

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 03rd August 2026 @ 7pm Ash Pavillion.

Present: Cllr S Davey, Chairman, Cllrs C Halfhide, Z England & M Trebley.

26/53 Public Forum – no members of the public were present

26/54 Somerset Council, Councillor's Report: August 2026 – due to technical issues no report was available.

26/55 Apologies for absence – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs E Pearlstone, J Bailey, A Groves & T Groves.

26/56 Declarations of Interest – none declared

26/57 To approve and sign minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 06th July 2026. Cllr Trebley noted some minor typos had been notified – Clerk had not received any comments. Minutes approved and signed.

26/58 Matters arising (other than those on the agenda)

- a. Newly consecrated Cemetery – update re fees/rules/regulations. The regulations and fees were approved, Cllr Davey will instruct signwriters to provide a sign with the main rules for installation at the most appropriate location at the cemetery.
- b. Pavillion - exterior tap. Due to the extreme weather, lack of rainfall and condition of the new trees in the play area and recreation ground and in order to expedite this matter, the necessary fittings have been purchased: Agreed that Cllr Davey & Cllr England will fit the tap asap. Awaiting reply from Cllrs A & T Groves regarding water delivery method to new trees in play area/recreation ground. Distance is approximately 168 metres from the corner of the Pavilion to the trees.

26/59 Finance:

- c. **To approve and sign the Bank statements** – July 2026 to date – signed and approved
- d. **To approve and minute payment requests.** See Appendix A – signed and approved
- e. **To approve and sign bank reconciliations** July 2026 to date- signed and approved
- f. **To note tax coding for Clerk/payments to HMRC** – agreed that the Clerk will continue to pay on account to HMRC including NI payments in accordance with RTI return.
- g. **To note transfer 25K to Lloyds 95 day call a/c (24/07/26)** - confirmed
- h. **Update re Hinckley & Rugby.-** Clerk had emailed H&R, no reply had been received – agreed to transfer a further 25K to Lloyds 95day call account. Clerk noted that the current reserves were circa 160K. The meeting considered that these funds should be used rather than simply accumulating. The Pavillion was considered a priority, there is currently just under 40K in reserves earmarked for the Pavillion. It was agreed that Cllrs Trebley & Halfhide would draw up a basic specification of improvements for submission to the Pavillion working party.

26/60 Planning:

Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension, canopy entrance porch and alterations

Location: 11 Back Street Ash Martock Somerset TA12 6NY

Applicant: Mr and Mrs M Dixon

Application Type : Householder Application

Application Number: 26/01556/HOU

No comment from PC, Clerk to reply to SC planning dept.

Clerk to the Council: Zannette Bougourd. Tel: 01935571050

Email: clerk@ash-somerset-pc.gov.uk

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

26/61 Pavillion – update re kitchen door/fire exit – consider fire assessment quote/replacement door.

Clerk tabled quote for fire assessment - £714 including VAT. Cllr Halfhide will contact an assessor to advise the council. Clerk noted that there are currently two signed fire exits – building regulation guidelines note that a building should have two fire exits whenever possible. For buildings holding up to 60 people, one exit is sufficient. The external door located in the kitchen area has a key free exit mechanism which allows for easy exit. To add a panic bar may require a new door or the services of a reputable locksmith. This is pending awaiting report.

26/62 Repair to boundary wall/Churchyard – update re structural engineer report. Cllr Halfhide submitted a contact number for the clerk to contact and instruct a report.

26/63 To appoint new cleaner for the Pavillion. Cllr Halfhide has secured the services of a local cleaner, first clean will be a deep clean, with subsequent monthly cleans. Cleaner to provide clerk with payment details in due course.

26/64 Dog bin emptying quote. – update from Direct 365. Clerk noted that Direct 365 did not service this area, other parishes also have had problems with bin emptying services – agreed to accept Somerset Council's quote.

26/65 Update re playground equipment. – ongoing pending further information and possible funding options

26/66 Note decoration to 'phone box/defib location Milton. The 'phone box has been redecorated; Clerk will send letter of thanks to residents.

26/67 Standing Items:

Boundary fence between houses on Main Street & Recreation Ground/Play Area.

Noted that residents remain unhappy regarding the installation of a fence which may restrict exit if a fire broke out within the properties. Discussion regarding historic usage - ? more than 20 years may give established rights.

Councillor vacancy: Cllrs reminded that the vacancy can be filled by co-option, information and application form on website.

Meeting closed @ 20.25hrs. Next meeting September 7th @ 7pm.

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix A – July 2026

Payment requests:

C Halfhide	Pavillion supplies	£20.65
RA Evis	July lengthsman	235.00
Clerk	CiLCA July	135.66
Clerk	HMRC/CiLCA	30.60