

MOSTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Robert Fry Clerk/RFO: Leanne Way

FULL COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of the full Parish Council Meeting of Mosterton Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 commencing at 7.00pm at The Village Hall, Main Road, Mosterton DT8 3HG.

Councillors Present: R. Fry, A.House, C.Lamb, G. Paget, C.Monks (Dorset Council)

Officers Present: E.House to take minutes (Stand in for L.Way)

2026/01/01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Clerk Leanne Way and PCSO Alex Bishop.

2026/01/02 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest have been received.

2026/01/03 Minutes

Council approved the minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2026.

2026/01/04 Matters Arising

- All matters have been dealt with or are on the agenda for further discussion.

2026/01/05 Public Forum

Following the recent visit of DCC drainage dept who met with Cllr Lamb and Cllr Paget to look at various issues in the village, a member of the public was pleased to say that the drainage in Axe valley close that had been flooding seems to have been temporarily fixed. It does still flood but not to the level it had been since clearance of the top of the drain area. Hopefully when the council dept returns to rod the drain fully it will alleviate the problem. Cllr Lamb has not received a return date for this yet. (Action chase up)

It was discussed that the team said gully clearing is done only bi-annually. It was felt that this is not sufficient due to the silt build up.

Some other areas in the village have been looked at – it's noted that at the north end of the village the council have added concrete diversions which has helped divert the water into the drain, so it doesn't miss it. This will be monitored by the Cllrs.

A member of the public queried whether the scrap yard sign was staying. Cllr Fry said the business owner had confirmed they had permission to keep the sign in place.

A member of public questioned why the area behind the church had not been included in the proposed development within the council plan. The Cllrs were not sure as to why this is. Planning was in place for development here but unsure as to whether this had lapsed.

The volunteer group attended an issue of flooding at NUMBER 32 Naomi close to the sandbags and help divert water. The tenant of the property has been in touch with the landlords and is awaiting a survey and hopefully a plan to stop this happening again. The Cllrs are happy to nudge the landlords on her behalf if necessary. The volunteer group will keep Cllrs updated (next meeting)

Chairman:

Date: 10th March 2026

Public discussion over the river. The young tree has been moved backwards due to the bank erosion as it was not felt it would survive the last river overflow. It was felt that the silt builds up just under and past the road bridge had built up a lot of the years and having it removed would benefit the flow of the river. Cllr Craig Monks & MPC were asked to support by contacting the EA (Environment Agency) & MP Ed Morello to see what could be done. Cllr Paget to email photos of river to Cllr C Monks. C Monks will also investigate the ownership of the river so the pc can be clear on who accepts responsibility for what.

2026/01/06 Dorset Council Matters

Cllr Monks read the following report.

Drainage Issues

Thank you to the Parish Council and local residents for raising concerns about drainage. A combined effort ensured the Highways team attended and carried out proper rodding. I've also been chasing Highways regarding routine maintenance across the ward, including the village. They have assured me that rodding and gully clearance will continue. I am also making enquiries to see if the drain that is not maintained by Dorset is adopted but the Council now that the previous developer no longer exists.

Mobile Signal Improvements

Work to improve mobile coverage in the Mosterton/South Perrott area is ongoing. Engineers were ready to submit a planning application, but land ownership issues have delayed progress. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon.

Devolution Update

The Council is progressing toward a Mayoral system. I personally do not support this due to concerns over increased costs to residents, reduced democratic process, and the risk of centralising decision-making rather than true devolution. There is still a long way to go before final decisions are made.

Crossing survey

I am still chasing the team responsible for the crossing survey for their new policy so that they can redo the survey assessment for the village.

Budget and Council Tax

The Dorset Council budget-setting process is ongoing. It is anticipated that council tax will increase by 4.99%. I have not yet seen the final budget details but will be monitoring allocations for core services such as highways maintenance.

20201/01/07 Dorset Police Matters

No report was received.

