ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of 2nd September 2025
Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr Richard Roberts	Chairman
	Cllr Pat Holdway, Cllr Jane Young	Councillors
	Cllr Rob Hibberd, Cllr Martin Farrow	Councillors
	Cllr Cliffe-Roberts, Cllr Charlotte Clark	Councillors
	Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillor
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	Mr Ian Blair-Pilling	Wiltshire Councillor

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.37hrs, he wanted to raise two motions of thanks and congratulations:
First of all to the volunteer team at the Swan for all their hard work in preparing the pub for re-opening – re-decoration, painting, restoring the furniture both inside and out, stocking the drinks, serving the drinks and not least, renovating the whole garden area and replanting. It has been a huge community effort and very much appreciated.
Secondly, to all those whose quick response averted a potentially disastrous fire in the field behind the Swan and the houses along Longstreet – many of them thatched. The Fire Brigade attended as did many quick thinking farmers who created fire breaks along the edge of the field. Some garden furniture was lost but thankfully the houses remain.

25/068 Apologies
Cllr Hiskett

25/069 Public Question Time.
There were no members of the public present.

25/070 Police Matters and Neighbourhood Watch
The Polic Report had been issued during the afternoon and Cllr Clark reported on the 4 vehicles who had been speeding through the parish. They will all be offered speed awareness courses. Along with the report was notification that the Mobile Police Station will be visiting Enford Village Hall on Thursday 4th September from 5.00 – 5.45pm. The full list of there visits locally has been placed on the Parish Council's website.

25/071 MOD/Army Matters
MoD Liaison officer SSGT (QGI) Ben Whitbread appears uncontactable and was therefore unable to attend the meeting. No report had been sent.

25/072 Unitary Council Matters
WC Ian Blair-Pilling reported :
i. The Planning Application at Highview Farm (the old Mink Farm) has again been turned down by the Planners. This was on three points, the application involved the demolition of buildings which doesn't fit under the permitted development, there was no safe walking route into Netheravon (as claimed) and the lack of sufficient visual splay at the entrance to the site.
ii. WC's outline Plan Consultation still appears to be an 'outline' with no detailed proposal, there is "no meat on it".
iii. Stonehenge Area Board. He is now the Chairman and he and the other members of the Board wish to become more involved and 'hands on' with the issues raised. He wants more involvement from the local communities and the military.
iv. He is also now the Chairman of the Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG).

v. Whilst the speed limit through Netheravon will remain at 40mph, he is not happy with the report written on the year's trial. Vehicles are not slowing down at one of the most dangerous areas which is the hill running south as you enter the Parish.

25/073 Verification of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 1st July were proposed as a true record by Cllr Cliffe-Roberts and seconded by Cllr. Holdway

25/074 Declaration of Interests

There were none.

25/075 Matters Arising

I. ***The Flood Warden's Progress Report – 2nd September 2025***

1.General Update

Since the beginning of March there has been no rain of substance and, therefore, no flood issues to report.

2.Wessex Water (WW)

*i.**Enford Infiltration Reduction Plan**; Enford's Infiltration Plan is a stand-alone document; enford-infiltration-reduction-plan-summary.pdf. This identifies WW's short, medium and long term plans for Enford. The latest update from WW is as follows:-*

-WW were in Enford 13th – 15th Jan undertaking CCTV investigations and, following this, WW advise that; "The infiltration survey has now been reviewed and several sections along the river were recommended for sealing." I'm advised that these works will be completed in their next financial year, beginning April 2026.

*ii.**Manhole Cover Opposite Taylors in Longstreet;** this was reported to WW at the request of a resident as it was making a noise when vehicles went over it (not set evenly) and is cracked. WW have acknowledged it is their asset and will replace it. A road closure will be required and so replacement will not be for circa 3 months.*

3.Wiltshire Council (WC)

*i.**Surface Water Drainage Plan**; we produced a report and marked up plan of the surface water gullies back in August 2024. WC agreed to review this, together with their records, and provide a plan showing the location of gullies and the network of connecting drains. We have now received a plan which is attached. Whilst this is out of date, it is a start and I met the Highways Engineer on Monday the 7th July to try and move forward on the production of a more up to date plan. This was also raised at the Operational Flood Working Group (OFWG) meeting 20th August attended by Ian Blair-Pilling, Richard Roberts and I. IBP was robust in his support of our efforts to conclude this and we have heard subsequently from WC; "We have booked Longstreet, Enford for CCTV for 15/09/25 to 26/09/25. Street works have granted us a closure today, the dates are holding dates for the CCTV however we don't know how many days we can do/need in Enford. We always ask for more than needed with street works, as its difficult to add days or switch from traffic lights to a full road closure. Atkins will be doing advanced warning signage and letter drops to residents and Atkins will also be sending an email to the Parish Council."*

*ii.**Gully Clearance:-***

*iii.**Discretionary Gully Service**; there is a plan in place to provide a gully pumping service across all Parishes and Enford is scheduled for August. We have selected our 5 top priority gullies. Explained at the last OFWG meeting that this was a challenge given we don't know where the pipes run or their condition and, therefore, what our priority gullies might be. Further explained that it would be beneficial to have more than 5 on the target list. This is linked to (i) above and I raised this at my meeting with the Highway Engineer on 7th July. To our knowledge these works have not been undertaken but maybe now superceded by news of their CCTV inspections in September. [This was actually done on 3rd September, the day after the Parish Council meeting.]*

