

MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 10th June 2025 at Hemerdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Nicholson, Lee, Hutton-Fellowes, Serpell Denman, Webb, Sophie Jones (Clerk)
In attendance: Cllr Carson (DCC), Cllr Thomas (SHDC)

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

73/25 Apologies for Absence

Cllr May (SPC), Cllr Edie (SHDC)

74/25 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II

All agreed. Councillors noted that one item of business would be considered in Part II of the meeting.

75/25 Declarations of Interest

Nothing declared.

76/25 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Carson circulated his report prior to the meeting. He discussed that the biggest challenge at present is the SEND budget and it's been running at a deficit for a few years. The rural farming grant has been stopped. There are upcoming meetings in June 2025 regarding Local Government Reorganisation. Cllr Carson is currently heavily involved in the B3417 road in Hemerdon and how it is affecting the three adjacent parishes. Upon attending the site recently, he witnessed the antisocial behaviour. Ivybridge Neighbourhood Police arrested a motorcyclist and have been using a special drone team. Cllr Carson also noted that he will be visiting Hemerdon Mine on Wednesday 11th June with Sue Penaluna for a site walkaround and discussion.

77/25 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Thomas attended the meeting to update the council members. Chairmen and Clerks have been invited to discuss the Local Government Reorganisation. It was noted that the boundary changes would cost money and there should be strong and robust justification for doing so. Cllr Thomas is happy to discuss with Parish Councillors the best way to consult with the public.

78/25 Public Forum

No public present

79/25 Hemerdon Mine

Marica sent her apologies but invited any questions via email.

80/25 Local Government Reorganisation

Local Government Reorganisation was discussed in the District Report and County Report above.

81/25 Planning

- a. 1238/25/FUL - Object
- b. 1502/25/FUL – Comments submitted

82/25 Minutes

- a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 13th May 2025

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 will be approved and signed at the next parish council meeting on Tuesday 8th July 2025.

83/25 Updates from ongoing projects (Climate Change, Biodiversity, Roads, Trees) – to receive any updates from local ongoing projects/issues.

Cllrs Nicholson and Webb are proposing to install speed awareness signs within Hemerdon. The possibility for installing a VAS at Sparkwell was discussed. Installation spots need to be found – potentially a pre-existing lamppost.

CLERK – *Collate pictures and prices of signs and email to Cllrs. Also, ask Cllr Carson if the road markings can be refreshed.*

Cllr Hutton-Fellowes had a meeting regarding reducing/eradicating Himalayan Balsam. It's an invasive species which erodes the banks. Will be working to get rid of it.

84/25 Chairman's Business

Nothing raised.

85/25 Correspondence

All correspondence circulated prior to meeting.

86/25 Finance

- a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for June 2025.
- b. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments for June 2025.
- c. Annual Return/Audit
 - i. Cllrs considered and **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25
 - ii. Cllrs considered and **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Accounting Statement 2024/25
 - iii. Cllrs considered and **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption 2024/25

87/25 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7pm** on **Tuesday 8th July 2025** at **Sparkwell Parish Hall**

Meeting closed at 21.18

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed

Name Date