

CHILTON TRINITY PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting of Chilton Trinity Parish Council was held on Wednesday, 6th May 2026 in the Village Hall, Chilton Trinity at 7.30 pm.

In attendance: Parish Councillors Mr P Felton (Chairman), Mrs R Felton, Mr D Hobbs and Mrs L Hook; the **Clerk**, Graham Jarvis and my invitation Anne Shilton, Local Community Network Officer. No members of the public were present.

Public Speaking Time: No topics raised.

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1. Apologies for absence, disclosures of interest and dispensations.

An apology for absence had been received from Parish Councillor Mr D Brown due to work commitments and was accepted. An Apology had also been sent by Ward Somerset Councillor Mr M Caswell. Dispensations from the Code of Conduct were held by Mr Felton and Mrs Felton regarding support for facilities at Chilton Waters and by Mr Hobbs concerning the River Parrett barrier and associated flood defence works.

2. Appointment of Chairman for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Mr Felton was proposed by Mrs Hook, seconded by Mr Hobbs; there being no other nominations Mr Felton was duly elected and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

3. Appointment of Vice Chairman for the Municipal Year 2026/27.

Mrs Hook was proposed by Mrs Felton, seconded by Mr Hobbs; there being no other nominations, Mrs Hook was duly elected and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4th March 2026 were presented, approved and signed as a true and complete record.

5. Matters Arising: –

a) **51a - Local Community Network, Dowsborough Group** – Mr Felton reported that he was unable to attend the most recent meeting as it clashed with the Parish Council meeting. However, copies of the minutes had been circulated. The next meeting (the AGM) was scheduled for June and held at Spaxton.

A wide-ranging discussion on the role of Local Community Networks followed. Anne Shilton mentioned that as planned at the time the LCNs were established a review was now underway to assess the experience gained. The report was expected to be published in the summer.

Mr Felton also gave a report on the Annual Parish Council Summit (hosted by Sir Ashley Fox MP) which he had attended with Mrs Felton on 14th March.

Topics covered included details of the Rural Crime Team which had recently been revamped.

- b) **51b - River Parrett Barrier Project** – Mr Hobbs mentioned that he had been told that the secondary bund would be completed this year. There was no further news about the expected invitation to view the site from the Express Park side.
- c) **55a – Tree Works** - The Chairman reported that work on the two oak trees had been completed. The contractor had left the site clean and tidy. A message of appreciation for the quality of the service provided had been sent.

6. **Planning Matters**

a) **Application 20/26/00001.**

Proposal: Outline application with all matters reserved, for the demolition of a farmhouse and erection of 1 No. dwelling.

Location: Marshall Farm, Moores Lane, Chilton Trinity TA5 2BG

Applicant: Mr Ellicott.

Resolved: that the application as submitted be supported as the present structure was in a poor state of repair and continued to deteriorate. A replacement dwelling on the site would provide accommodation which is needed in the Parish.

b) **Other Planning Matters** – None.

7. **Land for Ball Games.**

Members considered a request from Lancaster Brooks Property Management Limited, on behalf of Chilton Waters, that the Council investigate the possibility of obtaining land which could be used for ball games. There was agreement that an appeal to local landowners would be included in the July edition of Chilton Trinity Village News.

8. **Review of Insurance.**

The Clerk reported that the Council's insurance policy with Clear Insurance was due for renewal on 1st June 2026. Members reviewed the cover and considered that the indemnities provided were sufficient for the Council's needs and agreed that the renewal terms offered with a premium of £510.29 be accepted.

9. **Financial Matters.**

a) **Payment of Creditors.**

The following payments were confirmed/approved: -

- i) Somerset Association of Local Councils Ltd – Training £50.00 – Cheque No. 325.
- ii) Mr P Felton – Re-imbursment Plants and Compost - £60.89 (£50.74 + £10.15 VAT) – Cheque No. 326.

(The above payments were made in the financial year 2025/26.)

- iii) Chris Groves Associates – Tree Works - £2,760.00 (£2,300.00 + £460.00 VAT) – Bank Transfer.

- iv) Somerset Association of Local Councils Ltd – Affiliation Fees £244.22 – Cheque No. 327.
- v) Clear Insurance Management Ltd – Insurance renewal - £510.29 - Cheque No. 328.
- vi) Chilton Trinity Village Hall – Room Hire - £132.00 – Cheque No. 319.
- vii) Lloyds Bank Plc – Account Fees - £5.25 (Deducted direct).

b) Closing of Accounts 2025/26.

i) Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)–Section 1 Annual Governance Statement.

Agreed that questions 1 to 8 and 10 be answered “Yes” and “Not Applicable” to question 9.

ii) Financial Statements.

Members considered and approved documents prepared by the Clerk including Section 2 of the AGAR.

iii) Asset Register as at 31st March 2026.

The Asset Register as presented was approved.

iv) External Audit Exemption.

Proposed by Mrs Hook and seconded by Mr Hobbs it was unanimously resolved that for the Financial Year ended 31st March 2026 Chilton Trinity Parish Council was an exempt Authority within the definition contained in the Local Authority (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

c) Other Financial Matters – None.

10. Roads and Footpaths.

a) Pothole, Church Road.

Further to Minute 55b - 4th March 2026; the Chairman mentioned that the pot hole had been reported to the Highway Authority but to date no action had been taken. A reminder would be sent.

b) Other Matters on Roads and Footpaths – None.

11. Suggested Topics for Future Meetings – None.

12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday, 1st July 2026 in the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chairman