

BAWD RIP PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of Bawdrip Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall, Eastside Lane, Bawdrip on Tuesday, 7th July 2026 at 7.30 pm.

Present: - Parish Councillors: Mrs K Bradley (Chair), Mr P Clarke, Mr E Crane, Mr D Rayner; **Clerk** Graham Jarvis, together with three members of the public.

Public Speaking Time: Topics raised – various highway issues.

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32. **Apologies for Absence, Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations.**
Apologies for absence were received from Parish Councillor Mr R Culverhouse due to holiday (accepted) and from Ward Somerset Councillor Mr A Dingwall. No disclosures of interest were made.
33. **Minutes of Previous Meeting.** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd June 2026 were presented. The minutes were approved and signed as a complete and correct record.
34. **Matters Arising not included in agenda items below: -**
 - a) **26 - Somerset Age Uk-Dementia Wellbeing Project:** The Clerk confirmed that a letter of support for the grant application to Hinkley Point C had been sent and acknowledged.
 - b) **29a iv – Chair of Somerset Council Awards for Services to the Community:**
A nomination from the Parish Council was agreed.
35. **Somerset Councillor's Report.**
In the absence of the Ward Members, Mrs Bradley referred to a briefing sheet which had been forwarded by a Ward Member. Topics covered included sale of commercial property, debt management, adult social care and planning performance.
36. **Local Emergency Planning Arrangements.**
Mrs Bradley had circulated a draft report to Councillors for potential adoption at the September meeting.
37. **Climate Emergency Activities.**
Further to Minute 23 – 2nd June 2026; Mrs Bradley was pleased to report that the first raised bed in the Community Garden was in place. Other items associated with the project were being ordered. The supply of water was a problem and various options were being explored.
38. **Planning Matters.**
 - a) **Application 04/26/00003**
Type: Full Planning Permission.
Location: 330 Bath Road, Bawdrip

Proposal: Erection of 2No. storey side extension and single storey rear extension on site of existing garage & lean to (to be demolished). New detached garage and garden building.

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Lang.

Resolved that the Local Planning Authority be notified that the Parish Council has no comment to make on the proposal as submitted.

b) Decision notified by the Local Planning Authority and recorded: - None.

c) Somerset Local Plan

A decision was made to hold an extraordinary meeting to agree the Parish Council's submission on the Scoping Consultation. Date to be confirmed pending on availability of the Parish Hall. *(Later confirm as 22nd July 2026)*

d) Other Planning Matters. - None

39. Financial Matters.

a) The following Payment was approved: -

Campaign to Protect Rural England – Membership – £36.00 – Cheque No. 805.
(Made under the provision of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972).

b) Other Financial Matters – None.

40 Reports from Parish Councillors and the Clerk on events attended or planned.

The Clerk had attended an on-line briefing about the Local Plan – Refer to Minute 38c above.

41. Roads and Footpaths.

a) Outdoor Gym Area – Potential Improvements.

No further news.

b) Report from the Parish Path Liaison Officers.

Mr Clarke read the report dated 5th July prepared by Jackie Curtis and Jo Stanhope-White. Cutting back vegetation to keep paths clear was their current priority and were grateful for a volunteer who had come forward to provide assistance. Village walks have been suspended due to the exceptional warm weather. A vote of thanks to Jackie and Jo for their endeavours was passed unanimously. (A copy of the report is appended to the signed copy of these minutes).

c) Flooding Issues – None.

d) Visibility Splays.

i) New Road/Barton Close.

Pursuant to Minute 28e – 2nd June 2026; Mrs Bradley and Mr Clarke confirmed that they had taken measurements of splays. The matter had been referred to the Highway Authority as the distances were believed to be inadequate.

ii) Other Locations.

Members were aware of other sites where residents considered that visibility was impaired due to vegetation on privately owned land. It was recommended the residents concerned should take photographs and forward to Somerset Highways.

e) Pot Holes, Bawdrip Lane.

Mrs Bradley and Mr Clarke had reported to Somerset Council several pot holes in on that road. Some had since been marked by paint in readiness for repair.

f) Ragwort

A resident had brought to the Council's attention that Ragwort was growing in a number of places in the village. However, as it was not believed that any was present on land owned by the Parish Council there was agreement that no action be taken

g) Eastside Lane.

Members noted that signage had been placed by Somerset Council at the foot of the hill before the Parish Hall stating that the road was unsuitable for cars. The action was thought to be due to sunken surfaces further along. However, as the road was a "dead end" there was concern that residents may become isolated. Mrs Bardley promised to contact one of the Ward Members to find out more information.

h) Barn Owl Nest Box.

Mr Rayner reported that representatives from Hawk and Owl Trust had recently inspected the box which contained three eggs. The box had been obtained by the Parish Council from the Trust – Minute 93c - 2nd December 2025 refers.

42. Correspondence.

The Clerk reported that the since the previous meeting the following items had been circulated to members by email: -

a) Somerset Council.

i) Avalon and Poldens Local Community Network.

Health and Wellbeing Working Group – Notes of meeting 4th June and agenda for 1st July meeting.

Highways Working Group – Notes of Meeting held 23rd May.

Reminder of LCN AGM – 2nd July.

Notes of extraordinary meeting held 3rd June.

Somerset Prepared Community Resilience Day 2026 – Wednesday, 21st October at Millfield School, Street.

ii) Hinkley Point B – Emergency Planning Community Feedback invited on proposal to amend off-site emergency planning arrangements.

iii) Somerset Local Plan:

a) Recording and presentation Slides of the City, Town and Parish Briefing held 10th June.

b) Launch under Regulation 20 Scoping Consultation – 19th June to 24th July 2026.

iv) Parish Information Sheets: -

- a)** £50 Million Flood Reliance Fund awarded to Somerset
- b)** Care Quality Commission Assessment of Somerset Adult Social Car service – rated as “Requires Improvement”
- c)** Change in Council Office opening hours
- d)** Somerset Rivers Authority _ Grant Information.
- e)** Red heat Health Alerts and Updates.
- f)** Changes in rules regarding publication of Councillors’ private addresses – Agreed that the Clerk would email Councillors regarding the new default situation and options.

b) Environment Agency: -

- i)** Somerset Flood Recovery Update June 2026.
- ii)** Public consultation on an application to change Hinkley Point C’s permit to operate standby diesel generators.

c) Cognitive Meda Group Ltd – Details of Housing, Planning and the politics of Space seminar – 23rd July.

d) Les Fletcher and Emery Taylor – Somerset Bus Franchising Proposals – Views and support invited.

e) Somerset Association of Local Councils: -

- i)** Details of training events: July – August.
- ii)** Health and Wellbeing Newsletter – June Edition.

f) Somerset Wildlife Trust – Invitation to be involved with “The Big Count” 18th – 27th June.

g) SSG Secretariat – NULeaf Newsletter – May 2026.

43. Retirement of Clerk & Responsible Financial Office.

Mrs Bradley reported that the Clerk & RFO had decided to retire later in the year and was willing to continue until a successor was in post. There was agreement that a working party comprising of all Parish Councillors would be formed to oversee the recruitment process.

44. Topics for future Meetings: – Local Plan Update on the Process.

Potential Provision of a second defibrillator

45. Date of next Meeting – Tuesday, 1st September 2026 at 7.30 pm. (Extraordinary meeting subsequently arranged for Wednesday, 22nd July at 7.30pm)

Meeting Closed 9.00 pm.

Chair