

## **WEST CREWKERNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Incorporating Clapton, Hewish, Woolminstone, Roundham & Henley Manor**

### **Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 22nd January 2026**

**Present:** Cllrs J. Borland, C. Broom and J. Archer

Also in attendance was County Councillors Steve Ashton and Clerk to the Council R. Richards

#### **376 Members to receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given**

Cllr Holt sent her apologies and these were unanimously accepted

#### **377 To receive any Declarations of Interest (pecuniary or non-statutory) None received**

#### **378 Open Forum including Somerset Councillors Reports**

#### **379 Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 27th November 2025**

**Resolved:** Members approved the Minutes **Proposed:** Cllr Broom **Seconded:** Cllr Borland **Vote:** 3-0-0

#### **380 Outstanding Items Update**

Councillors agreed to opt for the 'newest' design for the new website.

#### **381 Planning Matters**

- a) Members to resolve Applications received: None
- b) Applications Decisions received: None
- c) Applications Awaiting Decision: 24/03010/FUL Land Adj to Crewkerne Straight Crewkerne TA18 8RJ

#### **382 Finance**

- a) Members to agree the January Bankline payments and approve the latest bank reconciliations

**Resolved:** Members noted the schedule of payment and approved the bank reconciliations for November and December **Proposed:** Cllr Borland **Seconded:** Cllr Archer **Vote:** 3-0-0

- b) Members to review and accept the 2026/27 Budget and Precept requirement

**Resolved:** Members reviewed and accepted the 2026/27 Budget and Precept requirement increasing Band D households by £3.20 per year **Proposed:** Cllr Archer **Seconded:** Cllr Broom **Vote:** 3-0-0

#### **383 Document Review**

- a) Safeguarding Statement – No change
- b) Publication Scheme – No change
- c) Retention and Disposal – No change
- d) Biodiversity – No change

**Resolved:** Members reviewed and unanimously adopted all four policies

#### **384 Report from the Joint Burial Committee – Cllr Borland gave the following report:**

At the December meeting after discussions following an extensive tendering process the cemetery maintenance contract was awarded to one of the five applicants for a period of three years. Within the grounds work throughout the year to improve certain areas has continued. The bin storage is better enclosed and the white memorial post box is in a highly visible location near to the chapel. To date there had been some letters posted, and it will be interesting to see how this will be used over the Christmas and New Year period. All letters posted will be removed without being read and taken to Yeovil Crematorium to be burnt. Sunken graves are filled as required and the ashes scattering area now has a stone border. As part of the budget process for 2026/27 there was a discussion around expected income and expenditure, where all agreed that income was very difficult to estimate. With two large trees unexpectedly requiring major felling during the year that was just an example of an expense where we need to budget for in future years.

The next meeting of the Joint Committee is on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 18:45 in the Town Council Chamber.

**385 Highways Matters and Flooding Issues**

Numerous drains have been cleared but the volume of water and resulting silt is the main problem. **Action:** Cllr Borland to contact Highways again about the flooding through Clapton and along Cathole Bridge Road. Cllr Archer reported on the traffic through Roundham and advised she will download the information from the Speed Indicator Devices before the next meeting.

**386 Public Rights of Way** – Nothing to report as the paths have been too wet to walk

**387 Report from the December Crewkerne and Iminster LCN Meeting** – Cllr Archer gave a short report

**388 Clerk's Report** – The clerk gave a report covering the last two months.

**389 Date of Next Meeting:** 26th March 2026

Meeting Closed at: 7.49pm