



TATWORTH AND FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Tatworth & Forton Parish Council Amenities Committee held on 23rd July 2026 at 7pm Forton Community Hall

Present: Councillors: S Adams, R Down, K Patay, E Peadon, M Rees and Member of Public R Chubb

Clerk N Tinley

There was 1 Member of the Public present.

Public Participation

A resident fell off the pavement whilst avoiding an overgrown hedge. Clerk will investigate and write a letter if required.

The A358 speed sign is being obscured by tree growth. This has already been reported to Highways by the Clerk.

41/26 Apologies for absence

Councillor R Jacobs	Taking a break from Council work
Councillor L Matthey	Recovering from an operation

42/26 Declarations of interest

None.

43/26 To approve and sign as a correct record Minutes of the Amenities Committee Meeting held on 21st May 2026

Proposed by Councillor S Adams, Seconded by R Chubb. All in favour with one abstention.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Parish Council Amenities Committee held on 21st May 2026 be signed as a correct record.

44/26 Review and approve for recommendation to Full Council “Amenities Terms of Reference” Those approved 31/26 needed amending after recent training

The Clerk confirmed that upon re-reading the Terms of Reference approved at 31/26 they cover the additional information raised from recent training. No adjustment is needed.

45/26 Jubilee Field:

1) *To approve wording for front gate notices*

After the correction of a couple of spelling errors and to add that use of mobility vehicles is allowed.

Proposed by R Chubb, Seconded by Councillor E Peadon. All in favour.

RESOLVED: After the corrections as above the wording has been approved. The Clerk is to arrange printing.

2) *To access tree damage after heatwave*

The Clerk has walked around the field and found the trees in good order. 2 have been lost in the main field and 2 in the Orchard from last year. Councillor Down confirmed that he and Chris Doel had watered the area from stream water. The Clerk is to email the Council's thanks to Chris with an offer to cover the cost of fuel used. The Clerk will request that Chris re-waters the area upon return from his holiday.

3) *Other matters that committee members wish to discuss about Jubilee Field. No decisions can be made*

It was mentioned that the boggy area is very untidy and needs to be strimmed. The Clerk will talk with the Powells, to be done before the seeds are released.

46/26 Allotments

1) *General update from Clerk*

There are 19 paid allotments with 5 others requiring chasing. Plot 17 is becoming available as the tenant has moved away from the area. Her brother will remove the shed and other items in the next few weeks. This will leave 5 plots available.

There are 2 plots that have been paid for but not cultivated this year due to health and family reasons. They have been cut back and the Clerk will monitor.

2) *To review and approve allotment regulations*

Further to suggestions at the last meeting the regulations were retyped and forwarded to the Councillors for consideration.

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

RESOLVED: The regulations have been approved and will be forwarded to the tenants to sign and return.

- 3) *To update from Councillor E Peadon regarding best allotment plot cup with Tatworth Horticultural Association. Authorise purchase of National Garden Gift Vouchers*

The Clerk received an email from Susan Cox requesting that Councillor E Peadon contact her. The cup is available to be picked up next week.

Councillor Peadon proposed the purchase of £30 National Garden Vouchers for the winner, Seconded by Councillor R Down. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The Clerk will arrange purchase of £30 National Garden Vouchers.

- 4) *To note that the Pump has been serviced and repaired, Signs “Do not Drink & Slip Hazard” have been ordered*

The pump is working well and the signs have been fitted on the pump fence. The Clerk has requested that Councillor Peadon invoice the Council for his time and parts.

- 5) *Other matters that committee members wish to discuss about the allotments. No decisions can be made*

None.

47/26 Coombses Pond

- 1) *To approve document “Coombses Pond May 2026 The Way Forward”*

The document produced by Councillor R Jacobs lists 5 key priorities:

- (i) Pond clearance – removal of duck weed and 25% of irises. The Clerk is investigating companies that can help in this area.
- (ii) Thinning of trees around the edge of the pond. Refer to item 47/26 2).
- (iii) Above the overflow pipes the path is giving way and needs repair. Councillor Jacobs is investigating companies that can be approached for a quotation.
- (iv) The edges of the pond need clearing so the pond is visible from the picnic table. This item is to be included in 47/27 2).
- (v) The overflow ditch needs keeping clear of rubbish and silt. The Clerk will talk to Shaun towards the Autumn.

Proposed by Councillor K Patay, Seconded by Councillor S Adams. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The way forward has been accepted by the Committee, and the Clerk will move forward with obtaining quotes and solutions.

- 2) *We have applied for a £3300 grant for tree clearance, to approve further work from our budget*

We were contacted by “Rivers Run Through Us” after Richard met Emily Hobson-Martin at a social event to offer leftover funding from 2025 grants. After negotiation the Clerk applied for £3,300 for the work around the edge of the pond to increase light. In the meantime the Clerk met with Jason Wright, Tree Surgeon, and discussed what trees to remove. These included some large trees on the right-hand side of the pond between the pond and the brook that would need specialist winching equipment. The quote was £10,650. This is not affordable and the Clerk met with Jason again to discuss other options. This resulted in a revised quote for 5 days labour, including the hire of smaller equipment, at £3,900 with no VAT. This would make a substantial difference to the pond and although it will leave the large trees the branches overhanging the pond will be cut back. The £3,900 will be covered by the grant of £3,300 and £600 from the Council budget. It would not be beneficial to extend the hire of equipment into a second week. The grant funds have already been received.

Proposed by Councillor E Peadon, Seconded by R Chubb. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The quote for 2 people for 5 days with equipment of £3,900 has been approved.

- 3) *Update on the outlet of water from the pond*

This matter could be dealt with under Section 3 of the “Way Forward”. The agenda item was deferred.

- 4) *Other matters that committee members wish to discuss about Coombes Pond. No decisions can be made*

None.

48/26 Speed indicator device

The application to Somerset Highways for new and existing SID locations has been sent off. The person dealing with the application will be returning from holiday on 3rd August.

49/26 Morrisons Community Notice Board

The design the Committee approved of at the last meeting needed a revised quote which came back at £2,270; a slight increase. The Clerk has approached 4 local companies to quote for fitting; to date one quote has been received. Somerset Council have approved the use of CIL funding for the purchase of a “Community Notice Board”; the Finance Committee have also approved it's use. This item will be placed on the Full Council agenda.

50/26 Road Junction Street Signs

The Council has been promised a £250 grant from “Campaign to Protect Rural England” towards the cost of £855. Somerset Forge has confirmed work should start on 13th August.

51/26 Litter bin at Two Ash Seat

Somerset Council have approved that the replacement of the bin at Two Ash Seat can be added to their schedule. The cost of a medium-sized bin is £198.36. It is hoped that whoever is awarded the fitting of the Notice Board will also fit the bin.

Proposed by Councillor M Rees, Seconded by Councillor S Adams. All in favour.

RESOLVED: The purchase has been approved.

It was also mentioned that the seat needs repairing and repainting. Also the seat on the A358 by the green bus stop. The Clerk will investigate.

52/26 Matters which the Councillors wish to report

Councillor K Patay

It would help the youth of the village to have a skate/bike park. This will be considered.

The addresses and risks for Lower Coombses are required for the local flood plans. It was suggested Les Matthey be emailed.

Rick Chubb

The footpath from Morrisons to Factory Lane has not yet been repaired. This was reported on Somerset Council "Rights of way" page in May. The Clerk has emailed and Rick has sent in another report.

Date of Next Meeting – 17th September 2026

Meeting Closed 7:50pm