



Minutes of Teffont Parish Council Meeting

Held in Teffont Village Hall

Tuesday 27th January 2026

Meeting Convened at 18.30	Item No.
<p>Those Present Parish Councillors D Wood (Chair), C Bell, N Blackford, A Chapman, D Cockram, R Shawe-Taylor, C Thompson. Wiltshire Councillor B Wayman Also in attendance: R Taylor (parish clerk) and two members of the public</p>	
<p>Questions and Statements from the public A resident inquired about responsibility for cleaning the roads and how frequently this maintenance is carried out. Also, concern was raised over road safety near the bridge at Springhead where a sign alerting (speeding) vehicles to children and animals has gone missing. The Chairman explained that responsibility for the roads lies with Wiltshire Council and advised that any concerns should be reported via the MyWilts app as this is the most effective way to address issues. The sign was not an official one, but Cllr Blackford will look at reinstating it.</p>	
<p>Councillor Wayman shared information from Wiltshire Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual Great British Spring clean will take place from 13th-29th March. • A proposal at full council to charge a double premium on second homes was voted down. However, a plan to introduce increasing premiums on empty homes—double after 2–5 years, triple after 5–10 years, and quadruple after 10 years—was approved, though I opposed it. I believe charging 400% council tax on homes empty for over a decade is misguided; rather than penalising owners, the council should investigate why these properties are vacant and work proactively to bring them back into use. • The draft budget proposes increasing council tax by 4.9% and making cuts to the link scheme, the parish emergency grants, increasing parking charges and extending the hours of the higher parking fees • Funding is being reduced for the Parish Steward who will be tasked with pothole repair rather than Grip & Gully clearing • WC will no longer supply parishes with sandbags/gel sacs for flood defences. These will need to be purchased by homeowners • There are increasing demands on adult social care and special educational needs 	
<p>PC Henry Pallas emailed ahead of the meeting to introduce himself as the new Neighbourhood Officer covering Teffont as well as other areas. He was unable to attend but sent through the latest report. This included two incidents, one of a car window being smashed using a catapult or similar and one of an oil tank drained of its contents. Details in the link: PCM Report - 200126 Teffont.doc</p>	
<p>MEETING MINUTES</p>	
<p>Apologies for Absence The Chairman acknowledged that all councillors were present</p>	25.11.01
<p>Declarations of interests -Cllr Shawe-Taylor declared an interest in a planning application just submitted PL/2026/00365 for the repair and extension of an existing chimney at Kiln Cottage. This will be discussed with councillors in her absence</p>	25.11.02



Dispensations: -None required	
Minutes from previous TPC meeting Resolved: The Parish Council accepted the minutes to be a true and accurate precis of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 25 th November 2025	25.11.03
Chairman's Report: The SSE grant has been received, and the shipping container and additional emergency equipment have been purchased and delivered. All equipment is currently stored on land at Manor Farm with keys held by the clerk , the chairman and with the emergency plan. Thank you to everyone involved in relocating the equipment, and to Tony Deane for providing safe storage to date. Cllr Wood announced that he will not seek re-election as chairman at the Annual General Meeting in May and will also step down as a parish councillor	25.11.04
Clerk's report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The precept for the next financial year has been applied for • I noticed that the playground signs have deteriorated, and Cllr Bell and Cllr Blackford agreed that ordering a new weather-proof version should be a priority. These arrived this week and have been put up at a cost just over £30 inclusive of VAT • Cllr Shawe Taylor has agreed to be the responsible councillor for defibrillator maintenance. Re siting of the Evias defibrillator plus purchase of cabinet still to be actioned • I have investigated the cost of Rumble Strips as requested: £3,000 - £5,000. It is recommended that they not be laid within 300 yards of residential properties. • I have been in ongoing communication with Wiltshire Council regarding the issues with the SID installation and, in consultation with councillors a solution has been agreed. • The Parish Council have received an invitation to enter the Best Kept Village competition for 2026 • Correspondence was received regarding the state of the roads- particularly the painted white lines and speed signs. The increasing presence of dangerous potholes along the B3089 • There has been a repeated request to have the chevron sign reinstated on the B3089 bend by the village hall • Ongoing correspondence has been received from the member of the public who disrupted the last council meeting. He has requested a copy of the complaint's procedure, which has been provided. 	25.11.05
FINANCE	
a) The council approved the additional expenditure for (i) storage container (ii) additional emergency equipment, (iii) new, weatherproof signs for the village hall play area and (iv) costs for the installation of a regulation post for SID b) The council confirmed that the parish accounts for the period December–January, previously circulated, had been fully reconciled and were accurate. c) The council approved the financial forecast for the forthcoming financial year as prepared by the RFO.	25.11.06
Dates for Parish Council Meetings for 2026-2027 were agreed and approved: Saturday 23 rd May -Community Gathering	26.01.07



