

# Minutes of Queen Camel Extraordinary Parish Council meeting meeting on **Monday 20 April 2026 at 7.30pm**, Main Hall, Queen Camel Memorial Hall

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Present - Councillors John Brendon, Bryan Norman, Phillip Jones, Harriet Chappell and Roy Lawrenson.

Clerk: Kaye Elston

No members of the public present.

## **04/01/2025 Public Session**

Chair opened the meeting but there were no public present to speak.

## **04/02/2026 To RECEIVE and consider for approval, apologies for absence.**

Mr Phillip Hall – these were accepted.

Mr D Hewlett not present

Mr A Davidson not present

## **04/03/2026 To RECEIVE Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

## **04/04/2026 Planning to be considered**

To consider planning applications and **AGREE** to submit comments where appropriate

- **26/0038/HOU Jalna, High Street, Queen Camel, Yeovil BA22 7NF** – this application is not in the conservation area. The plans show that the access road to Jalna is owned by Jalna and it goes right unto the front door of the Memorial Hall. Councillors believed that this was inaccurate, but not a planning matter. Another concern was the design with a flat roof when there are no other flat roofs in the village, ideally a pitch roof would have been preferred but as this roof is not visible from the conservation area no planning objections were raised by councilors. Clerk to submit response to Somerset Council Planning department.

**ACTION: Clerk**

## **04/05/2026 Planning Agreed**

- **26/00725/TCA Clouds End Cottage, Englands Lane, Queen Camel, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 7NN** – Notification of intent to carry out Tree Surgery Works to No.15 Trees and Fell No.2. Trees within a conservation area.

Hazel – full coppice, Spindle Tree, Apple Tree x 2, Thuja, Hawthorne, Leatherleaf Viburnum, Saucer Magnolia, Hawthorne, Plum, Yew, Silk Tassell, Southern Magnolia, Hawthorne and Fig all to have 1/3 Crown Reduction. **Notification only**

## **04/06/2026 Finance**

- To consider a financial commitment to the Somerset Rivers Authority for a grant application to clear the culvert – the Flood Working Group are leading on this piece of work.  
Councillor Chappell advised that there is an opportunity to request a grant up to £20 000 from the Somerset Rivers Authorities (SRA). The application would be enhanced if partnership working could be demonstrated; therefore the Flood Working Group are asking if the parish council could commit some funding to this project. The project proposed for the grant funding requested would be to clear the culvert by The Old School and Henshallbrook on Sutton Montis Lane. A quote has been received in the sum of £14 500 which involves having four engineers on site for six days. Councillor Lawrenson asked if another area by Wales Bridge could also be considered in this project. Councillor Chappell asked for contact details for the solar farm as they have a good drainage system in place and she would like to ask them some more questions

about how they keep their systems clear. Clerk to pass on details as the parish council receive a grant from them each year.

**ACTION: Clerk**

Councillors were in agreement to pledge £500 towards this project but potentially to consider doing in stages as the grant is generally available annually from the SRA.

**Proposed: Councillor H Chappell**

**Seconded: Councillor B Norman**

**All councilors present in agreement**

It was noted that there is a need to request a commitment from The Old School as they are they own part of the culvert. Somerset Council were also contacted as they also have ownership of part of the culvert but they have sent an email back to advise it is on their asset structures register but they do not have responsibility. A formal letter needs to be sent to Highways to understand what they mean by this. Flood Working Group to forward the email to clerk so that a challenge can be considered.

**ACTION: Flood Working Group/Clerk**

Bid needs to be submitted by 26.05.2026. Councillor Chappell to draft the bid and clerk to submit.

**ACTION: Councillor H Chappell and Clerk**

- Additional bank signatory – Councillor Chappell has signed the required application form alongside two councilors and clerk will submit documents.

**ACTION: Clerk**

**04/07/2026 AOB**

- Ashford Homes development – Councillor Brendon reported that villagers have noted that there was a lot of water pooling by the new development in the wet winter months and they want to know what is in place to manage this. The council have been advised of the plans to control water waste on site and how it will be taken away from site once the development has been completed but need to know what happens during the build. What mitigation has been put in place prior to the attenuation ponds being constructed. There was a further question as to how often are Somerset Council planning department are visiting the site during the building process. Councillor Brendon agreed to speak to Tom Griffiths who is managing the site from Ashfield Homes.

**ACTION: Councillor J Brendon**

- National Planning Consultation – the details have been circulated and Councillor Chappell agreed to draft a response and circulate to councilors. This consultation relates to the government proposal to take away the power currently held by parish councils to be able to refer planning applications that are not supported to the area planning committee for a review. Main points to raise are that local knowledge is required to make these decisions which the planning officers at Somerset do not always have because they are not local and working remotely and also the criteria that a development of 9 houses never requires further scrutiny as such a small in number cannot be applied nationally as 9 houses in a small village can be significant.

**ACTION: Councillor H Chappell**

- Heritage Trust – clerk advised she has messaged Councillors Hewlett and Davidson but not received any updates yet. Councillors agreed that Andrew Hoddinott should be contacted as he may be able to action this.

**ACTION: Councillor Brendon**

**04/08/2026 Date of next meeting  
Thursday 07 May at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