*iv.**Culverts**:-*

-I've been trying to get Wiltshire Council (WC) to identify their surface water drainage assets and to provide a plan. See 3 (i) above. As part of this exercise it has come to light that they will not clear/maintain culverts that run under other peoples' land and have llttle interest in establishing where these culverts run or their condition.
-Whilst this has come as a surprise to me, and no doubt to others, it appears that, unless there is an easement in place saying otherwise, responsibility for repair/maintenance of culverts rests with the landowner.
-My understanding is that there are underground culverts running across land in at least 7 locations. These culverts take surface water from the road to either the water meadow or to the river/drainage ditch.
-It would be good to have a clear understanding of where the culverts go and their condition but in order to do this we would have to have a CCTV survey/jet wash undertaken.
-As a preliminary measure, I have met with a private contractor to help establish a possible way forward. together with a cost. I've also obtained a further quote. These have been discussed with Richard Roberts with a view to establishing a way forward "in principle" at the next EPC meeting.
v.***Operational Flood Working Group (South);*** *chaired by WC and held in Warminster they bring together relevant parties including the EA, Water Companies (Thames Water and WW) and local Flood Groups. I attend with Richard Roberts and they are held bi-monthly. The last meeting was held on 20th August.*

4.Enford Flood Plan

i.The plan needs to be developed and I've made a start. Integral to this is obtaining a plan from WC re their assets (gullies and pipe layout). See above 3 (i).
ii.Access to equipment and materials will also need to be considered within the plan. There would be some benefit in having this centralised, together with other equipment used for the benefit of the Community, and maybe the EPC could consider undertaking a feasibility study to establish whether this is something that should be taken further.

Mark Symonds (Flood Warden)

i.Clearance of the Allotment Site. As the current tenant has decided he no longer wishes to take the site after this year, it was agreed that a working party should be set up in January to completely clear and tidy the site. A skip will be hired for the removal of old pipes, baths water storage, windows etc.
ii. Planters in the Coronation Garden. Thanks go to Sheriff who has kindly made two planters to be installed and positioned back from the road in the parking spaces that are not currently under Licence. Cllr Cliffe-Roberts will also look into the possibility of an electric charging point being installed as there are none between Amesbury and Marlborough.
iii. Carers Support Wiltshire. Based in Amesbury, they are a Charity running a support and advice service for unpaid Carers. They have approached the Parish Council for a donation. The Clerk has been asked to look into this and make enquiries.
iv. Moving the Enford Defibrillator. This has previously been mooted with the obvious position being on the outer wall of the Swan. Its current location at the bottom of Enford Hill has been regularly blocked by parked vehicles rendering it unobtainable. Unfortunately as the Swan is a listed building this would required Planning Permission. It was decided to leave it where it is for the time being. Please DO NOT park in front of the Defibrillator.
v. Shipping Container for central storage. This would mainly be for the storage of salt/grit, tabards, gel sacs, road signs etc. These are currently stored in Jane Young's barn where there is room for them and they are not in the way. The question of a shipping container was discussed – the cost, location for it etc and for the time being, supplies will remain in the barn.
vi. PEAs Scheme. Every year WCC offers a certain amount of salt/grit, gel sacs, tabards, road signs etc for the Parishes. A grit bin audit has been done to ascertain the amount of supplies and equipment that needs to be ordered (by 12th September). The Parish is then responsible for its collection in October.
vii. Annual Playpark Inspection. This has already been booked in with RoSPA for the month of September with a report due in October.

25/076 Resident's issues raised
An issue with overhanging trees was raised at New Buildings. The trees are on MoD land and this has been reported to Landmarc for clearance.

25/077 Finance
i.Cllr Roberts read through the bank reconciliation for July and August.
ii. The Clerk reported that the second tranche of the Precept was due towards the end of September. There is currently a balance of £15,337.63

25/078 Planning Applications
There were no new applications for discussion.

25/079 New Playpark
There was nothing new to report and as previously mentioned, the annual inspection will take place this month.

25/080 Roads and Highways
Cllr Farrow reported he had been chasing WCC for the completion of the upgrade to the A345 entering Enford from the south. The safety aspects (cats eyes and new signage) have still not been completed. He will ask the Parish Steward to clear the areas around the grit bins.

25/081 Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)
It had been reported that the bridleway behind the white cottages is again overgrown. The Parish Steward will be asked to clear this.

25/082 Correspondence
There was no correspondence to be circulated.

25/083 Any Other Business
I. Cllr Roberts mentioned the Government's test alert for mobile phones will take place on Sunday 7th September at 3.00pm
ii. Cllr Young suggested that the Council consider a Fire Warden as well as a Flood Warden. It was felt that people may try contacting a Warden in an emergency rather than going directly to 999.
iii.Cllr Holdway suggested that Enford might trial a Community Larder, as they do in Netheravon. The Clerk will contact them to find out more about how it works.
iv.Discussion was had about the installation of another bin further along Water Lane. Re-location of a less well used bin was suggested. It was also pointed out that it is MoD land. The Clerk will look into the situation.

25/084 Date of Next Meeting
4th November - Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.05hrs

Richard Roberts – Chairman, Enford Parish Council ……..
Dated: 4th November 2025