

0 NETHERAVON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting held in the Phoenix Hall
On Thursday, 9th October, 2025 at 7p.m.**

PRESENT	Cllr D Burke Cllr P Mackay Cllr. P Perry Cllr S. Perry Cllr Coslett Cllr A Brown Cllr A Bridewell	Chairman Vice-Chairman
In Attendance	Mrs. D Corbett Cllr Blair Piling	Clerk to the Council Wiltshire County Councilor

WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN

Cllr Burke welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for being absent recently. He thanked Cllr Coslett for taking down the Hanging Baskets.

REPORT BY WILTSHIRE COUNCILLOR

Cllr Blair-Pilling started by thanking Netheravon for hosting the recent **Stonehenge Area Board** but observed how sparse the attendance was beyond those seeking grants. He would be discussing how to respond to this with his Board and suggested that this was a reality to be accommodated rather than resisted.

He spoke about the shift towards focussing the business meetings on the planning and progression of each councillors agreed objectives, while pursuing the delivery of those objectives in separate more public focussed events.

He outlined the areas of focus for each Board member

Cllr Graham Wright is leading on youth, and the youth fayre, something that he has already been doing. Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling is leading on community cohesion and community recognition, with events to bring together parish council reps on a more local basis.

Cllr Kevin Asplin is leading on the Environment, with an initial focus on supporting the Great Bustard project.

Cllr Monica Devendran will continue to concentrate on Adult social care

Cllrs Alan Hagggar and Kevin Daley will lead in the creation of a Community safety forum with each respectively focussed on urban and rural aspects.

Local Highways Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG)

Cllr Blair – Pilling reported back on the Netheravon A345 Speed Limit reduction trial report. He had let the group know that whilst we the Parish Council are happy with most of it, we are unhappy about not including the road North to Mill Road. We will look at writing a response to the cabinet minister about further measures, moving Speed Indication Devise (SIDS) road markings etc.

Bus stop at Harefield – The topographical survey has been carried out and passed to MoD estates as the basis for them to decide whether or not the necessary strip of land could be rededicated to Wiltshire Council for the enlargement of the bus stop. The estimate included should act as a maximum indicative cost of works. The Parish Council would be responsible for 25% of cost and should consider its provision when setting precepts

East and West Court - Residents met with Danny Kruger MP about the access up the A345 and putting a footpath in. Kruger has since asked to Cllr Blair-Pilling to assist. Cllr B-P advised that he had

previously investigated footpath provision and concluded this was very unlikely to prove feasible, due to the ownership constraints. He pointed out that the residents of E&W Court already have an agreement with The Stable enabling a safe walking route to the village. There was also a request for a bus stop outside Support Weapons wing, there is one on one side but not on the other. Parish Council to write to Salisbury Reds and LHFIG regarding putting in a pole, as this should already be a bus stop.

Draft Council Plan - Cllr Blair – Pilling said the draft plan had been through scrutiny and a recent 7 hour Cabinet meeting.

He commented that in his view it says a lot of nice things, but little on how it may be implemented in a time of very constrained budgets and so far contains few targets against the selected Key Performance Indicators.

Army Liaison - Cllr Blair Pilling and Cllr Graham Wright of Durrington have been discussing with Maj ‘Paddy’ McGill how little the local communities may understand of ‘life, work and play’ of their military neighbours in Larkhill Garrison. They are arranging a series of coach trips with Paddy as tour guide. He asked if the Parish Council would be interested in going on one. There were affirmative nods around the table, Cllr Blair Pilling to come back to us.

POLICE REPORT Sent out before the meeting, community PC was unable to come to the meeting,

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the public present after the Netheravon in Bloom winners collected their prizes

25/51 APOLOGIES

Apologies received and accepted from:

Cllr Covill

Cllr O Grady

25/52 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25/53 MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 11th September be accepted as a true record.

