



**Tisbury Parish Council – Minutes of the  
Ordinary Meeting  
Held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 in the  
Reading Room, High Street, TISBURY, SP3 6LD**

**Questions or Statements:**

A member of the public expressed concern about planning application PL/2025/09525 and the lack of mitigation for the proposed five rooflights within the International Dark Sky Reserve. She also asked that screening for the Red House be provided by a 2 metre fence which would reduce the extent of the loss of amenity and as was included in the Parish Council’s response to the previous planning application for this site.

**Report from Wiltshire Councillor Gerry Murray**

Councillor Murray gave a report on the following matters:

- Wiltshire’s new Local Plan examination was paused by the Planning Inspectorate in December. A detailed letter setting out the reasons for the pause has been issued by the Examiners and it is certainly not straightforward. A reply from Wiltshire Council’s Head of Strategic Planning is required to be sent by 30<sup>th</sup> January, at which point more will be known about how this is going to play out.
- HM Government has released a National Planning Policy Framework document for consultation. Tisbury Parish Council is encouraged to respond with any response needing to be submitted by 10<sup>th</sup> March. This document is much more than the usual annual update and more like a complete re-write with many substantial changes and a new format.
- On the issue of access to Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) in Wiltshire and surround counties, the development of a booking system for all HRCs in Wiltshire has been given the go ahead. This may lead to a deal with other councils for use of their sites but this may take some time.
- With effect from 1 April 2027 Wiltshire will introduce a 100% council tax premium on unoccupied second homes (holiday homes) within the Wiltshire Council area. A second home is defined as dwellings which are substantially furnished and have no resident (ie are not a person’s sole or main home). There is no statutory definition in council tax legislation for what constitutes “substantially furnished.” However, the Council considers this to mean a property which contains enough furniture and essential items to allow someone to live there. This does not affect in any way buy-to-let or holiday lets which already pay council tax.
- The existing empty homes premium (100%) is also being extended to 1 year empty (currently 2 years) and applies from April 2026.

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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**(\*responsibility for action)**

Those present:

Councillors J Mason (Chairman), M Carlile, J Cradock, S Crouch, K Gamm, G Murray - 6.

Also in attendance:

B Cornish (Clerk)

Two members of the public

**193.25 Apologies**

Councillors unanimously accepted the apologies received from Councillors Beattie and Errington due to personal commitments and Councillors Davison and Coyle-Camp due to holiday commitments.

**194.25 Declarations of Interest**

- a. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests already declared in the Register of Interests: None.
- b. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests not previously declared in the Register of Interests: Councillor Mason declared a personal and pecuniary interest in planning application PL/2025/07598 and did not speak or vote on it.  
Councillor Carlile declared a personal and non-pecuniary interest in planning application PL/2025/07598
- c. Dispensations: None.

**195.25 Resolution of Minutes**

To approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025:

- **Approved; MC/GM.**

**196.25 Planning and Tree Works Applications \*Clerk**

**PL/2025/09525 - Land to the rear of Yattendon, Vicarage Road, Tisbury -**

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) to allow for inclusion of 5 rooflights and minor changes to the fenestration arrangements and condition 3 (external materials) on PL/2024/11296:

- **Support, subject to mitigation being provided in the form of automatic blinds for the 5 rooflights which will impact negatively on the International Dark Sky Reserve within the Cranborne Chase National Landscape. Without mitigation, the application is not compliant with paragraph 198(c) of the National Planning Policy Framework and Section 4.3 of the made Tisbury and West Tisbury Neighbourhood Plan 2025 'Protecting the International Dark Sky Reserve'.**  
**Furthermore, the Council reiterates its request for screening to be provided to the Red House in the form of a 2 metre fence to reduce the extent of the loss of amenity and in line with its response to the previous planning application for this site.**  
**GM/KG; unanimous.**

At this point in the meeting, Councillor Mason passed the Chair to Councillor Gamm in view of his declared pecuniary interest in the application below.

