

STOURPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 14th July 2026 in the Village Hall at 7pm.

PRESENT: Cllr P Partridge, (Chairman), G Cowie, J Jakes, D Meaden, S Norman, A Woodland.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk), 0 Members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Dorset Councillor Sherry Jespersen, Cllr M Farwell.

1. **Declarations of Interest:** None received.
2. To Approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June 2026: The PC approved the minutes which were signed by the Chairman.
3. To consider any matters arising from the June Minutes. None raised.
-Letter sent to Wessex Water: See Flood Prevention below.
4. **-Dorset Councillor Ward Report:** No current report.
5. Planning and Development matters:
-P/LBC/2026/03073: Lazerton Farm rebuilding the chimney stack –SPC has no objection to this application.
6. **Reports:**
 - **Neighbourhood Watch:**
 - Police are hosting a community contact session on Friday 17/07 at 10am in the M&S car park.
 - Blandford Police Station is still closed- Crimes can be reported at Gillingham Police Station – 10-am-3pm, 24th-26th July.
 - The police are urging retailers to suspend the sale of BBQ's to prevent wild fires.
 - Highways:** No current update.
 - **Flood Prevention and Protection:**
Rick Pearse the village Flood Prevention Co-ordinator has sent a letter to Wessex Water via the PC -requesting confirmation of sewage overflow resolution plan, also details of remedial action to be taken and assurances that future flooding be significantly reduced. How local infrastructure failings of WW assets are to be addressed and upgraded to accommodate the treatment of increasing demand from Stourpaine and Durweston, and that capacity and capability remain ahead of any agreed increases in property development. Also to request that WW continues to collaborate with the Environment Agency and Dorset Council to resolve the issues that have arisen with flooding and sewerage leakage in Stourpaine.
 - **Trailway and Rights of Way:** The overgrown foliage on the trailway has been cut from the railway towards Blandford.
 - **Play Areas:**
 - Mark Farwell had reported to the Clerk that he was obtaining quotes for cutting the hedging in Grace Upward play area when the nesting season has finished, access for machinery is an issue that he is trying to resolve.
 - Grace upward area has had repairs to the climbing frame, and the grass has been cut.
 - Kidzone looks good bins emptied after the fete.
 - SPC is still waiting for HAGs play to visit and inspect the fraying at the top of the exterior sleeve on the Typhoon play equipment.
 - **Village Hall:**
 - The Village Fete raised £2,900. – sadly the dog show had to be cancelled because of the heat.
 - The Village Hall Committee and SPC were please with the newly white lined car park at the VH.
 - The grass on Drapers field has been cut.
7. **-Finance:**
 - The Clerk had issued the Financial Statement for May 2026. The following payments were approved by SPC. Clerks wage/ PAYE at agreed rate, Bank Charges £4.25, Village Hall Hire

£22.00, Iwerne Valley Grass cutting £348.00/ Vision ICT £24.00/ Azets Payroll £264.00/ R Foot repairs to Grace Upward play equipment £668.00/ P Partridge Annual Parish Meeting Expenses /T Thorne bus shelter clean £87.50.

-SPC Approved the payment of the following Grants:

Grant to Gardening Club £300

Grant to Summer School scheme £250.00

Grant towards fete £500.

9. Any other business:

-The annual allotment inspection will take place on Wednesday 22nd July at 10am.

-SPC to send Barbara Thompson some flowers as she has been unwell.

Date of next meeting: 15th September 2026, 7pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Chairman: Stourpaine Parish Council:

.....