2026/01/08 Planning Matters

No planning applications received.

Chairman:

Date: 10th March 2026

2026/01/09 Financial Matters

- The finance report and payments list were received. Council resolved to pay the following:

Supplier	Description	Amount
Village Hall	Hall Hire	40.00
Clerk	Salary 2 months – Nov/Dec – 48hrs	667.96
Fry Commercial	Village Maintenance	48.00
HMRC	PAYE	167.00
Footprintz	Newsletter	110.00
One.Com	Domain Name Change	21.59
G.Paget	Playarea Repairs	283.21
Microsoft	Subscription	84.99
Lloyds	Charges	8.50
Clerk	WFH Allowance/Office Expenses	125.00
C.Paget	Tape/Screws	56.78
C.Lamb	Poo Bags	15.99
David Landscapes	Grass Cutting	264.00
C.Russell	Play Area Repairs	50.00
Total		£1943.02

Receipts	Description	Amount
Interest	2 months	19.01
Total		£19.01

- Bank statement was circulated and **approved** pending query DJ Landscapes.
Total of both Accounts as 13/01/2026 = £29,971.46
- All Cllrs **agreed** unanimously to retain Barker-fox for the audit
- All Cllrs **agreed** unanimously to the Clerk Pay Scale 15 and to backdate the payment as required to April 2025.
- Precept increase from £16,100 to £17,670 **agreed**. Proposed Cllr Fry, Seconded Cllr Lamb

2026/01/10 Volunteers Update from Cllr Paget

Since our last report, the weather has continued to be very much against us on Tuesday mornings whether it rained off or is far too cold.

However, we have still completed some jobs over and above the usual litter picking, keeping the gardens tidy and replanting with winter flowers, and the last of the grass cutting for 2025, In addition to the above, the small trees alongside the river have been replanted further back from the river edge.

Ken Hussey (play park inspector) on his first visit recommended that nonslip heavy-duty tape was fitted to some the wooden bars on the Agility Balance Trail and the ramp leading to the cable way start (zip wire) this work has been carried out by the volunteers.

The grass verge above the Mosterton triangle has had its brambles cut back to the main hedge, we are now hoping to extend the width of the grass verge in this area. Work has already started to try and achieve this.

Chairman:

Date: 10th March 2026

The path at the top of Orchard Way has been cleared and widened.

Rob Fry arranged new posts to the central fence and one of the side fences in the play park and volunteers replaced all the broken and missing rails.

2026/01/11 Other Council Matters

Play area – Zip wire repairs underway. Various nuts and bolts that needed tightening have been done by an unknown person. Thank you to whoever did this.

The small slide needs repair. Cllr Paget is trying to find a carpenter/joiner who can quote to fix this to the inspector's requirements. Cllr House suggested a local resident who may be suitable and will pass details to Cllr Paget.

Fencing in park has been repaired.

Blackthorn – suggests to regularly top off along with nettle area to encourage the grass growth before resorting to using chemicals due to the area being used by children and being close to the river.

Should this be necessary in the future to use someone with a approved license for spraying.

Pothole concerns near to bus stop in centre of village being a risk for accident near children's bus stop. Cllr C Monks will raise this with David Carey and reported that villagers can and should report any potholes using the council website with an accurate location, so they get added to the repairs list. Any that cause a safety concern as above let Cllr monks know also so he can raise them as a problem.

Reports that the Mosterton sign is down on the south end of the village – this needs to be reported to highways.

White lines have worn away and not been re-painted at the south end of the village. Wheatly cross junction is not clearly marked in advanced as a junction which raises safety concerns. This can be reported online also as a road safety concern. Let Cllr Monks know the reference numbers and he can chase.

2026/01/12 Correspondence Received

- All correspondence was dealt with prior to the meeting.

2026/01/13 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 10th March 2026.

Meeting Closed 8.26pm

Chairman:

Date: 10th March 2026