

Combe Florey Parish Council

Date of Meeting: Thursday 25 th November 2025 6:00 pm At Combe Florey Village Hall	Written by: Gemma Coombes, Parish Clerk
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Parish Council Meeting Minutes**Councillors Present**

Cllr Robin Cleverly (Chairman)
Cllr Neil Truby (RFO)
Cllr John Passingham
Cllr Giannina Lloyd-Jones

In attendance

Parishioners: x3

2025/101) Welcome by Chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2025/102) Apologies for absence

None given.

2025/103) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cleverly declared an interest in planning application 11/25/0004/T for a tree.

2025/104) Approval of last meetings minutes

Approval and signing of the minutes of the 23rd September 2025.

The minutes have been circulated to all councillors and were presented for signing at this meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Cleverly and seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour to adopt the minutes, signed by the chairman.

2025/105) Public participation

Nothing raised at this point, but the Chairman allows participation throughout the meeting.

2025/106) Electing a new vice chair for the Parish Council

The Chairman Cllr Cleverly called for nominations

Cllr Passingham volunteered and was seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour of this motion.

2025/107) Advertising for a casual vacancy on Parish Council

Advert to be run on the 1st of December with review of applications to take place in January and Co-option at the next scheduled PC meeting on 27th January 2026.

2025/108) Matters Arising / Matters brought forward from other meetings

No subjects under this section.

2025/109) Somerset Council report (Cllr Rigby/ Cllr Sully)

No Somerset Councillors in attendance.

2025/110) Policing Report

No Police in attendance. No Police report.

2025/111) Planning**1. Current planning applications**

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Signed: [Chairman]

- I. 11/25/0005/AGN Application for prior notification for the erection of an agricultural storage building on land at Greenacres Farm, Combe Florey
No comment from the council
- II. 11/25/0004/T Notification to carry out management works (crown-reduction) to one yew tree within Combe Florey Conservation Area at Inmans, Combe Florey Road, Combe Florey
No comment from the council

2. Other planning matters

None.

2025/112) Finance

1. Bank Reconciliation

The RFO read out a bank reconciliation list. The Council's current account has £447.80 and there is £19,255.82 in the savings account.

2. To consider receipts and payments arising since last meeting

- I. Invoices for payment:
 - I. Parish Clerk wages, expenses (Oct – Nov 2025 inclusive) £296.40 (before deductions)
Proposed by Cllr Cleverly and seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour of payment.
 - II. HMRC - £57.20 for Clerks earnings due
Proposed by Cllr Cleverly and seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour of payment.

3. Other finance business

- I. Parish clerk will claim for HP instant ink subscription for printing costs.

2025/113) Topics raised at the Annual Parish Meeting

1. CIL funding, consider the suggestions raised at the annual parish meeting.

I. School bus shelter at Village Hall

The idea to have a shelter built into the bank/wall outside the Village Hall was raised at the Annual Parish Meeting. The wall at the bottom of the steps is in need of repair and the Parish Council was looking for ideas for use of CIL money, so it seemed a good time to suggest this. It was stated by a parishioner that this suggestion came from the children who would be using it.

As the shelter would be in a conservation area this would require planning and plans would need to be drawn up to get quotes for building costs. The issues that arose around this proposal were as follows:

- Potential issue with using CIL money to erect a shelter on what is considered private land, this would need further understanding before any commitment could be made.
- During a call Cllr Passingham had with P Kirby from Somerset Council it was stated that a shelter for school children would not be permitted as it is not a scheduled bus service, however this was not received in writing.

It was suggested this could be a community rest area and somewhere the notice board could be located, therefore making it a community asset.

Repairs to the wall are needed soon and as this project is potentially expensive it may be necessary to repair the wall regardless.

At this moment it would appear this project is cost prohibitive; this is something that could be suggested again if more CIL money were to be received.

II. Request for defibrillator at pub from Combe Florey Defibrillator Group

There was a report submitted to the Council in response to the last minutes, members of the defibrillator group were at this meeting to see if there is anything else that is needed to support the proposed application to fund a third defibrillator.

A third defibrillator could not be purchased from Southwest Ambulance service as they are stopping this service. The current defibrillators are 2 years into the 8-year contract, and at the end of this time they will be gifted to them. The maintenance and rent costs

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could increase as they will be out of warranty, if this is the case they will move to Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance.

This third defibrillator will be a supported package purchased via Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. £100 per year guarantees the replacement of any pads and batteries.

As Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance is a charity there is no VAT to be applied.

Fund raising is currently on target at the two-year mark to maintain the current defibrillators and continued fundraising to ensure three defibrillators could be supported.

The proposed location is the village pub as the pub is a public venue and close to the road. The group need to ask the pub if they are happy with one going there, they would need an electric supply, and it would be placed on a pole near the pub

It is proposed by Cllr Cleverly that £2000 is donated to the defibrillator group from the Parish Council's CIL funds, this is seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones and all in agreement. The PC expressed its thanks to the defibrillator group for the work they do for the community.

III. Replacement of railings around village burial ground.

The burial ground is owned by the Church of St Peter and St Paul.

The railings would cost £12,000-£16,000 so at this time it would not be a full payment it could only be a donation. It is unclear whether CIL funds can be used for this but the PC could make a donation from its own funds. Some more investigation will be done around the Parish Council donating to this.

2025/114) Highways and Footpaths

1. Any relevant updates

The issue raised around the causeway being uneven was reported after the last meeting. The council's response: The problem that you reported has been inspected but we have decided that action is not needed at this time. This is because the problem is not a safety issue and not severe enough for us to fix it. We will continue to monitor the problem when we do our planned inspections and plan work in to fix the problem if the issue gets worse.

2025/115) Village Maintenance / Garden

1. Village Garden – Update

All going well currently. There was some discussion over whether the large leylandii could be removed. There will be more bark put down when needed.

2025/116) LCN update on last meeting

The LCN report is circulated. Cllr Passingham attended the last meeting but there is nothing that is directly related to Combe Florey.

2025/117) Village Hall - Status report

The Village Hall have suggested getting a salt bin to be placed on their land to be used on the car park and on the road if needed on the bend.

Airband have acknowledged the request for Wi-Fi, and this will be free for two years when installed.

The village hall is going to CIO status will be updated so the trustees will have a £1 liability.

New doors have been installed and the repair to the wall will be taking place. New strip lighting has been installed.

2025/118) Topics for future meetings

None raised

2025/119) Correspondence / General updates

None

2025/120) NEXT MEETING:

1. Parish Meeting 27th January 2026 @ Combe Florey Village Hall. Time 6.00 pm

Meeting closed at 19:50

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Signed: [Chairman]