A Meeting of Berrow Parish Council was held at Berrow Village Hall on
Tuesday 13th OCTOBER 2026, at 7.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillors C. Dyer (Chair), R. Dyer, G Broadhurst, K Green, M Stannard, R Welland, P Williams. Unitary Cllrs Filmer, Grimes, Murphy and the Clerk

Before the meeting was opened, the Clerk introduced Mr Paul Helland who expressed an interest in becoming the new Handyman for the Parish. A few questions were asked by the Cllrs and then it as decided that Mr Helland would be offered the position, with a start date on November 1st 2026. The Clerk to distribute to all the Cllrs a copy of the job specification sheet, along with a copy of a contract for their perusal.

445/26 To receive apologies for absence – NONE

446/26 Declaration of Interests – NONE

447/26 Approval of minutes
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on September 8th 2026 – the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were agreed unanimously by the Members and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Stannard and Williams

448/26 Presentation by Envolve – a representative from Envolve presented the water mains replacements for Coast Road Berrow onto South Road Brean, due to commence mid-November. Plans are in place re the diversions required until approximately February 2027. Questions were asked by Cllrs about how the residents affected will be contacted. Mailouts will be sent out and Community Engagement sessions are planned for Brean and possibly Berrow – October 20th
It is planned that copies of the diversions to be placed on the web site and notice boards. A contact point for any residents concerns is Network Plus Envolve – telephone 07816 171192 – Claire.may@envolve-infrastructure.co.uk

449/26 Unitary Councillor reports – Cllr Grimes informed the meeting that the financial position at Somerset Council is "deeply fragile" which the medium term financial plan shows a £40.3 million gap for 2027/28 rising to £63.5 million by 2031/32. Planning enforcement cases now exceed 1200 with Somerset Council, with agency staff being brought in to try and help reduce the backlog. Over 4000 residents have signed a parking charges petition calling for SC to reconsider proposed parking charges. Further consultation is now required.

450/26 Items from last meeting

a) **Water Meter Update** – the Clerk updated the Cllrs of the 2-meetings held with Wessex Water. It was found that there were a couple of toilet leaks in the Pavilion. These have now been fixed, and another meeting is planned for the end of the month. This is a long progress of trying to reduce the metered water supply.
b) **SCI –** the Clerk had been in touch with the organiser asking for specific questions to be answered, e.g. how many participants, marshalling etc. The Parish Council is asking local famers if they have a field to use as a car park for the tournament in May 2027

c) **Grant Application –** it was agreed that it would be better for one large lottery grant bid for the playground renovations along with the changes at the sports ground. It was also agreed that some of the repairs to the play equipment to be carried out immediately – this would cost the Parish Council £871 + VAT – proposed by Cllr Broadhurst and R Dyer – all in favour. The Clerk to instruct GB Sport & Leisure
d) **Notice Board at Village Geen –** it was agreed unanimously to order a new 650 x 650 board including 2 posts for installation – proposed by Cllr Welland and 2nd by Cllr R Dyer – all in favour. The Clerk to instruct the supplier

451/26 Play Equipment update at Village Green – it was agreed that further communication with GB Sport & Leisure was to be undertaken to obtain costings for repairs/replace of not only the equipment but the safety flooring on some of the stations. The Clerk to arrange. Once costings are confirmed, then these can be added to the Lottery Grant

452/26 Clerks Report: I had various meetings with the following:

JB DIG IT - to remove the bund at the play area with the dangerous concrete etc – then another meeting to give him the barrier keys
MARK FIDDES - re the large conifers to be trimmed back as per contract + additional
CURRENT RANGER – due to them not doing all that is requested gave them their notice
NEW HANDYMAN – spent time explaining job being offered. Then on another day spent a couple of hours driving round the parish showing him all the relevant areas
WESSEX WATER – 2 meetings with them and the VH - ongoing
GB SPORT & LEISURE – re the equipment at the play park
BANK
I had a problem with the internet bank – when I was online the broadband went down, which meant I could not log back in again. This went on for over 3 weeks; I had to change all my personal details to enable the account reinstated
FORECAST
Working on the 6-month year to date/budget accounts for precept 2027/28

453/26 – Remembrance Service 08.11.26 – it was agreed that Cllr Williams attend the service representing the Parish Council. The Clerk to hand over the wreath for the ceremony.
454/26 – Parking at the Village Hall/Pavilion – after much discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk to write to the Football Club if they could stagger the matches – split over the weekend, along with the timings as a possible solution to the parking problem. The Parish Council to organise a "working group" discussion, between the Football Club/Village Hall/Parish Council/Residents/Local PCSO. The Clerk to arrange dates/times
455/26 - Football Proposal – the Clerk informed the meeting of the time taken to administer the football at Red Road. The Cllrs agreed to look at other possibilities of how to continue the excellent facilities to encourage all ages to take part in sport
456/26 – Precept discussion for 2027/28 including YTD 01.04.26 – 30.09.26 – the Clerk distributed a detailed report on the budget/spend for 6 months. This would enable all the Cllrs to look at what may need reducing or increasing and report back at the end of October – to enable the Clerk to formulate a provisional precept for 2027/28

457/26 Finance Matters

a) To approve payments for SEPTEMBER 2026 expenditure

GB Sport & Leisure – repair to Hurricane swing	**£913.54**
PGC Contracts – 4/12 Village Maintenance	**£1803.60**
Mark Fiddes – Contracted work at Fairway Close	**£378.00**
JB Dig It – removal of bund at playground	**£900.00**
PAYE	**£341.80**
NIC	**£193.73**
Clerks Salary September	**£1366.75**
Payroll Services – July/Aug/Sept	**£40.35**
TJS – white lining – inv 2768 26/08/26	**£354.00**
TJS – white lining – inv 2789 – 04/09 – 18/09	**£792.00**
PKF Littlejohn – external audit	**£504.00**
Nina – cleaning pavilion September– INV 38	**£249.96**
Ranger – Salary September	**£600.00**
Coomber Security – call out re key holder Notification – inv 263974	**£100.80**
Berrow VH – hire of room – inv 2026	**£20.60**
Repair to Pitch #1 as agreed – inv 3887	**£3157.20**

VAT included where applicable which is reclaimable

The above will be paid by BACS with Unity Trust Bank (internet banking)

DIRECT DEBITS – September 2026

British Gas (Electric)	£202.61
Telephone	£61.92
Berrow Village Hall – office rent	£108.00
British Gas (Gas)	£44.29

458/26 To authorise Bank reconciliation & statements 30.09.26

459/26 Matters of report – various Cllrs

a) A request from a parishioner asking the Parish Council to take over the maintenance of the Defibrillator installed at the club. The Clerk to obtain make/model/age of the defib and find costings of maintaining the defib for a year
b) The Clerk to follow up new “no dog signage” for the Parish
c) The Clerk to obtain an AI policy for the Parish Council, as it was brought to the attention by Cllr R Dyer, that anything used to write an AI correspondence is not private and enters the public domain (depending on which platform persons use)
d) A copy of the insurance policy to be distributed re any costs to a possible burst pipe on PC land

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Next scheduled meeting is on TUESDAY NOVEMBER 10th 2026
Commencing at 7.15pm in the Village Hall

Signed by Chairman

Date ……