



Chilton Polden Parish Council
Minutes of a Full Council Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th July 2026
in the Village Hall, Priory Road, Chilton Polden, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 9EH
at 7.00pm

26/27/047 **Present:** Cllrs, James (Chair), Smith (Vice Chair), Alymer, Clatworthy & Hamilton

26/27/048 **Apologies:** None

26/27/049 **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None Recorded

26/27/050 **In attendance:** No Clerk present

26/27/051 **To Confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th May 2026 & 10th June 2026:**
Minutes of the meetings held on 13th May & 10th June 2026 were agreed and signed.

26/27/052 **Financial Report:**
a) An invoice from AS baker for installation of new bench totalling £1,297.61 approved. It was stated that we can claim back VAT.
b) Signatories: forms to enable Alan Clatworthy to be added to list of signatories given to Chairperson to forward to Unity Bank. At present M. Aylmer, N. Smith and R. James are signatories.

26/27/053 **Open Session:**
a) There has been a walking group set up around the village, advertised on the Polden Today calendar and Chilton Polden Facebook Group. It has been noted the poor state of some stiles & pathways, restricting access to open public spaces, especially for older people and those of limited physical ability. It was agreed to discuss the condition of stiles & footpaths more thoroughly as an agenda item at the next meeting and ask the footpath officer to send in a report to the council in time for next agenda.
b) Cllr Smith reported that an upcoming weekend at the Priory has been licenced, and that the organisers have agreed to moderate the noise created, to minimise the disruption to neighbours and wildlife.

26/27/054 **Planning matters:**
No planning applications received.

26/27/055 **Councillor Vacancy:**
The Chairperson read a letter of resignation received from Holly Perfect-Porter. Councillors expressed their regret at her leaving, and their appreciation for

all her work during her time as a parish councillor. The two vacancies were raised, and it was agreed that Rebekah James would advertise the posts on the website, the notice board and the village Facebook group, in order to generate interest in the positions and would update the wording on the adverts.

26/27/056 Church Maintenance Request:

A letter asking for help was read out, and after discussion it was agreed that Tina Hamilton would email SALC for rules around PC donations to a local church. A proposal to increase our contribution will be debated at the next meeting.

26/27/057 Bench Installation:

The village bench has been installed, and the grass has been cut around it.

26/27/058 Access to emails and account:

The chair and vice Chair now have access to the clerk's email. A request from the signatories to the bank will be sent to the bank to enable the chair and vice chair to have access to the account, in order to pay invoices.

26/27/059 Update on mirror for junction Church Lane/Priory Road:

Somerset Council have informed us that they no longer erect mirrors as they have been shown not to improve road safety. It was noted that new white lines have been painted at all junctions in the village, except either end of Church Lane.

26/27/060 Reply from SALC:

This was concerning the continued sickness of our clerk, and it was agreed that this would be discussed fully in closed session if Louise was still on sick leave in September.

26/27/061 Unauthorised car parking Townsend Lane grass area:

This has been reported by the Parish Council to Somerset Council, and there seems to be fewer occasions when a car is parked there, though the tarmac pads are still there.

26/27/062 Any Comments for future agendas:

a) Items to be added to September Agenda:

- 26/27/053 – a)
- 26/27/055
- 26/27/056
- 26/27/060

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7:00pm
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:20pm

Signed.....

Dated.....