

Minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Meetings of the Council Held on Monday 12th May 2025

Meetings are held at 7.00pm in the Village Hall unless stated otherwise - Nigel Ashton, Gordano Valley Ward Cllr, attends when possible

There is a vacancy for a Councillor - contact a Councillor or the Clerk if you would like to apply

Present: Cllrs Brian Cannell (Chair), Rachel Dickinson, Claire Flower, Dave Wherrett

In Attendance: Don Hill (Clerk)

Public Attendance: 1

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

028/25 APOLOGIES

Cllr Claire Flower, Ward Cllr Nigel Ashton

029/25 ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR & ASSOCIATED PAPERWORK

- i. The re-affirmation of Cllr Cannell as Chair was agreed to unanimously without a vote and he completed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chair.
- ii. Cllr Dickinson stood down from the position of Vice-Chair and the post remains unfilled.

030/25 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:

- i. The Parish representative to NSC Standards Sub-Committee was re-confirmed unanimously as Cllr Cannell
- ii. Cllr Dickinson remains, again unanimously, as the Council's representative on the Village Hall Committee of Management.

031/25 AGREEMENT TO RE-CONFIRM RECENTLY APPROVED GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The governance document updated and agreed as part of the Audit process at the March meeting of Council were reaffirmed unanimously as remaining in force for the term of the political year from May 2025. These documents are on the Parish Council's website as indicated at the head of these minutes.

032/35 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This report was delivered via the Annual Residents' Meeting, immediately following **and is attached as an Annexe 1 to these minutes.**

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

033/25 APOLOGIES

Cllr Claire Flower, Ward Cllr Nigel Ashton

034/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Dispensations apply to Cllrs re the setting of the precept, and to Village Hall matters)

None

035/25 LAST MEETING MINUTES + MATTERS ARISING

Meeting minutes of April 14th were agreed and signed *(the March meeting was cancelled).*

036/25 GOVERNANCE

The Annual Governance Statement, being Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024-2025 was approved and signed.

037/25 PLANNING *(The NSC website has full details. Applications notified on the meeting day will also be considered)*

New:

Awaiting Decision: New:25/P/0428/AOC: 2 Manor Cottages - Works Management plan.

038/25 PARISH MATTERS

- i. **Parish Maintenance:** Local ad hoc services look likely to be available for all work except the litter picking along the B3124, which, given the density and speed of traffic, will optimally require some form of moving traffic control to allow the work to be carried out safely. Hourly rates for any work carried out need to be agreed, as do protocols for agreeing and paying any associated expenses. **Clerk finalising a Parish Maintenance Schedule as the basis of a work plan.**
- ii. **Walton Bay Bus Stop erosion:** Cllr Wherrett re-confirmed that the situation has not got visibly worse.
- iii. **B3124 Speed Limit Signage From Clevedon:** Sign on Hall side of the road towards Clevedon is not in place. **Clerk to report this again to NSC.**
- iv. Defibrillator - **Cllr Dickinson will liaise with the Clerk re payment of the service charges.**

039/25 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Wherrett

Drainage pipe from the Coast Road to Walton Bay: this pipe runs from the gullies at the Two Acres junction to an outflow onto the beach at Walton Bay below Sandbanks Park Home site. Somewhere en-route foreign matter (sewage?) appears to be entering the pre and ending up on Walton Bay beach. **Cllr Wherrett will report this to NSC via their online reporting system.**

Cllr Cannell

Revised Waste Collection System and Timetable: Notification of waste collection changes as they effect the Parish have been posted to residents. Cllr Cannell explained these to the meeting and **a summary of the changes is attached as an Annexe 2 to these Minutes.**

040/25 FINANCE

i. 2024-25 Accounts:

The forms at a) to f) below were reviewed, agreed and signed:

- a) Approval of Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2024/25 Form 2
- b) Review of 2024-25 internal auditor's report.
- c) AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25: see agenda item 4 above
- d) Approval of AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25
- e) Approval of the 2024-2025 Bank Reconciliation.
- f) External Auditors Conflict of Interest Form

ii. 2025-26 Accounts to date: were reviewed and reconciled with the bank statement.

iii. Payments Authorised: **Walton-in-Gordano Village Hall** annual hire fee - £144.00. **P Smith**
Internal Audit - £63.00. **Zurich Insurance** - £264.00

041/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday June 9th 2025

Note: There will be no meetings in July or August

The meetings closed at 7.50pm

ANNEXE 1

Walton-in-Gordano Parish Council Chair's Report - MAY 12th 2025

Looking back over the reports I have given to these meetings in previous years, they are all much the same in content. Such is the reality of a small rural Parish Council, where for decades the main focus of issues involves traffic and road speed, buses and transport challenges, footpaths, verges, drainage issues, planning applications...

This year is little different from previous with a few exceptions. Full details are published on our website via the meeting minutes.

As of today Walton-in-Gordano Parish Councillors are Mr Brian Cannell, Mrs Rachel Dickinson, Mr Dave Wherrett and Ms Claire Flower.

Today the Annual Meeting of the Council was held. It is at this meeting that various posts are decided for the coming twelve months to the following May, ie to May 2026. After discussions, Councillor Brian Cannell was elected as Chair. We do not have to have a Vice Chair, so this position is currently unfilled. Cllr Dickinson will represent the PC on the Village Hall management committee. We have no PPC representative. Councillor Brian Cannell will continue as representative on NSC Standards Sub committee.

North Somerset Council was represented at the Parish Council meetings by Councillor Nigel Ashton, our Ward councillor with North Somerset Council. Unlike most Wards, ours has 5 parishes: Nigel attends when he can, and is a greatly valued advisor. He also does a lot for the Parish 'behind the scenes'.