<p>Tuesday May 26th -AGM Tuesday July 14th Tuesday September 1st Tuesday October 20th Tuesday December 8th Tuesday January 26th Tuesday March 16th</p>	
<p>The Teff Cllr Blackford confirmed that the Teff at Springhead is flowing again after being dry for almost six months. Since the last meeting, the Environment Agency (EA), following concerns raised by TPC, the local MP and others, have agreed to investigate the impact of water extraction at Fonthill. The results are expected in December. Earlier studies in 2009 estimated that this extraction reduced water flows by about 20%. Charts provided by Wessex Water were displayed showing Teff flow, ground water levels, rainfall and Fonthill abstraction. The Teff Group seeks to engage further with Wessex Rivers Trust and Natural England to evaluate the merits of granting the Teff SSSI designation. Former Cllr Deane will also be involved in this group alongside Cllr Blackford and Cllr Cockram.</p>	26.01.08
<p>Flood Mitigation Cllr Thompson provided updates on progress with flood mitigation. There is progress although some projects are waiting for plans and funding to be finalized. The Flood Mitigation Group aims to put a progress bulletin out on 'info' soon.</p>	26.01.09
<p>Emergency Planning Cllr Chapman confirmed that all emergency equipment is accounted for and safely stored in the new shipping container on land at Manor Farm. The plan for an emergency would be to collect the necessary equipment and deliver it to where it is required. During the Community Gathering in May the Emergency Planning Coordinators will briefly revisit the plan and share essential information on contacts and access to equipment.</p>	26.01.10
<p>Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The traffic survey on the C277 has been completed and now requires reporting. The Highways Working Group will consider the report's findings and report back to the council. Cllr Bell's preliminary observation is that, whilst average speeds are not excessive, there are some alarming outliers, and some large articulated lorries do use this road. • Cllr Bell also asked that landowners be reminded that spring is approaching, when faster growth will require extra maintenance of footpaths and other public rights of way. • The clerk agreed to contact WC regarding the reinstatement of the white edge lines on the B3089 in the village and the replacement of the missing chevron sign near the village hall. 	26.01.11
<p>Concern over Works Traffic in Evias Neighbours have raised concerns about an excessive number of vehicles associated with the works at Teffont House being parked along the road and around the corner in Evias. The clerk informed the council that an email had been sent to enquire when the new car park for Teffont House would be brought into use to alleviate this issue. The council agreed that greater engagement is needed, along with reassurance that parking will be managed sensitively when the hotel opens.</p>	26.01.12
<p>Speed Indicator Device -SID</p>	26.01.13



<p>Cllr Chapman informed the council that following a notification from Wiltshire Council, it was agreed that the Parish Council would fund the installation of a new, regulation, permanent post for the use of the SID on the east entrance to the village. Resolved: The council approved the funding of the new post Should the cost escalate, an application to the Teffont Trust for assistance will be considered.</p>	
<p>Defibrillators The council are currently discussing the feasibility of positioning the defibrillator from Teffont house in an external cabinet on the outside of Enderley, next to Teffont House. If successful this will be a prominent location in Evias, with 24-hour accessibility and the device can once again be registered on the circuit for the use of all, particularly the emergency services.</p>	26.02.14
<p>Planning Under delegated authority, the clerk submitted the council's comments on planning application: PL/2025/09632 – Householder Planning Permission -Replacement outbuilding and associated landscape works. The Malthouse, Teffont, Salisbury SP35QY. “No objection to proposals relating to the pool house. Regarding the impact on trees, some thought and care has been given to minimise the impact. It is clear from the report that the successful retention of the trees in the area depends on the quality of the protective measures following the work and as advised (see 6.1), an effective way of ensuring this would be to refer to the Arboricultural method Statement (appendix 3).” Tree applications have been received for The Malthouse and Riverside. Our tree warden has assessed all but one as reasonable and recommended no comment. However, concerns have been raised regarding the presence of nests in an oak outside the applicant's land. Resolved: The council agreed that this observation should be put as a comment on the planning application.</p>	26.01.15
<p>Annual Litter Pick The council agreed to hold the annual litter pick on Saturday 28th March. Volunteers are invited to gather at the village café at 10.30am where they will be treated to a coffee and a cake paid for by the parish council before collecting equipment and dividing areas to litter pick. Resolved: The Council agreed to cover the cost of refreshments</p>	26.01.16
<p>Best Kept Village (BKV) The council considered whether entry to this year's best Kept village Competition was feasible. Of greatest concern was the lack of volunteers and a group to coordinate efforts. The closing date for entries is 19th April so the decision will be made at the next parish council meeting</p>	26.01.17
<p>Any other Business The council were alerted to the drainage ditch outside French Furze is filling up with mud. The Parish Steward is currently being diverted to pothole repair.</p>	26.01.18
<p>Items for the next agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement of Annual Accounts • Review of Regulatory Documents • Decision on BKV 	
<p>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 31st March 2026 at 18:30. To be held at Teffont Village Hall unless otherwise stated</p>	

Close of Meeting approximately 19.35