

**Minutes of the FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING of
Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge Parish Council
Held at the Sixpenny Handley Parish Office on 29th January 2026 @ 7:30pm.**

Item		Action By
	0 members present at the Public Open Session	
1806	<p>Attendance & Apologies Cllr J Reed (Chairman) Cllr D Chick Cllr A Turner Cllr D Adams Cllr C Taylor Cllr S McLean</p> <p>Also in Attendance Mr Piers Brown (Cranborne Chase Councillor) Mrs Ciona Nicholson (Clerk)</p> <p>Apologies Cllr S Meaden (Vice Chairman) Cllr I Mereweather Cllr R Adams Cllr R Hassall</p>	
1807	<p>Declarations of Interest & Grants for Dispensation</p> <p>None</p> <p>The following members declare non-pecuniary interests in matters relating to:</p> <p>Cllr Colin Taylor – Pentridge Village Hall & SH Village Hall 1st Woodcutt Scouts/CCIO Cllr James Reed – Community Land Trust & Community Speed-watch Cllr Andy Turner – Community Land Trust/Skate-park Fundraising Group/Sustainable Handley. Cllr David Adams – Sixpenny Handley Sports Facilities/ Allotment Association Cllr Rosalie Adams – Sixpenny Handley Village Hall / CCIO Cllr Simon Meaden – 1st Woodcutt Scouts/Allotment Association. Cllr Ian Mereweather – Community Land Trust</p>	
1808	<p>Dorset Council Cranborne Chase Councillor Piers Brown.</p> <p>Dorset Council has cancelled all school transport on 30/1/26 in anticipation of more road closures and flooding.</p> <p>Dorset Council has experienced services disruptions to kerbside collection due to flooding.</p>	

	<p>In January 26 DC issued guidance recommending a total ban on mobile phone use during the school day for all pupils.</p> <p>A further 15 acres of land has been acquired by DC for the Dorset Innovation Park at Wool to allow new tenants to move onto the site and existing companies to expand. This should create a further 300 high tech jobs before 2030.</p> <p>Dorset Council is actively cracking down on the illegal sale of age-restrictive items. The Council's aim is to protect young people, using test purchases to ensure compliance.</p> <p>Cllr Chick raised concerns about the reported 8 on-call Fire Stations are at risk of closure in Dorset & Wiltshire as the service seeks £1.5million funding shortfall. How can a Parish Council help?</p> <p>A 13-week consultation will take place before a decision on closures are made. Piers recommended the PC to encourage public engagement and PC ensure a consultation response.</p>	
1809	<p>Confirm the minutes of the last Full Parish Council Meeting held 18th December 2025.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting having been previously circulated to members were confirmed as correct and was signed by the Chairman. <i>Unanimous</i></p>	
1810	<p>Matters arising from the last Full Parish Council Meeting held 18th December 2025.</p> <p>Pleasingly, the new playground equipment has been fully installed and will undergo safety checks on 30/1/26. The outsourced fencing and skip provision is expected to be removed next week. Members present thanked Cllr McLean for his efforts and updates.</p>	
1811	<p>To confirm the minutes of the Finance & General Meeting held on the 8th January 2026.</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting, having been previously circulated to members were confirmed as correct and were signed by the Chairman. <i>Unanimous</i></p>	
1812	<p>Allotment Association Matters</p> <p>A quote for £780.00 received from AB Countryside Services. At the Common Road Allotments - to cut the hedges around the outside boundary and top with a tractor and hedge cutter. To cut the inside of the hedge by hand running along the back of the allotments.</p> <p>Members unanimously resolved expenditure for the works to be carried out.</p>	Clerk
1813	<p>DAPTC Matters</p> <p>No matters to report other than Clerks Conference in February and DAPTC have confirmed increase in subscriptions.</p>	

