



Minutes of Teffont Parish Council Meeting
Held in Teffont Village Hall
Tuesday 25th November 2025

Meeting Convened at 18.30	Item No.
<p>Those Present Parish Councillors D Wood (Chair), C Bell, A Chapman, D Cockram, R Shawe-Taylor, C Thompson. Wiltshire Councillor B Wayman Also in attendance: R Taylor (parish clerk), PC Matt Boon and four members of the public</p>	
<p>Questions and Statements A resident expressed alarm and echoed previously stated concern of others in the village that a vehicle is parked outside a house on Hindon Road giving the false impression that the area of bank cleared there is in use as a vehicle access. They questioned the status of the situation; is this a case of a precedent being set which in time would designate this as a legitimate parking/access point on this horribly dangerous road? Where do we stand as a village to prevent this? The chair said that the Parish Council shared these concerns and he expressed regret that the person responsible was not present to respond to this question. The PC understands that the opening was created without appropriate authorisation and, although there is currently no enforcement action in place, it remains an unauthorised access point. Wiltshire Council is currently reviewing what further enforcement action can be taken.</p>	
<p>Councillor Wayman: Expressed dismay over the budgetary restrictions at Wiltshire Council and expects some services to incur new charges and others such as parking fees to increase.</p>	
<p>Two members of the public arrived late to the meeting. On the basis that if they had been present for the previous question posed by the public, they might have responded to it, the chairman offered to extend the opportunity for them to speak. Two statements and a question were then read out by a member of the public to the effect that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He had made offers to discuss with the Parish Council matters relating his property but that he had received no reply. • and that 'the majority' of properties in Teffont have no planning permission for their drives or licences to cross [presumably private] property. <p>He then asked for confirmation that the Parish Council's address for legal service is the parish clerk at Reads Cottage – The question was answered in the affirmative by the chairman</p>	
<p>PC Matt Boon - also arrived slightly late to the meeting The November report was presented whereby an incident of poaching/hare coursing was recorded and a case of two unknown individuals entered a driveway and examined parked vehicles. When the camera alert sounded, they fled, but one struck the camera with a torch before leaving. PCM Report - 251125 Teffont.pdf</p>	
<p>MEETING MINUTES</p>	
<p>Apologies for Absence Chairman Wood acknowledged those present and accepted apologies from Cllr Blackford who had work commitments.</p>	25.11.01
<p>Declarations of interests -None received</p>	25.11.02



<p>Dispensations: -None required</p>	
<p>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 30th September 2025</p>	<p>25.11.03</p>
<p>Chairman's Report: The Power Line Burial Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nigel Start (Savills Land Officer) has confirmed that full approval has been granted for the AONB and SSEN scheme to bury the overhead power lines crossing the water meadows, passing French Furze and over Clarendon Stud. This will greatly improve the outlook and reduce power cuts in the village. Work is scheduled for 2026. The Council would like to formally thank the landowners involved – Chris & Lucy Thompson and Simon & Carolyn Mabey – for their cooperation over several years of site visits and discussions, and for the disruption they will experience during the works. A formal thank-you also goes to Emma Worth, who as former Chair of TPC was instrumental in getting the project approved and underway. <p>New Union Flag for the Village Hall Thank you to Chris & Lucy Thompson for generously gifting a new Union flag to the village ahead of Remembrance Sunday. This replaces the one they gave us four years ago which has finally collapsed.</p> <p>Powering Communities to Net Zero (SSEN) I am delighted to confirm that our application for a Grant from the Powering Communities to Net Zero Resilience Fund has been successful, and we have been offered a grant of £2,604.00 for the purchase of a storage container for emergency equipment required in the event of power outages and storms. Any assistance in accommodating the container when it arrives would be most welcome</p>	<p>25.11.04</p>
<p>Clerk's report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WC have provided the parish with 200 additional gel sacs for householder use in the event of a flood. The offer has gone out on 'Info' and a list of requests has been collated ahead of delivery – which Tony Dean kindly offered to undertake. We have received a £280 invoice from WC for the uncontested elections held in May. This cost will recur every four years. As agreed in the last meeting an unauthorised vehicle access at a hazardous point on Hindon Road was reported to Southern Highways and is being dealt with by the WC's planning enforcement team. We have received several emails from a property owner complaining about other properties in the village. These have been shared with councillors. We have also received two FOI requests and a SAR all of which have been answered and have taken up a great deal of council time. Request made to WC re rumble strips, no response. Graffiti on the sign situated on the corner of Ox Drove and A303 has been reported to WC. A fallen tree blocking the Coffin Path was reported and promptly cleared by landowners. The parish council has received an email from WC objecting to the position of SID and demanding its removal. 	<p>25.11.05</p>



