

Cary Moor Parish Council

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“Draft” Minutes of Cary Moor Parish Council (PC) Meeting held on
Tuesday 28th July 2026 in North Barrow Community Hall, commencing at 7.15pm

Councillors Present:

Mark Main (Chairman)
Terry Bird
Kevin Horne
Jim Shannon
Andrew Wake

Martin Roberts (Vice Chairman)
Kevin Cressey
Ross Perkins
Martin Trott

In attendance: The Clerk.

❖ **Public Question and Comments:** None present.

❖ **Reports from Somerset Council:** None present.

26/45. Apologies for absence:

To receive any apologies for absence.

RESOLVED: Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllr Marie-Helene Robinson. Somerset Councillors Henry Hobhouse and Kevin Messenger also tendered their apologies.

26/46. Declarations of Interests:

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any Pecuniary or Other interests they may have under the Localism Act 2011 and NALC Model Code of Conduct adopted May 2022. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

RESOLVED: Cllr Roberts declared an ‘Other’ Registerable Interest at item 26/50.b.i. as a member of Lovington Parochial Church Council (PCC) and would speak on the matter as a member of the public but would not take part in any discussion or vote relating to the PCC.

Cllr Trott declared an ‘Other Personal Interest’ at item 26/54.a. as the son of the landowners on whose land footpath WN 18/4 was blocked and would provide an update as a member of the public.

26/47. Minutes:

To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council and ordinary meeting held on 19th May 2026.

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

26/48. Co-Option to Fill Vacancy on Parish Council:

To consider applications received and conduct vote to fill vacancy on the Parish Council by co-option and receive Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

RESOLVED: There was one eligible candidate for the vacancy, Mr Kevin Cressey, who was co-opted unanimously onto the Council for the parish of North Barrow and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office prior to joining the Council.

26/49. Planning:

- a. **To consider the following planning applications (PA):** None received.
- b. **Somerset Council (SC) Decisions:** None.

26/50. Parish Council Accounts:

a. **Balance of the Council's Bank Account and Bank Reconciliation:**

To receive the full council accounts and bank reconciliation.

RESOLVED: The Clerk previously circulated the PC's Accounts, which were agreed and Barclays bank balances at 10th July 2026 of £28,634.70 in the Business Premium account and £504.65 in the Community account were reconciled, approved and signed.

b. **Accounts for payment:**

To receive and approve a schedule of items of expenditure (incl. VAT):

- | | |
|---|---------|
| i. Lovington PCC Churchyard Maintenance Grant | £500.00 |
| ii. NBCH reimbursement of replacement paediatric pads for defibrillator | £139.14 |
| iii. Clerk's allowances & expenses Apr to Jul 2026 | £123.75 |
| iv. NBCH Cary Moor Annual Parishes Assembly refreshments | £50.45 |
| v. Donation – Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance CPR & Defib session | £50.00 |

RESOLVED: All items of expenditure were approved unanimously.

b. **Requests for Grants:**

- i. Little Steps Toddler Group – funds towards running costs.

RESOLVED: Councillors considered the Toddler Group's request, submitted with a copy of its latest accounts and agreed unanimously to approve a grant of £350 for FY 2026/27. Councillors also agreed unanimously to make a routine grant of £350 for the following three financial years (ending 31 Mar 2030), which will be paid upon receipt of the annual accounts; councillors hoped that this would enable the Group build a better financial plan.

- ii. North Barrow Community Hall Committee (NBCHC)– funding towards bleed kit £229.

RESOLVED: Following a brief discussion councillors agreed unanimously to refuse the request as they considered that there was minimal need in such a rural setting as North Barrow; the need for a bleed kit would be much higher in an urban setting such as a larger town or city. However, it was agreed that if the NBCH Committee would like to explain in more detail the possible need for a bleed kit, the request would be considered at the next meeting on 8th September 2026.

26/51. Update on site meeting with Andy Barron, Somerset Council (SC) Traffic Engineer re:

- a. Request for Lovington Village Signs to be erected on North Barrow & Hornblotton approach roads respectively.

RESOLVED: Locations agreed with A Barron and signs to include 'please drive carefully' were consistent with the other villages within the joined parishes. Councillors approved the cost of supplying and installing the two Lovington village signs, which would now be just over £850.

- b. Request for speed mitigation measures in vicinity of the double bend adjoining the Old Chapel and Lovington Primary School.

