

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Berrow Village Hall, Parsonage Road,
Berrow,
on Tuesday, 14th APRIL 2026, at 7pm**

Present: Chairman Cllr C Dyer, Cllrs R Dyer, K Green, M Stannard.
Unitary Councillors Filmer & Grimes, and the Clerk

The Chairman welcomed everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting

1. **Apologies** Cllr R Welland

2. **Welcome by the Chairman and her report**

In May the Parish Council employed a new Ranger to undertake various tasks around the village.
In June we advertised vacancies for more new Councillors to join the Parish Council. I am pleased to welcome Greg Broadhurst and Paul Williams who were co-opted to the Council at October
The Parish Council now have a contractor, with a robotic machine, that marks out all the football pitches
In conjunction with the Burnham & Berrow Golf Club, we have helped with a new dog loo bin installed at the back of the Co-op, of which the Parish Council will pay for the emptying
A new Vicar was sworn in at Berrow Church in March, we all wish Robyn the very best

3. **Unitary Cllr Report** – Cllr Grimes stated that Somerset Council has now set its 2026/27 budget following the Government's decision to reject proposals for any increase above 4.99%. This means that an average council tax bill will increase by nearly £122 per year.
A new phonenumber for residents struggling to afford the increased cost of oil. This is being run in conjunction with Citizens Advice. **Telephone number is 0808 278 7842**
New electoral boundaries have now been agreed, which will mean the number of Councillors will reduce from 110 to 96. These recommendations are expected to be in place for the possible May 2027 election

4 **Financial Report** – At the start of the financial year the Councils bank balance stood at £72211. At the end of March, the balance was £69978. With the opening of a deposit account with our internet bank, we have earned £1269 in bank interest for the year.
The PC has received £9996 in refund from HMRC re VAT paid out. After the APM another request will be made up to the yearend totalling £4754 (£13525)
The main expenditure was the installation of new boilers for the Pavillion. These were financed from existing PC funds
The new precept has been set with an increase of £11500 (8.2%). This is one of the lowest in the area. £8000 of the increase is for a contingency fund for various Parish Projects which may be required. The increase will mean that a Tax Band D will be paying an additional £11.90 per year
Finally, I must say a big THANK YOU to all the Councillors for their work, effort and dedication over the past 12 months. Thank you for all your support.
Special mention to Unitary Cllrs Bob Filmer and Tony Grimes for their invaluable advice on many aspects of running the Parish

4.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

Chairman..... Date.....

Clerk..... Date.....