

Clerk to the Council:

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Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th May 2025 at the Thorncombe Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

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

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

Draft until Approved

234	Election of Chairman Cllr J Higgs was proposed by Cllr M Stead, and seconded by Cllr A Hiscock. There were no further nominations; therefore, Cllr Higgs was duly elected. Cllr Higgs signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Proper Officer, Mr J Vanderwolfe.																				
235	Election of Vice-chairman Cllr M Stead was proposed by Cllr P Basham, and seconded by Cllr J Fox. There being no further nominations Cllr Stead was duly elected.																				
236	Appointment to Outside Bodies Appointment to Outside Bodies and Other Amenities <table> <tr> <td>Blackdown Hill's trust</td><td>Cllr J Higgs</td></tr> <tr> <td>Dorset Association of Parish/Town Councils</td><td>Cllr A Hiscock</td></tr> <tr> <td>Community Shop</td><td>Cllr A Hiscock</td></tr> <tr> <td>Village Hall</td><td>Cllr M Stead</td></tr> <tr> <td>Allotments</td><td>Cllr P Basham</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bus Services</td><td>Mr D Marsh</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rights of Way</td><td>Mr N Berry</td></tr> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood Watch</td><td>Cllr M Stead</td></tr> <tr> <td>Webmaster</td><td>Cllr A Hiscock</td></tr> <tr> <td>Flood Warden</td><td>Cllr M Stead</td></tr> </table>	Blackdown Hill's trust	Cllr J Higgs	Dorset Association of Parish/Town Councils	Cllr A Hiscock	Community Shop	Cllr A Hiscock	Village Hall	Cllr M Stead	Allotments	Cllr P Basham	Bus Services	Mr D Marsh	Rights of Way	Mr N Berry	Neighbourhood Watch	Cllr M Stead	Webmaster	Cllr A Hiscock	Flood Warden	Cllr M Stead
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	Snow Warden	Cllr M Stead													
237	Apologies for Absence An apology had been received from Cllr W Luty-Wells														
238	Declaration of Interest under the Code of Conduct Cllr’s J Higgs and P Basham declared a pecuniary interest in the Yew Tree Farm planning application, and informed the meeting that they would leave the room prior to any discussions on this matter taking place.														
239	Minutes of the Previous Meeting The minutes of the meeting held on the 1 st April 2025, having been previously circulated, were adopted as a true record and were signed by the chairman														
240	Matters Arising from the Minutes Nil														
241	Council Surgery A parishioner had kindly offered to provide £1,000 towards the repair of the Sadborow finger post. The police officer had attended this session. Next surgery will be held on the 30 th May, and will be hosted by Cllr P Basham.														
242	Democratic Period No items														
243	Accounts for Payment The following accounts were ratified: <table><tr><td>Accounts for Ratification</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>HMRC PAYE</td><td>262.80</td></tr><tr><td>Dial a Grass Cut</td><td>190.00</td></tr><tr><td>Rural Services Partnership Ltd</td><td>63.00</td></tr><tr><td>Hugo Fox</td><td>23.99</td></tr><tr><td>Arthur Gallagher Insurance</td><td>1461.46</td></tr></table>			Accounts for Ratification		HMRC PAYE	262.80	Dial a Grass Cut	190.00	Rural Services Partnership Ltd	63.00	Hugo Fox	23.99	Arthur Gallagher Insurance	1461.46
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244	Financial Update Members examined the income and expenditure against budget and agreed it. Financial Assets as of the 2 nd May 2025 were £25,975.59. Noted that £1393 had been received under the CIL scheme.														
245	Dorset Councillor Report Cllr S Christopher informed the meeting that the Dorset Crime Commissioner would be the guest speaker at broad Windsor on the 9 th June. The meeting will commence at 7.30pm. Whitchurch are hoping to form a Community Housing Association														
246	Finger Posts Tim Beer is working on the Sadborow finger post.														

247	Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 Members agreed to adopt the statements shown on this document
248	Annual Accounting Statement 2024/25 The document had been circulated to members prior to the meeting, and was formally adopted.
249	Conflict of Interest Declaration Members declared that none of them had a conflict of interest in respect of either the internal or external auditors
250	Certificate of Exemption 2024/25 It was noted that the total income had been £15.058, and that expenditure had been £11,657, therefore as both were below the £25k ceiling limit the Council Can claim an exemption to a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (smaller authorities) Regulations 2015. It was therefore resolved to taken advantage of this clause.
251	Community Shop A report had been circulated; and was noted.
252	Allotments No issues
253	Playfield A reminder that the Annual Spring Clean would take place on Sunday 11 th May
254	Rights of Way No issues
255	Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils No report.
256	Police and Neighbourhood Watch No update.
257	Other Reports The Dorset Transport users group minutes had been circulated; and were noted

258	Highways It was noted that several potholes had recently been repaired. The sucker vehicle had recently visited the parish, and undertaken works. South West Water had notified of a road closure to undertake essential repairs.
259	Planning P/IMPO/2025/02408 Yew Tree Farm: Discharge of planning obligation, change of use of barn to dwelling and land to residential curtilage. The application was noted. Cllr's Higgs and Basham had left the hall for this item; having declared a pecuniary interest.
260	Correspondence Distributed as appropriate
261	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm
262	Next Meetings Annual Parish Meeting Thursday 29 th May at Thorncombe Sports Club. 7.30pm Tuesday 3 June 2025 at 7.30pm in Village Hall

Signed Chairman

Date