**PL/2025/07598 Pythouse Farm, Tisbury** - Installation of 416 ground mounted solar panels and electrical enclosure:

- **Support, subject to the applicant's adherence to the request from Wiltshire Highways that details of the quantity, size and frequency of construction and maintenance vehicles accessing the site are provided plus a full construction method statement and management plan.**  
**GM/JC.**

Councillor Gamm passed the Chair back to Councillor Mason.

**PL/2025/09417 - Section 37 Notification - Overhead Lines Electricity Act - Land South of B3089 & Adjacent to Hindon Lane, Fonthill Gifford** - Replace existing poles 14, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 18 as shown on the attached plans, in order to accommodate heavier conductors required for reinforcement of the overhead lines:

- **Support; KG/SC; unanimous.**

**PL/2025/09782 North Cottage, Tisbury Row, Tisbury** - Two storey porch extension:

- **Support on the grounds that the application was compliant with Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy; KG/SC; unanimous.**

### **197.25 Application Decisions**

Councillors noted the decisions on recent applications:

PL/2025/07321 - Listed building consent (Alt/Ext)

51 Church Street, Tisbury - Internal renovations to existing structure Second fix services and cosmetic renovations

Wiltshire Council Decision: Approve with Conditions

Parish Council Decision: Resolved to accept the decision of the Conservation Officer

PL/2025/08164 Tisbury Police & Fire Station, The Avenue, Tisbury - T1 Lime -

Reduce overextended lateral spread over Tisbury Fire Station by 2.5m from the tips inwards, to reduce lever arm effect of compression union

Wiltshire Council Decision: Approve with Conditions

Parish Council Decision: No objection

### **Appeals \*Clerk**

PL/2024/07970 - Caerglow House, The Square, Tisbury, SP3 6JP - Retrospective planning application for the replacement of an external door and the creation of a new fully accessible door and removal of a section of boundary wall.

The Council has been notified that an appeal has been lodged with the planning inspectorate.

- Following a brief discussion, the Clerk agreed to write a letter to the Planning Inspector reiterating the Council's response to Wiltshire Council.

### 198.25 Policies \*Clerk

To review and re-adopt the General Reserves Policy:

- **Approved with recommended revisions and with agreement that the Policy will be reviewed again in March 2026 once the end of year figures are known; MC/KG; unanimous.**

### 199.25 Finance 1 - Budget and Precept \*Clerk

#### a. Budget

To re-consider and approve the revised annual budget for the Council for 2026-27, 2027-28 and 2028-29:

- **Approved with minor changes; SC/JC; unanimous; that the Council's Budget will be set at £151,304 for 2026/27.**

#### b. Earmarked Reserves

To re-consider and agree on any adjustments to the Council's Earmarked Reserves:

- **Approved; with £4,450 in unused Earmarked Reserves being re-allocated to General Reserves to support the level of Precept; and with the £1,397.04 Earmarked Reserve for the Children's Community Garden being re-allocated to the Tisbury Youth Earmarked Reserve to support the refurbishment and use of the Youth Hub; SC/KG; unanimous.**

#### c. Precept

To re-consider and approve the Precept for the Council for 2026-27:

- **Approved; GM/JC; that the Council's Precept will be set at £146,854 for 2026/27; This equates to £153.79 per annum for a Band D property and an increase of 5.93% on last year's Precept demand.**

### 200.25 Finance 2 - Higher Interest Earning Accounts \*Clerk

To consider a report from the Clerk on options for Higher Interest Earning accounts:

- **Resolved to leave £87k in the Co-Operative Current and Deposit accounts and to invest £40k in the Cambridge & Counties 1 year business bond and £25k in the Cambridge & Counties 6 month business bond. GM/JC; unanimous.**

### 201.25 Finance 3 - January Financial Information

To approve and note the following reports:

- Retrospective approval of payments made from 01/12/2025 to 31/12/2025 - £342.92.
- Current Account bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - £10,922.91
- Deposit Account bank reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - £142,382.51
- Petty Cash Account reconciliation to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - £152.22
- Budget to Actual Reports to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025
- Earmarked Reserves as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - £79,803.52
- Approval of January Faster Payment transactions - £5,720.05