PC Boon, Cllr Wayman and a member of the public left the meeting at this point	
FINANCE	
<p>Parish Accounts (October 2025): The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) had previously circulated the Parish Accounts for the period October 2025 for approval, along with the bank reconciliation statement</p> <p>Resolved: The council confirmed that all accounts for October had been fully reconciled and were accurate.</p>	25.11.06
<p>Precept Application</p> <p>The RFO presented an overview of the council's current financial position, including projected income and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year. Based on existing commitments and no further spending, an overspend of approximately £500 is anticipated. However, potential additional costs for a new defibrillator cabinet and for regulatory posts and sockets for the SID could amount to a further £1,000.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded that the precept directly impacts council tax and residents' costs. After considering the projected overspend and rising costs, Chairman Wood proposed a 6% increase to next year's precept. All Councillors present supported the proposal.</p>	25.11.07
<p>The Teff</p> <p>Cllr Blackford updated the clerk ahead of his absence from the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The springs have not yet come back to life. They have been dry for up to 5 months. • John Glenn our MP has written to the CEO of the Environment Agency about lack of engagement from the EA • Dalene Ellis from the EA has written saying that the EA will re-investigate abstraction and its impacts. The first report is due out in Dec 2026. If they find abstraction is impacting the flow then they will act in the period 2030-2035 25.10.19 General Enquiry response (002) - ENQ2025_36916.pdf • Jon Gilling a water resource specialist from the EA visited the Teff on 7th Nov with Ian Colley and Alex Martin from Wessex Water. They observed flow was strong through the lower village but diminished markedly upstream, becoming dry near the top spring. Wessex Water's monitoring since 2022, now expanded for the AMP8 investigation, will gain useful data from the very dry conditions in 2025. • While it is great that the EA seem to be taking an interest, my concern is that by the time they act, the upper part of the Teff will have become at best a winterbourne and at worst a dry ditch • We have had a response from Natural England about next steps to get further recognition and protection (yet to be acted on). <p>Cllr Blackford feels that we need to gather a group together to agree next steps and a more in-depth briefing will be given at the next PC meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Cockram agreed to be part of this group and suggested raising the profile of the concerns in the media.</p>	25.11.08
<p>Flood Mitigation</p> <p>Cllr Thompson reported that the group had a TEAMS meeting a few weeks ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wiltshire Run Off Scheme are reassessing the work planned for the Evias Estate with the EA to ensure no unforeseen outcomes prior to implementation. • A landowner to the north of the village has been extremely helpful, working with the WRO and agreeing to three grips and possible other measures to help divert floodwater from the C277 and into Springhead. 	25.11.09



<p>Highways Cllr Bell presented the council with evidence both supporting and opposing the use of Rumble Strips on rural roads. Research indicates that speed reduction is typically less than 3 mph, and potential noise impacts on neighbouring properties would need careful consideration. The council is still awaiting the traffic survey results for the C277, which will help determine any necessary actions. Resolved: The parish council will await results of the traffic survey before making any decision on Rumble Strips</p>	25.11.10
<p>Speed Indicator Device -SID Cllr Chapman informed the council that following a notification from Wiltshire Council, the SID was removed from its position at the east entrance to the village on the B3089 on 21/11/25. During its brief installation, it proved effective, with our local police speed enforcement officer noting a 40% reduction in speeding vehicles entering the village, though an increase was recorded when leaving where the SID was not operational. Recognising errors in the initial installation, the council are now seeking assistance with grant applications to help fund the regulatory hardware needed to reinstate the SID correctly.</p>	25.11.11
<p>Defibrillators The council discussed relocating the village defibrillator currently positioned at Teffont House as overnight access is restricted due to ongoing building works. A new, prominent location in Evias, with 24-hour accessibility—has been identified. Formal permission for this site must be obtained, and, if approved, an all-weather cabinet will be required at an estimated cost of £500. Resolved: The council agreed to proceed with the new location subject to permission being granted and approved the purchase of an all-weather cabinet.</p>	25.11.12
<p>Planning Under delegated authority, the clerk submitted the council’s comments on planning application PL/2025/07603 ENDERLEY, TEFFONT EVIAS, SALISBURY, SP3 5RJ Proposal: Minor internal alterations and refurbishments, change of use from holiday let to letting bedrooms, conversion of outbuilding to form private dining, and reinstatement of stone wall to the front.: “Teffont Parish Council is generally supportive of the application, particularly welcoming the reinstatement of the low front wall. A minor concern was noted regarding potential overflow parking; however, subject to this being appropriately managed, no objections were raised.” Tree applications have been received for Fitz Farmhouse, The Holt & Font House. Our tree warden has assessed them as reasonable and recommended no comment</p>	25.11.13
<p>Any other Business Councillors discussed the delay in planting at Fitz Orchard and appreciated that the village are being kept informed.</p>	25.11.14
<p>The Chairman ended the meeting at this point after a member of the public, who had previously raised concerns about access, caused a disturbance and refused to remain quiet. Following the meeting, the Chairman issued an explanatory note outlining the rules of conduct for Parish Council meetings and clarifying what constitutes unacceptable behaviour.</p>	
<p>NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 18:30. To be held at Teffont Village Hall unless otherwise stated</p>	

Close of Meeting approximately 19.45