

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ZEALS PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON

Thursday 21st May 2026, At Zeals Village Hall

zealspc.org.uk

The meeting was opened at 1844

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

PUBLIC SESSION

Four members of the public

A question was asked about the play area upgrade and when the work would start, which led onto a discussion about how the new grass that will, be laid will be watered.

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT: - Cllr G Jeans

As discussed in the Annual Parish Meeting

ZPC 26/01 TO RECEIVE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received

ZPC 26/02 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 26/03 MINUTES

Council **AGREED** to approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19th March 2026.

Proposed Cllr Patch, Seconded Cllr d'Ambrumenil

Resolved 6 – 0 - 0
(for-against-abstain)

ZPC 26/04 FINANCE MATTERS

(i) To note the balance of the account. **£17,091.13** (30/04/26) in current account and £90,586.47 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	
Mark Crabbe (work to village hall kitchen)	£8,340.00	
Community First Insurance (Parish Council)	£579.36 (Yr3 of 3)	
Access First (Seeds4Success)	£1,209.10	
Community First Insurance (Village Hall)	£809.77 /£758.60	Dependant on uptake of long term agreement (3yrs)

AM Light – Grass Cutting, village hall / green / football pitch	£60.00	15/5/26
AM Light – Grass cutting, as above	£60.00	1/5/26

RESOLVED to accept 3 yr insurance premium - Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr d’Ambrumenil
Resolved 6 – 0 - 0
(for-against-abstain)

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

Accounting and Office Services	£164.00	By BACS
Clerks Wages – Mar/Apr	£612.40	By SO
Anthony Chubb (Repair for the village notice board)	£173.50	By BACS

Proposed Cllr Patch, Seconded Cllr d’Ambrumenil
Resolved 6 – 0 - 0

ZPC 26/05 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

PL/2026/02500 - Householder planning permission Longcross Cottage, 12 Longcross, Zeals, Warminster, BA12 6LJ Respond By: 29 May 2026	Install timber cladding to existing garage and reconfigure flat roof to pitched with plain tiles and install solar PV panels. Create log store to side of garage	No Objection
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Proposed Cllr Thomas, Seconded Cllr d’Ambrumenil
Resolved 6 – 0 - 0

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

Application	Zeals PC Comment	Wiltshire Council Decision

ZPC 26/06 END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS

To consider the adoption of the end of year accounts

(a) Acceptance and Approval of Internal Auditors Report for End of Financial Year Accounts 2025- 2026

(b) To consider the Annual Governance Statement and, if approved, to authorise Chair to sign on behalf of Council (Section 1)

(c) To consider Accounting Statements and, if approved, to authorise Chair and RFO to sign on behalf of Council (Section 2)

(d) To confirm the dates for publication of the Notice Period for the Exercise of Public Rights from 1st July to 14th August 2025.

Unfortunately, the end of year accounts and AGAR weren't ready as the Internal Auditors report hadn't come back in time. A meeting will be organised once the IA report is returned.

ZPC 26/07 BINS AT THE PLAY AREA

Discussion centred around whether to keep or remove the litter bins at the play area. Normal waste bins cost £10 - £13 every time they are emptied, dog waste bins will cost upwards of £50 every time they are emptied – so if emptied on a weekly basis it will mean £2,600 coming out of the precept annually, which would mean the precept would have to increase. The PC will need to arrange for contractors to empty the playground bins weekly as they are not the responsibility of Wiltshire Council, although all other bins remain their responsibility. The clerk is trying to arrange a meeting with Wiltshire Council to discuss the siting of the bins.

ZPC 26/08 PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT

The PC are waiting for a start date for the work to commence. Cllr Patch has said she will get a sign for the park once it needs to be shut for the work. Cllr Thomas has said he will get a quote for the extra fencing that needs doing.

Proposed Cllr Spencer, Seconded Cllr Patch
Resolved 6 – 0 – 0

ZPC 26/09 LITTER PICK

A date was discussed for the litter pick and it was decided to run it on the day of the October coffee morning.

ZPC 26/10 SID

SID is not working and has gone back to the manufacturer to be repaired. The cost will be shared with Kilmingdon PC.

ZPC 26/11 SEEDS4SUCCESS INSURANCE PAYMENT

The insurance of £1,209.10 was **DISCUSSED** and **RESOLVED** in the earlier finance section.

ZPC 26/12 40MPH SPEED LIMIT NEW ROAD, ZEALS

The speed limit of 40mph as you enter Zeals from Bourton has been brought to the PC's attention previously and they had sought advice from Wiltshire Highways. The advice given was that there are not enough properties along that stretch of road to constitute a 30mph limit, so it would not be worth following up. SID went up there a month ago but then went wrong after a week (see previous). SID is shared with Kilmingdon Parish Council, and we have it for 6 weeks, then it goes to Kilmingdon for 6 weeks. It was suggested we could contact Bourton Speedwatch and ask them to monitor the speeds.

ZPC 26/13 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Quote from Cllr Thomas for fencing in play park to be resurrected.
Allotments – Cutting back the hedge and clearing unused plots.
Parking at Westfields School

Parking near Post Office

ZPC 26/14 DATE OF NEXT MEETING –TBC 16th July 2026, with a Village Hall meeting beforehand.

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 1955

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