

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ZEALS PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON

Thursday 19th March 2026, At Zeals Village Hall

zealspc.org.uk

The meeting was opened at 1901

PRESENT: Cllrs C Spencer, (Chair), J Gray, (Vice Chair), M Gibbons, L d'Ambrumenil, A Patch, D Corbin, P Thomas, L Gilby (Clerk)

PUBLIC SESSION

One member of the public

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT: - Cllr G Jeans

Cllr Jeans told those at the meeting that the Wiltshire Council Local Plan, which had been 9 years in the making had been rejected. At the moment WC are looking at what can be done to move past this, but it does in effect mean there is no local plan as the current one is not effective.

There are moves to change the recycling bin collections, with the food waste staying weekly, the recycling being fortnightly and general waste to be collected every 3 weeks.

ZPC 25/62 TO RECEIVE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

ZPC 25/63 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(i) To consider any written requests for dispensations by the clerk. - None Received.

(ii) To receive any declarations of interest - None Received

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Zeals Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011

ZPC 25/64 MINUTES

Council **AGREED** to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 15th January 2026.

Proposed Cllr d'Ambrumenil, Seconded Cllr Gray

Resolved 7 – 0 - 0
(for-against-abstain)

ZPC 25/65 FINANCE MATTERS

(i) To note the balance of the account. **£10,294.03** (28/02/26) in current account and £90,508.34 in the deposit account.

(ii) The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to pay the following payments and any that come in after the agenda had been sent out.

Account	Amount	

(iii) To note payments paid out under delegated powers:

Flowers for Mrs. W	£50.00	By BACS
Clerks Wages – Jan/Feb	£612.40	By SO
Accounting and Office Services	£164.00	By BACS

Proposed Cllr Patch, Seconded Cllr d’Ambrumenil
Resolved 7 – 0 - 0

ZPC 25/66 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) Applications to consider at the meeting: or any urgent applications that come in after the agenda goes out

PL/2026/00524 - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area 5 x Leyland Cypress trees - fell Respond by 17 February 2026	HIGH VIEW, PORTNELLS LANE, ZEALS, WARMINSTER, BA12 6PG	No Objection
PL/2026/00162 - Householder planning permission Conversion of the original garage into a single-storey residential annexe for occupation by the parents of the applicants, including internal facilities and changes to external fenestration. Respond by 13 February 2026	Lawn Cottage, Zeals, Warminster, BA12 6NH	No Objection

Proposed, Seconded
Resolved 0 – 0 - 0

(ii) Applications considered/determined since last meeting: For Information

Application	Zeals PC Comment	Wiltshire Council Decision
PL/2026/00524 - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area. 5 x Leyland Cypress trees – fell HIGH VIEW, PORTNELLS LANE, ZEALS, WARMINSTER, BA12 6PG	No Objection	No Objection
PL/2026/00162 - Householder planning permission Conversion of the original garage into a single-storey residential annexe for occupation by the parents of the applicants, including internal facilities and changes to external fenestration. Lawn Cottage, Zeals, Warminster, BA12 6NH	No Objection	Approve with Conditions
PL/2024/09763 - Full planning permission Retention of Fountain Cottage as an independent dwellinghouse FOUNTAIN COTTAGE, ZEALS, WARMINSTER, BA12 6NE	Listed as no objection in agenda, but nothing had come through from planning.	Approved with Conditions

PL/2025/09757 - Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area THE RECTORY, PORTNELLS LANE, ZEALS, WARMINSTER, BA12 6PG	No Objection	No Objection
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ZPC25/67 FIRE STATION CLOSURE

To **DISCUSS** what action the Parish can take.

It was asked for members of the public to make their voice known and fill out the public consultation form. This does take a little time as you are asked to put in the reasons you don't want it to shut, this could be the longer response times to a fire (bear in mind that Gillingham is in Dorset and will have to prioritise Dorset emergencies) proximity to A303 and accidents, proximity to Stourhead House. The form can be found on the DWFire website.

Proposed Seconded
Resolved 0 – 0 - 0

ZPC 25/68 PLAYGROUND

To **DISCUSS** and **RESOLVE** quotes for the playground refurbishment.

Cllr Patch has worked hard to get quotes for the refurbishment, discussion took place to compare the quotes and once due diligence on the company chosen has been done, the work can hopefully be given a start date.

Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Gibbons
Resolved 7 – 0 - 0

ZPC 25/69 VILLAGE HALL KITCHEN

It was **DISCUSSED** and **RESOLVED** that in principle the parish council are financially supportive of upgrading the kitchen.

Cllr Jeans suggested the council look at getting a grant from the Area Board. The clerk was instructed to contact the Area Board. Once the council knows if there is a grant available, they will give the go ahead to start on the kitchen refurbishment.

Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Gibbons
Resolved 7 – 0 - 0

ZPC 25/70 SHAFTESBURY RECYCLING CENTRE CHARGE

Booking time slots for the recycling centre is due to start on 23rd March and the cost for those living outside of Dorset will be £8.50

ZPC25/71 ROADS – CHAPEL LANE CONDITION

There is a talked about rumour that Highways may be resurfacing Chapel Lane, but the Clerk was instructed to contact WC Highways about the appalling state of the road.

Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Patch
Resolved 7 – 0 - 0

ZPC 25/72 ASH TREE ON THE GREEN – DOES IT NEED CUTTING BACK?

It had been cut down as it had Ash dieback but is now sprouting new growth. It was decided it needed removing completely. It was asked if it would be replaced by a

different species of tree, but the consensus was that there were enough mature trees on the green. Cllr Spencer will talk to Nick about the work.

Proposed Cllr d'Ambrumenil, Seconded Cllr Gray
Resolved 7 – 0 – 0

ZPC 25/73 ZEALS VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

It was noted that the quote has been accepted for the repair of the village notice and we are awaiting a date for that work to commence.

It was also noted that a donation from a kind villager was accepted towards the repair of the notice board.

ZPC 25/74 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

SID – not very well, possibly got damp and is coming to life when there is no traffic around – update to see if the problem has rectified.

Litter Pick – Congratulations to Cllr Patch for organising the litter pick, but discussion for a date for September

ZPC 25/75 DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Thursday 21st May 2026 (Annual Meeting)

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the matters above in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

The meeting finished at 1957