

Combe Florey Parish Council

Date of Meeting: Thursday 23 rd September 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 Jacquey Newton (Vice Chair)
Cllr Neil Truby (RFO)
Cllr John Passingham
Cllr Giannina Lloyd-Jones

In attendance

Parishioners: none

2025/83) Welcome by chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2025/84) Apologies for absence

None given.

2025/85) Declarations of Interest

Nothing declared.

2025/86) Approval of last meetings minutes

Approval and signing of the minutes of the 29th July 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 Passingham. All in favour to adopt the minutes, signed by the chairman.

2025/87) Public participation

Nothing as no public present.

2025/88) Matters Arising / Matters brought forward from other meetings

No subjects under this section.

2025/89) Somerset Council report (Cllr Rigby/ Cllr Sully)

No Somerset Councillors in attendance.

2025/90) Policing Report

No Police in attendance. Police report had nothing of relevance to Combe Florey.

2025/91) Planning**1. Current planning applications**

Application no 11/25/001 (Dennehey) has gained approval. This approval states it must be started within 3 years.

Nothing else is on the website currently.

2. Other planning matters

None.

2025/92) Finance**1. Bank Reconciliation**

The RFO read out a bank reconciliation list. The Council's current account has £58.02 and there is £20,032 in the savings account.

2. CIL Submission Update

Minutes from Combe Florey Parish Council September 23rd 2025

Signed: [Chairman]

2025 CIL submission needed updating and we have now claimed back money for work on the bridge; we have also been able to submit and claim for old expenses incurred by the Parish Council.

3. Investment accounts?

The RFO suggested that we could invest the money we currently have in the savings account? We will have the money for a while as there are no large upcoming finances. Maybe we can do an instant access account. This will require research as if there are any unexpected expenses money needs to be accessible.

4. To consider receipts and payments arising since last meeting

I. Invoices for payment:

- Parish Clerk wages, expenses (Aug - Sep 2025 inclusive) £296.40 (before deductions)
Proposed by Cllr Newton and seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour of payment.
- HMRC - £57.80 for Clerks earnings due
Proposed by Cllr Newton and seconded by Cllr Lloyd-Jones. All in favour of payment.

2025/93) Topics raised at the Annual Parish Meeting

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

The list of potential projects was submitted to Somerset Council in July, reply was received in September.

School bus shelter at the village hall: although bus shelters in general are a good use of CIL funds, in this case it was unclear if this was an appropriate use of CIL funds as the shelter was only for children catching the school bus rather than the community as a whole. Furthermore, it would be built on private land belonging to the village hall. It was therefore decided that the Parish Council would write to the CIL officer to clarify the situation.

Defibrillator: Combe Florey Defibrillator Group have requested funds for a third defibrillator to be placed at the pub. In principle, this is a good use of CIL funds and £2000 has been earmarked for this. However, as the existing defibrillators are rented and not owned which means they need to be paid for every four years, clarification needs to be sought from the CIL officer as to whether CIL funds could be spent on a rental/hire agreement rather than an outright purchase.

2. Repair of burial ground railings.

A letter was received from the PCC asking for CIL money to be allocated towards the repair of the wrought iron railings surrounding the burial ground. The CIL officer had rejected all the projects proposed for church property but was not specific about the burial ground. These are grey areas which we will try to clarify with the CIL officer. The funds can be used for the community as a whole or infrastructure but not for maintenance.

3. Other suggestions raised to be considered by the Parish Council through the year.

Carry forward

2025/94) Highways and Footpaths

1. Any relevant updates

A few parishioners have said the causeway is uneven and needs to be looked at. It is not a footpath and is classed as a highway. Cllr Cleverly will upload a report to Somerset Council's online portal.

There were also some branches overhanging the causeway from the pub, but this now seems to be resolved.

There is occasional sewage overflow into Coggan's Lane from Combe Florey House. Cllr Cleverly will contact the landowner.

Straightening the footpath crossing the B3224 needs an update from Mike Rigby.

2025/95) Village Maintenance / Garden

1. Village Garden – Update

Minutes from Combe Florey Parish Council September 23rd 2025

Signed: [Chairman]

Looking good. There will be an Autumn tidy up on Monday this coming week.

2. Update on rail bridge repair

This has been fixed. The repair was carried out by James Dennehey at no cost. The Parish Council would like to give their thanks.

Remove from agenda.

3. Dog mess issues

Two letters have been received from parishioners in relation to this issue.

Notices have been put up and there have been reports that the situation has been better since signage has gone up.

The matter has been discussed on numerous occasions at the parish council, and this is not an issue that is easy to resolve by the council. We are appealing to dog owners to be responsible with their dog waste.

While CIL money can be spent on a dog waste bins these have to be placed somewhere that is legal, accessible, and not on private land. It also has to be a place the recycling teams are willing to empty and is in an area used by dog walkers. Previous investigation into this failed to find a suitable site, and there is some doubt that provision of a bin would help anyway.

2025/96) LCN update on last meeting

No attendance from Combe Florey as our rep was away.

2025/97) Village Hall - Status report

New lighting has been installed; there is a meeting on Monday.

2025/98) Topics for future meetings

None raised

2025/99) Correspondence / General updates

None

2025/100) NEXT MEETING:

1. Parish Meeting 25th November 2025 @ Combe Florey Village Hall. Time 6.00 pm

Meeting closed at 19.17

Minutes from Combe Florey Parish Council September 23rd 2025

Signed: [Chairman]