MINUTES OF SPARKWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on 10th June 2026 at HEMERDON VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs May, Davis, Erasmus, Vinall, Webb, Sophie Jones (Clerk).
In attendance: Cllr Carson (DCC)

Part 1 (Open to the Public)

63/26 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Serpell Denman sent apologies, which were unanimously accepted.

64/26 Agreement of the Agenda between Parts I and II

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

65/26 Declarations of Interest

Nothing declared.

66/26 Co-option of New Councillors

The new members were co-opted onto the council and signed the Declarations in the presence of the clerk.

67/26 County Councillor's Report

Cllr Carson informed the council that the outcome of the Local Government Reorganisation consultation will be on the 19th July. There is a consultation to make the speed limit of B3417 40mph. Cllr Carson has supported this consultation. If there are no public objections it will go through with just the agreement of Cllr Carson and the Chair of HATOC. However, if there are adverse comments it will have to go to the HATOC committee for a decision.
It was noted that the LLG meeting with Tungsten West is on Wednesday 17th June at 5pm.

68/26 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Edie was not in attendance but sent his brief prior to the meeting. This was circulated by the Clerk.
ACTION *– Clerk to upload details of the new waste collection time onto Facebook and the website*.

69/26 Public Forum

There were no members of public present.

70/26 Hemerdon Mine

There were no representatives of Tungsten West present.

It was noted that Cllrs spoke to Dr Laura Smith at Leeds University. Dr Smith wanted to write a report on local mines and the environmental impact.

71/26 Planning

a. 1263/26/ARC - Support
b. 1392/26/VAR - Support

72/26 Minutes

a. Councillors considered the minutes of the Parish Council meetings on Wednesday 1st April 2026 and Wednesday 6th May. The meetings were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

73/26 Road Warden

No updates.

ACTION *– Clerk to follow up with the road entrance to Langage Business Park and the dirty water run off blocking the road. Speak to Cllr Carson.*

74/26 Updates from ongoing projects - to receive any updates from local ongoing projects

a. To discuss the proposals from LMCA regarding the football goals, wendy house, pergola, church font installation, adding gravel under picnic benches, polling station.

Cllr Erasmus has noted that a football goal has been donated and the LMCA would like to keep it on the field at Bottle Park. It will be stored at the compound out of season and stored on crates overnight to prevent wildlife getting trapped.

Cllrs discussed and **RESOLVED** to grant the LMCA permission to keep the football net on the field at Bottle Park.

Cllrs discussed and **RESOLVED** to grant the LMCA permission to add chippings/gravel under the picnic benches.

Cllrs discussed and **RESOLVED** to grant the LMCA permission to add a wendy house and pergola to the field at Bottle Park. Cllr Erasmus will research prices and update the council.

ACTION *– Clerk to add the football nets to parish council insurance.*

75/26 Concerns raised within the parish – to discuss any issues raised within the parish

a. To discuss the dangerous trees at Lee Mill Bridge (details circulated) and ownership of that specific area of land

ACTION – *Clerk to write to landowner and request that he survey the trees as soon as possible to check if the trees are safe to the public. Also send a copy of the letter to the parishioner affected.*

76/26 Chairman's Business

Cllr May noted that Andy Hartley would like to rejoin the council. Cllrs would be delighted to have Andy back on the council.

ACTION *– Clerk to add Co-option of New Councillor to July's agenda.*

Cllr Vinall has asked what the process would be if the village hall no longer had a Board of Trustees. It was noted that if the committee falls, then the village hall would fall back to the management of Sparkwell Parish Council as Custodian Trustees. It was noted that the current committee at Sparkwell Parish Hall do a fantastic job.

ACTION *– Clerk to email Lynda at Sparkwell Parish Hall to confirm the above.*

ACTION *– Request Lynda send me the play inspection report and speak to James regarding checking the price quoted.*

77/26 Correspondence

Clerk has circulated all correspondence prior to the meeting.

78/26 Finance

a. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the budget analysis report and bank reconciliation for June 2026.
b. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the payments list for June 2026.
c. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to agree the insurance plan with Zurich for £996.80
d. Annual Return/Audit
   i. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26
   ii. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Accounting Statement 2025/26
   iii. Cllrs reviewed and **RESOLVED** to approve the Certificate of Exemption 2025/26.

   Cllrs also noted the dates of the Exercise of Public Rights will be Monday 15th June 2026 to Friday 24th July 2026. The Internal Audit Report was reviewed and an action plan discussed to correct any issues that the internal auditor has raised.

79/26 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at **7pm** on **Wednesday 1st July at Sparkwell Parish Hall.**

Meeting closed at 21.00pm

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed ……………………………………………………………….

Name ………………………………………………………………. Date ………………………………………….