

NEROCHE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:	Mark Palmer	Tel: 07957 952784	mark.palmer@nerochevillages.org.uk
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Draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Neroche Parish Council held at Neroche Hall on Tuesday 21 July 2026.

In Attendance: Cllrs Mr M Palmer (Chair), Mr J Parsons, Mrs S Hayman, Mrs F Gledhill, Mrs C Stamper, Mrs K Street, Mr D Macey and Mr M Prosser

Also Present: Mrs E York (Clerk), PCSO Sam Bushen and two parishioners

Public Session: Cllr Palmer welcomed Sam Bushen to the meeting – PCSO Supervisor to give an overview of his work in the area:

- Lower tier crime and come to one problems
 - Taunton Rural Beat covers a large area
 - Focus on long term problems, not response
 - Should be visible policing
 - 2 x Police Officers and 2 x PSCOs covering this area
 - For the periods Aug 24- Jul 25 and Aug 25 – Jul 26 there have been a total of 28 crimes in the area
 - There has been an increase of 180% (9 more) violence against the person crimes, but this includes neighbourhood disputes and domestic incidents
 - 50% reduction in theft
 - 60% reduction in public order offences
 - 25% increase in criminal damage
 - 1 incident of sexual offences
 - 200% reduction in burglary
 - Report crimes via 101 / 999 / website
 - Police have a requirement to record a crime but they don't have to let you know that it is being investigated
 - Fly tipping should be reported through Somerset Council
 - Drones – can fly over property until it becomes “targeted”. Cannot be shot down – this will result in the loss of the shot gun licence. Drones under 249g doesn't require an operators licence. Over 249g require a licence. Drones over 4kg cannot fly over people or property and require a higher level of licence / qualifications. Drone laws are changing every year
 - Chalk marks are not attributable to theft
- Parishioner present wished to request feedback from the Council on the recent meeting regarding the Taylor Wimpey Development. Councillors fed back that at this stage the groups

involved are trying to generate enthusiasm to give negative feedback. The Questionnaire distributed is designed for for the use of Planners relating to the scope of investigation, not the investigation itself. Cllr Sarah Wakefield confirmed to Cllr Parsons that this is not an appropriate thing for the public to be responding to. There will be Consultations later down the process.

SSMPC would be interested in a collaborative effort.

Gideon Amos is querying the lack of overage on the TWH site

- Parishioner wished to promote the Great Neroche Bake Off – entries are requested for the event during the first weekend in September.
- Parishioner wished to request an update on t2/1 following Cllr Palmer's meeting with the landowner. Cllr Palmer advised that the LO would install 2 Bristol gates on field gates on the condition of the Council installing them. Cllr Palmer has walked the footpath and both gates were unlocked. Parishioner requested that the sign on the RoW be corrected. Cllr Palmer will remove the sign and is also requesting a meeting with the area warden.

2026/43 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Mr T Pope.

This was recognised as an approved absence for the purposes of s185 of the Local Government Act 1972.

2026/44 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensations.

2026/45 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes were approved without amendment to be signed by the Chair.

2026/46 Report from the County Councillor

The Report from the County Councillor was circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting. It is available on the Parish Council website.

2026/47 Actions from the minutes of the last meeting

1. Defibrillator Purchase

Cllr Palmer confirmed that he has taken delivery of the new defibrillator for the Hall and is discussing the installation with John Learoyd,

2. Neighbourhood Plan

This is expected to cost in the region of £15-£40k. The Community has to be involved and the data has to be validated.

3. Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that a committee be formed to plan this event. Cllrs Parsons, Gledhill, Hayman, Palmer and Stamper to form the committee. Clerk to set up a Whatsapp group.

2026/48 Planning and Applications

To discuss and review planning applications received since the last meeting:

15/26/0005 – Councillors discussed the application which was deemed to be suitable for its intended uses.

It is noted that an application has been submitted for an extension to a building on Forest Drove South of which the Council has not been notified.

2026/49 Items of Report and Correspondence

None

2026/50 Rights of Way Update

To receive any update relating to Rights of Way.

Correspondence has been received from Forestry England regarding woodland operations at Staple Hill.

2026/51 Report from the Local Community Network

To receive any update from the Chard and The Blackdown Local Community Network

Nothing to report

2026/52 Finance

The following items were approved for payment:

- Salary and Expenses of Clerk £541.49

2026/53 Highways

1. Lines and Signs

It is understood that this work has been instructed.

2. To record any accident in the parishes since the last meeting

One accident is recorded on Staple Hill. To be included on the spreadsheet.

3. SID Update

Clerk awaiting W3W locations of SID devices and update of next steps from Traffic Management.

2026/54 Environmental Matters

None were reported.

2026/55 Community Matters

1. Contingency Plan Update

It was agreed that due to funding constraints that this be held until the next financial year.

2026/42 Date of Next Meeting and Items for the Agenda

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 September 2026 at Neroche Hall at 7.30pm

The meeting was declared closed at 20.58