RESOLVED: Installation of additional 20mph roundels painted on the road surface and pedestrian signs either side of the double bend were agreed with A Barron subject to him finalising the exact locations and would be funded by SC. Landowners would be contacted asking them to cut back and maintain their overgrown hedges, which were obscuring the important speed limit and warning signs. A Barron noted that there was insufficient room available within highway limits to provide a footway on the edge of the carriageway around the double bend. He felt provision of 'speed humps' or School 'Wig-Wag' signals would be inappropriate in this location. The PC noted and agreed with A Barron's view that in highway safety terms, it would remove any risk arising to pedestrians from the south walking via the double bend if instead they used the existing public footpath and gate lying to the east of the

school site, or if the School preferred, an additional gate erected adjoining the Elliot classroom leading via the school grounds to the main pedestrian entrance gate by the car park.

c. Request for 30mph speed limit to be extended from north of railway bridge at Lovington, southwards, to the church.

The Clerk previously circulated the following comprehensive response from A Barron: "There are a list of requirements that have to be fulfilled before a speed limit reduction can be agreed to by the Highway Authority. These include the number of residential properties with direct access onto the particular road, the current speed data, the geography and layout of the road and the number of recorded injury collisions on the road.

The layout of Lovington Road is typical of most rural Somerset country lanes with blind bends, high hedges and straight sections but essentially barely or not wide enough for two vehicles to pass, together with a relatively high volume of agricultural vehicles.

Speeds are consequently normally kept fairly low for these reasons and certainly rarely anywhere near the national speed limit (NSL).

In this case, having checked our Speed Compliance Tool which contains speed data, it shows that along this section, all day average speeds range from 14mph up to 24mph, which would be favourable for a lower limit from this aspect but you have to ask, would it really be necessary, if speeds are already below 30mph. The reality is that some drivers will take less care than others but even with a signed limit in place, drivers with that mindset will rarely comply.

The spread of residential houses along the road by my calculation is 14 over a roughly 700 metre length but the minimum requirement is 20 over a 600 metre length of road to be considered.

In addition, there have been no recorded injury collisions within the last five years. Again, this would not be favourable for consideration but obviously no crashes is a good thing. If agreed, any such work would need to be funded by the Parish Council. It is indeed an involved process and can take many months to come to fruition."

RESOLVED: As Lovington Road did not meet most of the requirements, Councillors agreed unanimously not to pursue the extension of the 30 mph speed limit.

d. Installation of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs).

The Chairman reported that A Barron provided a list of SID suppliers and advised that it may be worthwhile contacting other parishes to see which devices they use and how reliable and user friendly they find them. Chapter 8 training would be a requirement also for whoever is responsible for maintenance of the devices.

RESOLVED: The Chairman agreed to research in more detail SIDs available and would agree locations within Lovington and Alford with SC and members of the B3153 Traffic Management Joint Working Group and report back to a future meeting of the PC.

26/52. Assessment of Historic Fingerpost Refurbishment:

Report - Cllr Perkins.

RESOLVED: Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the cost of any materials used to refurbish the historic fingerposts in the joined parishes would be reimbursed upon receipt of invoices.

26/53. South Barrow Noticeboard:

Update as to whether board to be repaired or replaced – Cllr Perkins.

RESOLVED: Cllr Perkins reported that he would assess and repair the notice board if possible. If the board was beyond economic repair, the PC agreed to purchase its replacement.

26/54. Rights of Way Working Group (RoWWG):

a. Blocked Footpath WN 18/4 North Barrow – update.

RESOLVED: Although Cllr Perkins had yet to walk the section of the footpath that passed through the landowners' garden, he confirmed that the other gates along the footpath were still

padlocked. Cllr Trott again confirmed that the path through the garden was open, following installation of a stile. Once Cllr Perkins had checked the access through the garden, SC Rights of Way Warden, Eve Wynn, would be contacted to ask her to contact the other landowners and ask them to remove the padlocks from the gates on their land and appropriate signage installed.

26/55. Items for Report and Future Business:

- a. Grit bin process 2026. Councillors to inform the Clerk on grit levels in the village grit bins; Alford's grit bin is full.
- b. Telephone Kiosks. Cllr Shannon asked for the refurbishment of the Lovington phone kiosk to be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. The Clerk and councillors wished to record their thanks to the volunteers in North Barrow who were currently refurbishing their phone kiosk.
- c. CPR and Defibrillator Training. Cllr Bird reported that he had been asked if the PC could fund another training session with the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. Councillors agreed that if there was a need for a second session for those who were unable to attend, the PC would approve a second £50 donation towards the training.

Next meetings: Ordinary meeting date 8th September 2026 at 7.15pm in North Barrow Community Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signed:

Dated: