

YOULGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September 2025

Present: Councillors: Mick Ashforth, Anne Blenkinsopp, Graham Elliott (Chair), Dee Frith, Leah Goodwin, Sue Hallam, Nicola Humphreys, Andrew McCloy and Richard Roper

In attendance: Matthew Lovell – Clerk + 1 member of the public

3588 Apologies for Absence

Council accepted apologies from Cllr Ken Clayton

3589 Variation of order of business and Clerk's request for time constrained items

No variations required. Planning applications can be included under 28 day return rule.

3590 Declaration of Members Interests

No interests to declare.

3591 Public Speaking

- a) Public – no matters
- b) PCSO Boswell sent apologies and noted 2 thefts and 3 non-community issues since his previous report.

District Councillor Laura Mellstrom noted the PSPO has been passed but DDDC has no officers allocated to enforcing BBQs and Fires and hopes the notices will deter those lighting them and give the backup to the Rangers and Police to deter. Her meeting with Platform Housing has raised the matters on Westcroft with higher management who have promised a dedicated contact for councillors to get passed the general enquiry system and that issues will be resolved shortly. Grants for Toilet Blocks are open and the clerk will apply.

3592 To confirm the Non-exempt minutes of the previous council

RESOLVED to confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July. The minutes were agreed for signature by the Chair.

3593 To determine which if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded – none

3594 Planning decisions/applications received since last meeting. Planning related matters

Decisions received: none.

Planning Applications for discussion:

NP/DDD/0825/0825 – Sweet Briar Conksbury Lane – extension to Dwelling

Council supports this application which is in keeping with extensions to surrounding properties. It hopes the stone will be reused to assist in keeping a similar appearance.

Other: no matters

3595 Footpaths and Highways

Clerk has sent photos of the exposed cable at the Bradford crossing to National Grid to give it better protection under the river,

3596 Report from Village organisation representatives:

Village Hall – lots of repairs and maintenance are being carried out. The pantomime preparations have commenced.

Waterworks – the new tank awaits connection and commissioning. The pumps are working hard but fortunately the secondary supply level remains just above the pump intake so Severn Trent not yet needed. A leak on New Road will see that section switched

off on a Saturday morning in the near future as this section includes the school. A valve will be inserted to remove this necessity in future and notices will be posted once a date is sorted.

Scout and Community Youth Hall – 6th September Open Day was well represented by all the user groups with the Mural officially welcomed. A new YSCYH letter box with wording to note the history of building in 1992/3 on the site of the Scout Hut was donated by the WI.

Council were formally asked to support the Village Fireworks on 7th November again and gave approval subject to Risk Assessments being provided.

Reading Room – no report; CLT – awaits planning decision and funding

Bowls Club – reported a new club uniform and an extension of the season with floodlit “A” league matches into October. All are welcome to the 2 all day events 28th September and 19th October.

3597 Report of the Clerk / update on: -

a) Charity 520537 assets:

Playing Fields – ALPF – a cricket ball risk assessment has been commissioned by the cricket club. The clerk read the meters yesterday for handover to football and noted the tidy state and empty fridges in the main room. Junior football has played its first match.

Council approved a letter to the information commissioner to clarify the rules on private cameras watching a public playing field.

The WI were thanked for carrying out a litter pick on 7th September.

The playing fields inspection took place on 24th July with agreement that a pole behind the slide mound for additional cctv was masked by the trees so a suitable position. Council agreed to go ahead with the installation subject to seeing if funding is available from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

HLTB – The loo seat was replaced due to a broken fixing but has since been knocked off and repaired again. The smart meter is being changed by Yu Energy on 31st October after 3 self-cancelled bookings.

ALPF Car Park Surface – tarmac was laid on 8th September having been delayed by the road closure. Playday 2026 – 18th July. A request for our viewing cctv for several hours for a stolen flag was considered but the location isn't covered directly so the police do not consider it a worthwhile exercise and council concurred as our policy is not to view footage but hand it to the police.

(b) CE Car park/field, Allotments and other assets

Allotments – Plot 1 has been cut back by a keen new holder who is preparing it all but has yet to decide how much to take on. Inspection – 3 plot holders were written to regarding unworked plots – 2 have promised to increase efforts. A general complaint of not keeping weeds down especially on boundaries will go in the renewal letter. The DDDC PSPO decision including Dog Exclusion Areas was approved last week. Owing to sightings of dogs on the top allotments a letter will go to all holders reminding them that clause 7d of their agreement states that no other animals (bar chickens and rabbits) are permitted and that a dog exclusion zone is in force.

CE Toilet Block – soap awaiting reorder as YPO not yet acknowledged the non-delivery. Defibrillators – all ok. Honesty boxes have all had the QR codes renewed today – more permanent signs will be investigated. The telephone kiosks both need repainting and few volunteers have come forward- (Holywell Lane awaits the removal of the equipment before it is officially handed over).

(c) Sports Pavilion Sub-committee – Clerk has contacted and had a Teams meeting with TG Escapes – a Sectional Panel design and build company for sports pavilions meeting FF and Cricket conditions. Their ideas were agreed for circulation to football and cricket for comment. An enquiry for a sports/walkers carpark idea is taking first steps. Council agree

that a price be sought and then a village meeting to ask for commitments of help in whatever capacity they wish to volunteer. A PDNPA Pre-App will be then submitted to get the official views and fund raising started.

(d) Conksbury allotment holder request for PC management investigation
Followed up on 4th September but no response from Diocese.

3598 Items for Information

DALC – news and training, PDNPA per e-news circulated. Parishes Day is on 10th October

3599 Finance

a) Resolved to approve the following:

	Payee	Net	VAT
ub	HM Lovell	£738.49	
ddr	NEST	£63.74	
Ub	YU Energy HLTB	£23.83	1.19
ub	YLCC mowing alp	£687.50	
ub	DBS mowing CE	£120.00	
ddr	BGaslite monthly Pav	£24.97	1.25
ub	BG CE electric	£32.76	1.64
ub	HM Lovell (expenses sept)	£28.60	
ub	L Godfrey – final report	£525.00	
ub	George F Fox	£5500.00	1100.00
ub	CCFairies	£550.00	
ub	HMRC	£581.28	
ub	AJG Hiscox Insurance renewal	£2553.92	
ub	PKF Littejohn external audit	£315.00	63.00
ub	HML – pavilion boards	£72.67	14.53
ub	DBS mowing CE	£120.00	

Income Sumup £180.58+£48.70 HLTB £87.83+£22.73 CE £1001.89+452.74 ALPF £71.11+£31.79

(b) Budget Appraisal/Risk Assessment

Balance @ 16th September CoOp £2199.62
CoOp Dep £5226.01
Unity current account £40061.56
Unity savings account £10775.06

6 month accounts were reviewed

3600 Date of next meeting – 21st October 2025 Youlgrave VH Community Room 7:15pm

Exempt Items – none

The meeting closed at 8:05 pm