ABBOTS LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
Held at Village Hall, Abbots Leigh on Monday 21th September 2026 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors S Talbot-Ponsonby (Chair), M Walker, J Mo-Harris K Das, R Delany (Vice Chair).

Parish Clerk Nicola Rice

80/26 To note the absence of councillors at the meeting.

81/26 To accept declarations of interest in accordance with the Adopted Code of Conduct September 2024.

There were no declarations of interest.

82/26 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026.

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the council meeting held on the 13 July 2026.

83/26 Planning, New Applications:

New planning applications.

26/P/1587/FUL	Hollyoaks Pill Road Abbots Leigh BS8 3RG	Proposed demolition of the existing detached bungalow and garage and construction of a replacement four-bedroom dwelling and detached garage together with associated landscaping, access and external works. *Neutral, apart from the need for the planners to check on the scale of the proposed development and how it fits with the permitted increase in building size in Green Belt*

Approvals/Refusals/Withdrawn: -

26/P/1199/S73	Rise 1 Harris Lane BS8 3QX	Section 73 application to vary conditions 2 (plans) and 7 (Construction Method Statement) on application 25/P/1477/FUL (Proposed demolition of the existing dwelling and garage with the subsequent erection of a replacement dwelling and detached garage with associated landscaping and hardstanding works.) To allow for the central door on the Southern elevation to be

		changed to a window and the addition of PV to the South facing section of the garage roof. Amendments to the current wording of condition 7 (The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents: -4348_021 SITE SET UP PLAN-Construction Management Plan dated October 2025 written by Atlas Planning Group). To read as, The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following Construction Management Plans and documents (produced by Rainsford March 2026): - Construction Management Plan dated June 2026 written by Atlas Planning Group - Rainsford - Phase 1 CMP & Demolitio arean-Rainsford Site - Security Plan 24.3.26. *No Comment.*
26/P/0409/FUL	Mere Green Glen Avenue Abbots Leigh BS8 3SD	Proposed replacement dwelling and associated landscaping. No objections. Registered.

84/26 Local Plan – The Local Plan hearing stage is likely to take place in October/November this year. The Pill Strategic Supplementary Planning Document is no longer proceeding as originally proposed. It will instead be supplementary guidance, which will still require approval. NSC is not progressing this at present, and the conclusion is that they are unlikely to be able to take this forward until next year. It was agreed that we should have an informal discussion meeting with the members of the original steering group of the Neighbourhood Plan and the Chair of Pill and EiG Council to discuss the next steps for revising our Neighbourhood Plan once the Local Plan has been introduced

85/26 To consider the approval and payment of the following monthly invoices.

Any invoices received after the publication of the agenda will also be considered.

Invoice date	Supplier	Description	Amount £	VAT £	Total £

None	Nicola Rice	Clerk's salary	738.11	0	738.11
None	Mick Dillon	Caretakers salary	850.00	0	850.00
None	HMRC	PAYE – Quarter 2, Due October 26	761.95	0	761.95
August 26	Clerks Expenses	Printing & A4 paper	13.25	0	13.25
August 26	M Dillon	Expenses	103.29	0	103.29
03.08.2026	K&E Property Maintenance	July Bin and Grass	165.00	0	165.00
06.08.2026	GB Sport	Playground Inspections	60.00	12.00	72.00
August 26	* PATA	Payroll	66.30	0	66.30
August 26	*JRB Enterprise	Dog Poop bag	83.40	16.68	100.08
August 26	*Nibra Signs	New Sign Fixings	184.20	36.84	221.04
August 26	*Nicola Rice	Clerks Salary	763.88	0	763.88
August 26	*Mick Dillon	Caretakers Salary	850.00	0.00	850.00
August 26	*Clerks Expenses	Printing and refreshments	15.30	0	15.30

It was resolved to approve the payments.

86/26 To receive the North Somerset Councillor report.

It is coming up to the budget-setting period for local councils. There is expected to be a significant funding gap in NSC's 2027–2031 budget. A draft budget will be published in December, giving the public an opportunity to provide feedback.

