C Doel, Seconded by Councillor J Stevenson. All in favour.

RESOLVED: A Councillor-use only database of telephone numbers will be forwarded on Council emails. These numbers are not to be passed on without the individual's approval.

162/26 To adopt the National Staff Pay award of 3.3% back dated to April 2026

Proposed by Councillor M Rees, Seconded by Councillor C Doel. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The Staff Green Book pay award has been approved.

163/26 To adopt the following policies. Last assessed in 2023

- a) **Social Media Policy**
- b) **Health and Safety Policy**
- c) **Complaints Procedure**
- d) **Press and Media Policy**

Proposed by Councillor K Patay, Seconded by Councillor R Down,. 5 in favour with 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED: The 4 policies have been adopted by the Council.

164/26 Clerks report

- 1) Newsletter – it is in Councillors' inboxes. They should read through it. It will go to the Printers on Tuesday.
- 2) In respect of the ID cards approved at the last meeting, the Clerk has just two photographs – Michelle and Rebecca. It was stated that if the Councillors are struggling to take photographs they can be taken in the office.
- 3) Members Interest. The Clerk has only received Michelle, Kate and all 3 co-opted committee members. These are needed back.
- 4) The next joint Police and Councillor Surgery is 18th September – who can attend? Councillors J Stevenson and C Doel volunteered.

*Councillor R Down left the room
Councillor K Patay took over the chair*

165/26 Invoices for Payment:

Invoices where Councillors have a financial interest.

St John's Church Hall. Hire for meetings

£65.00 No VAT

Proposed by Councillor K Patay, Seconded by Councillor E Peadon. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The invoices listed in 165/26 have been approved for payment

Councillor R Down returned to the meeting and re-took the Chair

166/26 Invoices for Payment: Normal Invoices

B E Powell & Sons (Strim boggy area Jubilee Field)	£326.00 Inc VAT
Business Supplies Group (Inkjet & Stationery)	£267.95 Inc VAT
Arien Signs Ltd (50% deposit notice board)	£1362.00 Inc VAT
Graphics Factory (Replacement signs)	£140.64 Inc VAT
EcoElectric (Fit De-fib Memorial Hall)	£84.00 Inc VAT

Paid by Clerk

Amazon (Laminating Pouches & urgent ink cartridge)	£30.34 Inc VAT
Chard Garden Centre (Garden Gift Voucher)	£30.00 No VAT

Burial Account

Amethyst Horticulture.(Daffodils)	£168.00 Inc VAT
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Net Staff Salaries £1144.48

Proposed by Councillor S Adams, Seconded by Councillor E Peadon. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The invoices listed in 166/26 have been approved for payment.

These payments have been set up on Internet banking and signed by Councillor E Peadon. Councillor K Patay will log on and authorise payment. The payment date will be 8th September 2026.

167/26 Matters which the Councillors wish to report. No Decisions can be made

Councillor K Patay	The hedge at Whitegate is still not cut, making it impossible to see traffic coming in from the left. The Clerk reported it to Highways and they wanted us to write to the owner, which was done. If not actioned, this needs to be reported back.
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Councillor R Down	The water is running again at Post Office Lane. Highways have been emailed for a meeting.
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DATE NEXT MEETING: 1st October 2026

Meeting closed 8:05pm