

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of a Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th October 2025 at the Thorncombe Village Hall, commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllr's J Higgs (Chairman), M Stead, A Hiscock, P Basham, J Fox and W Luty-Wells

In Attendance: -The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr S Christopher (Dorset Council) and three members of the public.

Draft until Approved

333	Apologies for Absence No apologies received
334	Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct No Declarations of Interest received at this stage of the meeting.
335	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 2 nd of September 2025, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record and were signed by the chairman
336	Matters Arising from the Minutes Nil
337	Council Surgery There were concerns about an unlicensed vehicle parked in the Tansee Hill area. Cllr J Higgs would host the next meeting; scheduled for the 31 st of October.
338	Democratic Period Concerns about a water leak in the road opposite the church, which it was understood had been reported; and was scheduled to be dealt with. Concern expressed by a hedge that was badly in need of attention by Knapp Cottages. Agreed that this needed reporting to the highway authority via the portal. This was causing problems to vehicles, especially the double decker bus.

	Concerns expressed about the use of Weymouth taxis to convey special needs children to Beaminster school. It was felt that this was adding a very high daily cost; and one wonders why a more local company were not being used.												
339	Accounts for Payment The following accounts were ratified: <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="2">Accounts for Ratification</th></tr> <tr> <td>Thorncombe Village Hall</td><td>70.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Hugo Fox</td><td>44.98</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE</td><td>301.07</td></tr> <tr> <td>J Vanderwolfe</td><td>76.50</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>492.55</td></tr> </table>	Accounts for Ratification		Thorncombe Village Hall	70.00	Hugo Fox	44.98	HMRC PAYE	301.07	J Vanderwolfe	76.50		492.55
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339	Financial Update The Financial Update was agreed. Financial Assets as of the 3rd of October 2025 were £27,156.87.												
340	Dorset Councillor Report The period for consultation on the local plan had ben extended due to technical difficulties being experienced with the Dorset Council software systems. Cllr Christopher spoke about the Dorset Farm Estates: to which the council owns some 5,000 acres. It was felt that there had been a general failure to invest in these assets over the last few years; and little, if any progress had been made in respect of renewable energy and environment issues												
341	Finger Posts Cllr Fox would contact Mr Beer with a view to obtaining an update including a survey of the number and location of finger posts that require attention.												
342	Dorset Local Plan Consultation Members noted the consultation period had been extended; however, they did not feel that there was a need to respond to it as far as Thorncombe was concerned.												
343	Community Shop An update had been circulated												
344	Allotments A local problem was being dealt with.												

345	Playfield The ROSPA report had been circulated, however the clerk reminded members that you needed to save it as the report is time sensitive. There are problems with the bins. Agreed that the playfield would be the subject of a full agenda item for the November meeting.
346	Rights of Way General housekeeping of paths continues. The landowner of Spearhay Lane to be spoken to with a hope of resolving this problem, which at present makes the path unusable.
347	Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils No report.
348	Police and Neighbourhood Watch No issues.
349	Other Reports The chairman had attended the Blackdown Trust meeting.
350	Planning • P/HOU/2025/05302 Chapel Thatch, Holditch: Removal of expired thatched roof and replacement with slated: Members agreed to note this application • P/HOU/2025/05244 2 Holway Cottage, Venn Lane, Thorncombe: Erect Shephards Hut at end of drive-in garden: Members agreed to note this application • An amended plans application (P/VOC/2025/05634 in respect of Magdalen Bungalow in Winsham was noted.
351	Highways Several road closures for works had been circulated.
352	Correspondence Nil
353	Urgent Items Agreed that a note would be circulated informing interested parties that the closing date for the receipt of applications for grants would be the 1 st December 2025; and that that would be an item for the December council meeting agenda.

354	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.0pm
355	Next Meetings Tuesday 11th November at 7pm

Signed ----- Chairman

Date -----