87/26 To discuss village matters

Police Report – Police Report – April – 1 other theft. May – 1 criminal damage and arson, 1 violence and sexual offence and June – 1 vehicle crime, 1 criminal damage and arson.

Jenna and Kamala have met with Matt Hawkins, the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer, to discuss local concerns. The Parish Council is considering using some of its precept to fund an officer. A plan is likely to be developed, subject to discussions with other local councils to establish whether they would also be interested in contributing to the funding and whether the proposal is viable.

Village Hall – Clifton Arts have asked for an 11 day hire in April which may interfere with regular bookings. Avon Fire Brigade have done an inspection of the village hall and have made a number of recommendations. We should prepare a new Fire Risk Assessment. A number of Emergency lighting units need changing on account of their built-in batteries failing. It was agreed that the Village Hall charges would not be increased this year even though the hall costs £4/hour to heat during the winter. It was also noted that the charges have remained unchanged for the past three years. It was agreed that the hire charge for the Abbots Pool free celebration event should be waived.

Former Skittle Alley – Nothing to report

Traffic Issues & Footpaths – KD has not received any further update from NSC regarding the SIDs. JMH will follow up with NSC to confirm whether this is on their list of works to be completed. As the Parish Council is funding this, we would like confirmation of the current position and expected timescale. The suggested Manor Lane closure at one end on safety grounds has been reported in the monthly Link magazine. We are expecting for some responses from the residents, as to this suggestion. It was agreed that the Parish Council should investigate appointing a traffic consultant and establish the associated costs. MW has met with Dudley Shalcross of Bristol University. MW has received agreement from a resident to install one of the air pollution monitoring devices in their garden by the traffic lights. Discussions are ongoing with another resident regarding placing a second device on the opposite side of the road by the phone box. The locations of the devices will be finalised once these discussions are complete. The Parish Council will advise residents of Fishponds Lane that it is happy to support the installation of a Street Name Sign to alert the recycling collection team, as collections are regularly being missed. The low wall on Church Road by the telephone box has been damaged. It was agreed to instruct SGD builders to rebuild that section of the wall for a budget of around £600.

Verges – It was agreed to ask David Smith to cut some of the verges around the village. A369 Home Farm Road to Beggar Bush Lane traffic lights, below the George, end of Blackmoor Road, Poundbatch Farm area between Leigh Court drive and to above Harris Lane. Manor Road and Manor Lane and possibly Sandy Lane near the junction with the A 369. STP to action.

Playing Fields & Events – The playground inspection report recommends a number of minor repairs that will need doing and we will instruct Kevin Weeks to carry out the work. Also the Goat willow tree is a potential danger and as it has a TPO Tree Preservation Order (TPO) permission is needed to be able to remove it. NSC will be contacted to discuss this further. Action STP. The Civic Society has offered to replace the play box in the playing field, and the Parish Council is happy for them to proceed, provided that it is locked and they ensure that the contents do not get left in the grass and potentially damage mowing machines. The Parish Council has been approached by a resident regarding extending to the path in the playing field. It was agreed that the Council does not consider an extension to be necessary at this time. Neil from the Civic Society will be approached regarding the possibility of installing a bench in memory of Murray Stewart in a suitable location.

Abbots Pool – The volunteer group are working with North Somerset Council to install a solar powered aeration system which will mounted on the island. NSC will fund this.

Civic Society – Have contacted us regarding they wish to hold their annual Firework event. They are planning the Annual Bonfire Night event in conjunction with the Parish Council. The fireworks display will be managed in the adjacent field by a local company. Details of Risk Assessment Method Statements, together with Insurance details of the fireworks company will be provided in advance.

88/26 To receive the Chair's report – Nothing to add

89/26 To receive Clerk's report – Councillors were advised that the Parish Council has successfully completed its annual AGAR, with no issues raised or further action required. Councillors were also informed that the salary increase has now been formally announced. The payroll contractor will calculate any back payments due from April this year. The clerk has also put a 'bounceback' onto the councils old email address and this no longer monitored and is obsolete.

90/26 To consider items for the next meeting agenda.

None.

The meeting closed at 20.32pm

End of minutes.