25/54 FINANCE

- a. **Bank Reconciliation** -The bank reconciliation was passed out to councillors before the meeting, all agreed
- b. **Audit certificate** in and external auditor paid
- c. **Request for funding** for South West Ambulance charity towards a car for Community First Responders. Council agreed to not help towards the car but would look favourably on donation for our CFR group towards extra equipment needed. Agreed and seconded. Group to write a letter for next month’s meeting.
- d. **Invoice agreed** for topographical survey for Harefield bus stop improvement,

25/55 COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Planning** – Since the last Parish Council meeting there have been no new items for the planning committee to consider.
2. **Flooding & Adverse Weather**– it was hoped that the surface water drains were being repaired at the bottom of the village, (where it floods in bad weather) it wasn't, it is installing the new drainage for the new house being built. The Chairman asked if the Parish Steward could remove the sandbags in Staggs Lane that are resulting in making it inaccessible by foot in the winter due to the permanent flood.
3. **Highways plus Parish Steward**– Cllr Covil had reported that the Parish Steward would be sweeping around the War Memorial before the Remembrance service. Wains Way pot holes were reported to Landmarc again. They have replied that they have passed it on to their contractor.
Cemetery /enhancement /Netheravon in bloom – Cemetery, complaint to MOD about inaccurate bill for water use that has been going on for the last 2 years has been sorted. Cllr Brown has had continual contact with Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The latest position being that a representative was willing to come down and review the site and discuss options.
4. **Recreation- Old School Close Park** the money has now been transferred from the Wiltshire Council and is in the savings account. Clerk to write to all occupants of the flats and Old School Close on their thoughts for the area, with responses requested before the next council meeting. Then we will have a public meeting to take ideas forward and put in place a memorandum of understanding to make sure the money is spent on amenities.

Allotments- All allotments now in use. RGV have winterised the taps at both allotment sites.

5. **Community Allotment and Community Larder** nothing to report, sometimes there is a lot in there and sometimes nearly empty. Clerk will monitor
6. **Rights of way:** Two local farmers will be putting a fence on their boundaries and may install a kissing gate by the Old Mink Farm
7. **Representatives on other groups:**

a. Phoenix Hall

CHAIR PERSON REPORT FOR PHOENIX HALL SEPTEMBER 2025

The bookings total for 2025/2026 is currently £15764.12

The total for last year was £14085 this means we are already up on bookings by £1678.88 for the full year with 5 months to go.

We already have bookings which total £8498.00 for 2026 / 2027

There has been a lot of expenditure this period. But overall, the hall has been able to break even and remains in a strong and stable position.

Maintenance and Improvements

We have had to carry out repairs to the taps in the ladies' toilets.

We will also need to replace the outside light as it has broken.

Looking ahead

The Fijian church will continue to book with us next year.

The hall now has bookings for most days and is always we are grateful for the support of our regular hirers.

We continue to advertise in our village's local newsletter.

- b. **Jubilee Committee** – Nothing to report

- c. **Stonehenge Area Board** Cllr Burke attended the meeting and spoke about some of the grants that had been awarded.
- d. **All school liaison** – Cllr Bridewell has a meeting with the School Governors on the 22nd October.
- e. **Netheravon Speed watch Group** – Report was discussed at the Local Highways Footpath Improvement Group and it was agreed that the council will write a response to the Cabinet member.
- f. **Newsletter** – Funds are looking healthy at the moment, with advertisers paying recently. We have also had a donation of £85 from the charity bingo event that is run in the village, of which we are most grateful.

25/56 REPORT by the Clerk

The outstanding £650 water bill that the council were incorrectly charged for by the MOD in 2023 has finally been settled, a more appropriate bill for £20 will now be paid. Emergency Plan has been updated and printed off.

25/57 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Notice of an Army Motor event passing through our parish on Sat 29th November.

Letter from Lord Lieutenant informing us thar Cllr Blair- Piling will be attending Remembrance Day to lay a wreath on behalf of Wiltshire County Council.

25/58 GENERAL PARISH MATTERS

Poppies will need to be put up – working party arranged for 25th October at 9am

It was agreed to sell the 6ft x 6ft fence panels that used to be on the side of the Village Hall before the wall was rebuilt. Clerk to advertise in the Newsletter

Newsletters – Resident has approx.. 50 years of newsletters, it was agreed that it was important not to lose this village history. Clerk to speak to resident who has them to get an idea of how many boxes.

25/59 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Netheravon Parish Council will be the **6th November 2025 at 7 pm.**

Signed..... Date.....

Chairman