<p>1814</p>	<p>Highways Matters</p> <p>Cllr Turner will follow up with the SID Team for the interpretation of results of the Speed Survey along Dean Lane and Common Road. The data will be included in the PCs application to extend the 20mph speed restriction within the village.</p> <p>The Clerk to source a large enough sight mirror and install on the existing pole at the exit of the Village Hall.</p> <p>Clerk to chase Aster regarding the vegetation growing from the wall and highway at the end of Sheasby Close and contact Alfie Burt for a quote.</p> <p>The hedge located at K Crabbs residence is overgrown and causing a potential risk onto the highway. Pedestrians, wheelchair users and parents holding hands with children are unable to stay on the pavement and navigate safely. Clerk to contact Highways for a formal letter to be sent.</p>	<p>AT</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>1815</p>	<p>Rights of Ways</p> <p>No matters.</p>	
<p>1816</p>	<p>Skateboard Project Update</p> <p>Grant opportunities will be starting again and although not successful in the last round, going through the application process has been helpful to understand what providers of grants are looking for.</p>	
<p>1817</p>	<p>CLT Update</p> <p>The Full Planning Application submitted to Dorset Council is progressing.</p>	
<p>1818</p>	<p>Councillor Vacancies</p> <p>Due to personal reasons Cllr McLean is considering stepping down from his responsibilities as a Parish Councillor – as a result members discussed the process of resignation and filling Councillor vacancies.</p> <p>How to resign: A Parish Councillor must write directly to the Chairman to formally resign from their role. This cannot be done in advance so a Councillor’s resignation will be taken on receipt of their <u>formal letter</u>. A resignation cannot be rescinded once it has been formally given.</p> <p>Co-option is possible between election dates, but only after the statutory notice of a vacancy has been posted by the PC and Dorset Council on their website. At every other time in an election term, the Clerk will need to notify Dorset Council Elections Team when a councillor formally resigns.</p>	

<p>1819</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First School contacted the PC with regards to flooded car park on Common Lane, requesting support. <p>PC Response: The residential car park is Aster responsibility and members of staff shouldn't park in the residents' car park in the event of a flood. The PC recommend that Teachers/Parents/Visitors should park in the Village hall car park and take advantage of the new footpath leading to the rear of the school. Floods are exceptional and using the VH car park at these times would be appropriate.</p> <p>The Clerk will report the blocked soak away located in the car park behind the hedge (opposite Laurelbank) to Dorset Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorset Council Update circulated. • Dorset Business News circulated. • DAPTC E-news circulated. 	
<p>1820</p>	<p>Information to Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear Councils confirmed that a fire alarm system is not a requirement of our insurance policy and we would be fully compliant even if we decide not to replace or fix the one situated in the pavilion. However, under Regulatory Reform (Fire safety) Order 2005 (FSO) we have to ensure an appropriate method of fire detection and warning is present along with regular risk assessment. <p>Clerk to explore fire safety and fire risk assessments (FRA) further.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear Councils & Government recommend treating Parish Council's icy pavements and footpaths to avoid claims. Proposing to install a yellow bin with salt grit would be a suitable risk assessment outcome. <p>An accident claim could be made with or without grit but if grit has been laid down it reduces the risk of an incident occurring. Clerk to establish the cost of supplying yellow salt bins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storing Fuel in the green shed can be kept either in plastic container 10L, metal container 20l, demountable fuel tank 30L. <p>A combined maximum of 30L of fuel to be kept in a well ventilated place.</p> <p>Storing more fuel than 30L will need the PC to be registered with local petroleum enforcement authority.</p> <p>The Insurance company need to know the PCs proposal of how much fuel, what kind of container and why we need to store it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Andrew Turner has registered to become a Digital Champion for Sixpenny Handley. Digital Champions offer a free service at weekly surgeries providing help with operating a laptop, a smartphone, gain confidence using on line services or zoom calls. Andrew has been helping local residents from the Crossroads Café and beyond for a while and has now formalised the help he gives by completing the 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>DA/JR/Clerk</p>

	<p>appropriate registration process through Dorset Council. This will provide an excellent service delivered by a trusted individual. Although Andrew is a member of the Parish Council this arrangement is outside of his duties as a Parish Councillor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sixpenny Handley Santa Steam raised £357.88 bringing the overall total raised since 2023 to £1728.65! Thanks to local support.• The Burns Night held on 24th January was a success raising £976.00 for the Community Fund.	
1821	<p>Approve Parish Council Communication Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground refurbishments and new equipment.• Future PC Councillor vacancies when they occur.• The Fire Service’s proposed closures consultation.	

Meeting Closed 8.40pm
These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval
at the next Full meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed;..... 27th February 2026.