Fortunately, during this last year, reported crime in the parish has been very low. Neighbourhood watch schemes continue to operate in various parts of the Parish.

Planning applications have been few in numbers this last year and down from last year, being made up with a mix of redevelopment, conversions and tree orders.

Community Speedwatch is being enthusiastically led by John Jackson, who is leading a group of volunteers who are running the activity in the Parish. If you would like to be involved please contact John.

The other main topics this year were:

Streetlight: We finally have a new and re-located street light on the northern pavement opposite Moor Lane. This came in at a cost just short of £2500.

Walton Brook: At last after more than a year of chasing and escalating the matter, the Gabion that was mostly blocking the open section between Old Rectory Farm and Church Farm has been removed by North Somerset. Many thanks go to Cllr Nigel Ashton for facilitating this.

Traffic Speed: Cllr Claire Flower is heading up this topic. To progress any changes, evidence is required. Speed Indicator Display Signs (SIDS) were being investigated and budget sought to purchase. A call for volunteers produced no replies, so this is on hold for the moment.

Walton Bay Transport: Cllr Dave Wherrett is leading this. Extensive work had been done although the progress seems to have stalled in other local councils. Full details in the council minutes.

Village Hall Car Park: This too appears to have stalled apparently due to some objections being raised.

Parish maintenance: New stiles for the Plum Tree to Common path have been installed. The Council is continuing to explore the scope and funding for a Village maintenance contractor.

Recycling: North Somerset, along with many other Councils are moving to a 3 weekly Black Bin collection schedule. An audit of refuse last year showed that 45% of the Black Bin waste (costing £135 per ton to dispose of) could be recycled. 27% of the bin contents was food waste, 50% still wrapped up and un-used! Weighted Red bags for plastic have recently been handed out. Soft Plastic kerb-side recycling is imminent, we are told.

FINANCE

As to finance, the Budget for 2025/26 was set during the January 2025 Parish Council meeting at £8190. After including future capital expenditure (£1000) and an election provision (£200) the amount of the precept from North Somerset Council was £9390.

The Parish Council has been approached to help fund the Centenary Village Fete 2026. Following discussion and advice regarding Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 and common practice from other councils, the Parish Council offered a £500 donation to this event.

I would like to thank those who have shown an interest in the Parish and its Council over the last year and encourage those who have yet to do so.

Finally, on behalf of the Parish, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors: Mrs Rachel Dickinson, Mr Dave Wherrett and Ms Claire Flower not forgetting the Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr Don Hill for their hard work and support over the last year.

ANNEXE 2

Changes in our Parish to recycling and waste collections from Monday 9 June 2025

There will be:

- no new collection day in Walton-in-Gordano; it will remain as Tuesday
- three-weekly black bin collections
- more recycling materials collected every week.

From Tuesday 24 June black bins for non-recyclable waste will be collected every three weeks. A new collection calendar has been sent to each household so they can check when their collections will be over the next 12 months.

Because your first three-weekly black bin collection is more than three weeks after your last fortnightly collection, **we have arranged a one-off black bin collection on Saturday 14 June**. This will be for your black bin only, no recycling. Please make sure your black bin is put out for collection by 6.30am on this day to receive your extra collection.

From Monday 9 June onwards recycling will be collected every week on a Tuesday. From this date, as well as the materials you already recycle, you can then start recycling plastic bags and soft plastic wrapping such as crisp packets, vegetable packaging, cling film, film lids, and all plastic bags.

NSC will be the first local council in the UK to collect and compact plastic bags and soft plastic wrapping at the kerbside as part of a weekly household recycling service. See below for more information.

Recycle everything you can - every week we will collect:

- **Brown Container** - Food Waste
- **Recycling Box 1** - glass bottles and jars plus plastic bags and soft plastic wrapping
- **Recycling Box 2** - paper and cardboard
- **Red Bag** - plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays, metal: eg tins, cans, foil and empty aerosols

Find out more about the huge range of materials you can now recycle every week and request replacement containers at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/recycling.

Recycling plastic bags and soft plastic wrapping

What is soft plastic wrapping?

Soft plastic wrapping is the lightweight, flexible plastic packaging that previously couldn't be recycled.

A simple test is to scrunch up the item in your hand and if it pings back, it's likely to be soft plastic wrapping.

What types of plastic bags and wrapping can be recycled?

Yes please:

- ✓ plastic carrier bag
- ✓ bread bags
- ✓ frozen food bags
- ✓ delivery bags
- ✓ cereal liners
- ✓ toilet roll wrapping
- ✓ multi-pack wrapping
- ✓ salad, pasta, and rice bags
- ✓ cheese, fish and meat wrapping
- ✓ crisps, sweet bags, biscuit and chocolate wrapping
- ✓ baby, pet food, detergent and cleaning pouches
- ✓ flexible plastic packaging lids
- ✓ v bubble wrap and cling film

No thanks:

- ✗ compostable and biodegradable bag and wrapping
- ✗ balloons
- ✗ blister packets for tablets
 - ✗ disposable gloves and masks
 - ✗ polystyrene
- ✗ plastic straws

Recycling			Recycling and black bin		
date			date		
Jun-25		10	17	24	
Jul-25	1	8	15	22	29
Aug-25	5	12	19	26	
Sep-25	2	9	16	23	30
Oct-25	7	14	21	28	
Nov-25	4	11	18	25	
Dec-25	2	9	16	23	*31
Jan-26	*7	13	20	27	
Feb-26	3	10	17	24	
Mar-26	3	10	17	24	31
Apr-26	7	14	21	28	
May-26	5	12	19	26	