Payee	£		Reason for Payment
Staff Salaries, Pension & HMRC	3502.63		Salary standing orders and reconciliations
Microshade VSM	127.18		Cloud services and hosting
D Holley	160.00		Parish bin emptying
K Hooper-Closier	116.00		Locum Youth work for November
CBB Services	54.00		Payroll Services Oct-Dec
Replay Maintenance Ltd	420.00		Muga Maintenance
The Play Inspection Company	306.00		Quarterley Playground inspections
Fonthill Settled Estate	100.00		Annual Rent for Jubilee Field
Ionos Cloud Ltd	56.40	DD	Email licences
Hewlett Packard	51.76	DD	Printer hire
Google Play	1.59	DD	Data Storage
Smart Numbers	140.22	DD	Telephone services
Biffa	380.33	DD	Waste service
West Mercia Energy	303.94	DD	Reading Room & Toilets
	5,720.05		

- **All approved; JC/MC;** unanimous.

### 202.25 Playground Inspections \*Clerk

- a. To approve and note the latest Inspection Reports from the Play Inspection Company:
  - **Approved; MC/JC;** unanimous.
  
- b. To approve the quotes for inspections in 2026 including a cost for estimating the life-expectancy of the Lower Recreation Ground play area:
  - Resolved to approve a quote of £1,095 for 2026 which includes a life expectancy assessment for the Lower Recreation Ground play area.  
**MC/SC;** unanimous.

### 203.25 Representative Reports

**Wessex Rivers Trust:** Councillor Mason gave a report on a recent meeting held with the Trust. The discussion focused around their work with the Nadder Farming Cluster and the testing of the River Nadder for Nitrates, Phosphates & Faecal Coliforms together with the methodology employed. The feasibility and practicality of testing on a more general basis for other potentially harmful items was also discussed but it was generally agreed that a “one-off “ testing/sampling exercise of the water content would only provide a limited-time “snapshot” of the rivers health, as this could be very easily influenced by a single event such as a heavy rainstorm, and that much more regular sampling would need to take place to provide an accurate picture.

**StarFest 2026:** Councillor Carlile gave a detailed report on the progress of the plans for the week-long festival which, along with a number of daytime activities for the primary schools, now included a constellation trail in the High Street, a StarFest themed Morning Service for Mothering Sunday and a Choral Evensong at St John’s Church as well as a Concert by Shaftesbury Symphony Orchestra at the Methodist

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Church and a book launch event and storytelling sessions in the Fox & King bookshop. The poster competition had gone well and a design had been selected for use in promotional materials for the festival.

#### **204.25 Items for Information**

Clerk's report providing information on agenda items, recent issues and work completed.

- a. Clerk's report providing information on agenda items, recent issues and work completed.
- b. Report on the South West Wiltshire Area Board meeting including a £700 grant award to the Parish Council for StarFest 2026.

#### **205.25 Items for next meeting:**

Parking

National Planning Policy Framework consultation

#### **206.25 Date of next meeting:**

Councillor Mason confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 at 7 pm at the Reading Room, High Street, Tisbury.

**207.25 Exclusion of the Public and Press** - that under the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the LGA 1972), the public & accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of Schedule 12A of the LGA 1972.

#### **a. Resolution to exclude the press and public as above:**

- **Approved, Chair;** unanimous.

#### **b. Licence to Occupy with Tisbury Football Club \*Clerk**

To approve the final draft of the Licence to Occupy with Tisbury Football Club and to approve that it be signed by two councillors in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders:

- **Approved; KG/SC;** unanimous.

#### **c. Staffing matters**

- i. To confirm the budget proposal and draft job description for an additional officer to be recruited to start from 1st April 2026 and to confirm their role:
  - **Approved in principle; JC/MC;** unanimous.
- ii. To confirm the budget proposal and Staffing Committee's recommendation that the Clerk's hours increase by 2 hours per week from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026:
  - **Approved; SC/MC;** unanimous.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 8.57 pm.