BROADWAY PARISH COUNCIL

www.broadwaysomerset-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Broadway Parish Council held in Broadway Village Hall on Tuesday 8 September 2026 at 7.30pm

1256. Attendance and Apologies:

Present:	Cllrs Neate, Champion, Preece, Murray and Schina; Mrs Larsson (Clerk)
	Unitary Cllr Osborne
Apologies:	Cllrs Toms and Frayne
Members of the Public:	Two

1257. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations

None.

1258. Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2026

RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of the previous meeting.

1259. Planning Applications

a. New applications: None.

b. Updates and Enforcement

i. 25/02726/OUT for up to 150 dwellings on land off Broadway Hill, Horton
Somerset Council's Planning Committee refused the application following its second review, and the Secretary of State did not call it in. The applicant retains the right to appeal within six months.
The Council thanked Cllr Sue Osborne for supporting its objections, particularly through her contribution at the Planning Committee meeting.

The Council's full responses to all planning applications are available to view against the respective applications on the Somerset Council planning portal Link to Planning Portal

1260. Accounts and Financial Information

a. Financial statement: The latest financial report had not been produced due to staff leave. An updated report with reconciliation will be circulated before the October meeting, in line with agreed quarterly reporting schedule.

b. Payments requiring authorisation

The Council RESOLVED to authorise the following payments:

Administration costs (print, mileage, parking)	£16.02
Chapter 8 training	£360.00
Gateway signs	£3072.50
SLCC membership contribution	£75.90

The following payments were made since the last meeting:

Clerk salary & HMRC liabilities to 31/8/26 (restricted information under GDPR)	
Unity Trust service fee x 2	£7.00
Grass cutting	£352.80
Bin emptying	£101.40
Processing fee	£54.00

c. Cambridge & Counties Account Maturity
The Council ratified the decision to reinvest the funds and accrued interest in a new 12-month fixed-term account with Cambridge & Counties at an interest rate of 4.6%.

Initial …SN…….

1262. Play park play frame and sensory area development

Cllrs Neate and Champion, together with the Clerk, met with a supplier to discuss options for upgrading the existing equipment, introducing an inclusive area and installing a permanent path surface.

Multiplay frame: Three options designed to extend play and exploration opportunities for older children were reviewed. All were well received.

Inclusive area: Councillors reviewed the ideas put forward but agreed that further options were needed, particularly to address concerns about enclosed spaces.

Pathway: A Conipave pathway, which is extremely durable, slip-resistant and permeable, was recommended.

The proposed improvements could cost up to £35,000.

The council currently has approximately £21,000 available to invest in the park, comprising ring-fenced play park funds from the previous renovation project and CIL receipts. Members noted that the council has limited alternative uses for CIL funds because it has no other infrastructure and agreed that investing the funds in the play park would be appropriate. Additional CIL contributions are thought to be due from two planning applications; this will be checked. Potential funding opportunities will also be investigated.

In line with the council's policies, proposals must be sought and considered from alternative providers. It was agreed that local consultation would take place before any final decisions were made on the equipment.

The matter will be reviewed further at the October meeting, with a view to agreeing next steps once the available budget and options are understood.

1263. Parish Ranger Service

The council previously resolved to appoint a contractor to undertake Parish Ranger duties for one regular half-day each month from October.

Required works will vary but will include minor maintenance such as strimming, clearing drains and paths, cleaning signs and kerb edges, and minor hedge work. Confirmation of the contractor's Chapter 8 qualification is awaited.

1264. Training

Member training: Cllr Toms was unable to attend Chapter 8 at short notice due to unforeseen circumstances and is re-booked to attend on 7 October. It was also RESOLVED to book Cllr Champion on the training (spaces permitting), which will support the SID movement and other activities such as the remembrance road closures.

1265. Updates and actions on the following areas:

a. Highways: The 'lay-by' area by Vardens Pond will have posts erected to protect the area from vehicle damage.

b. Flooding: No updates.

c. Rights of Way:

i. ROW officer to be requested to attend a site visit to assess the bridge to the rear of the Bell which requires ongoing repairs. It has been recently repaired but a long-term solution is required.

ii. Standerwick Orchard – safety concerns regarding use of the path
Members considered concerns about bicycles and scooters using the footway, together with a request for a blind-spot mirror and 'pedestrian only' signage. The council agreed not to permit either measure, as they could obstruct users, create hazards—particularly for visually impaired people—or imply restrictions that do not apply. Members considered there would not be grounds to object to a mirror installed wholly within private property, provided it did not encroach on the footway.
In the wider context of safety, the council noted that quieter off-road routes are preferable to main roads for younger riders, in line with police advice. No further Council action will be taken.

d. Play Park: Refer minute 1262.

e. Defibrillator: Checks completed. Has not been used since last meeting.

f. Speed Indicator Device: Device has recently been relocated.

g. Volunteering and Community Group Updates:

i. Previously agreed purchase of sound equipment is to be progressed so it is available for Remembrance and the Christmas lights evening.

ii. Cllr Champion is to arrange the Christmas tree as agreed in the budget. The Lights switch on will be held on a Friday again this year, which was successful last year. Date to be confirmed.

iii. Remembrance service road closure application for this year is being progressed by Cllr Champion.
iv. Cllr Preece suggested a summer event for the village – further details to be presented at a future meeting.

h. Local Community Network: Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:
Highways Working Group: 13 October
Main LCN Meeting: 14 October
LCN meetings are open to members of the public and information on the LCN's can be found on the Somerset Council website at the following link https://lcn.somerset.gov.uk/

1266. **Matters for report only:**

a. Gateway signs have been delivered. Awaiting Section 171 licence to carry out installation

b. Query received regarding HGV restriction on Suggs Lane - this is already in place; however, the sign is currently obscured by the hedge.

c. Paulls Lane – shared space & HGV signage not in place yet. Cllr Neate will contact developer for an update.

1267. Items for the next meeting:

a. Play Park equipment and path update

b. Summer event(s)

1268. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6 October, 7.30pm at Broadway Village Hall

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.04pm.

Signed …S. Neate, Chair…… Date …13 October 2026……

Initial …SN…….