

Box Parish Council

29th October 2025

Minutes of the Box Parish Full Council meeting held at 7.30pm on 30th October 2025 at The Pavilion, Box, SN13 8NT

1. Present:

Cllr T Walton (Chair)	Cllr H Parker
Cllr M Tye (Vice Chair)	Cllr R Leach
Cllr R Davies	Cllr S Roche
Cllr N Ingledew	Cllr B Walton
	Cllr P Chamberlain (Wiltshire Councillor)
	Cllr Ruth Hopkinson (Wiltshire Council, Vice-Chair)
Clerk – S Vickery	

2. **Apologies**: Apologies were received as follows. The Council was quorate.

Cllr R Duncan	
Cllr R Haslett	
Cllr I Johnston	
Cllr P Wragg (Wiltshire Councillor)	

Absence: Nil.

4. Public Question Time:

There were 4 members of the public present.

- 5. **Declarations of Interest**: There were no declarations of interest.
- 6. **Previous Minutes**: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 25th September 2025 were taken as read and signed as a true record.
- 7. Chair's Announcements.
 - a. The Chair asked everyone to note the Remembrance Day event on 9th November.
 - b. The Chair confirmed, with deep regret, the resignation of Cllr Dorey; his commitment would be missed.
- 8. **Committee minutes** and reports from chairs:
 - a. **Personnel Committee** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 29th September 2025 were submitted and agreed.

- Resolved. Having successfully completed Probation, it was unanimously agreed that the OSW will be elevated from scale point 4 to 5 and in his role as Cleansing Op will be elevated from scale 2 to 3.
- ii. **Resolved**. Having successfully completed Probation, it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk will be elevated from scale point 27 to 29 (Clerk left the room for this sub-item).
- iii. **Resolved**. It was unanimously agreed to endorse the new Training Policy and the revised Appraisal Policy.
- iv. **Resolved**. It was unanimously agreed to spend a maximum of £1,250+VAT, within budget, on battery operated power equipment for the Grounds team and cleaner.
- b. **Planning Committee.** The Minutes of the Meetings held on 25th September and 13th October 2025 were submitted and agreed.
- c. **Buildings Management Committee**. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th October 2025 were submitted and agreed.
 - i. Resolved. That the preferred site for the potential extension of the Pavilion to house a parish office is Option 2 for Site A (cricket field side); with the next step being a working group (to include Pavilion user groups) to refine this Option. There are no further budget issues with the recommendation. Cllrs discussed some minor amendments which would be taken forward by the Committee and the Buildings Working Group.

9. Items for discussion:

- a. **Budget setting.** Part One of the budget planning process was complete, with a follow up planned for 9am on 29th November to refine the planning work, in order to inform the January 26 submission of the Precept.
- b. Meeting of the Trustees of the Deed of Gift for the Recreation Ground. The Clerk explained the recent direction received from the Chairity Commission regarding the separation of responsibilities as trustees and councillors; therefore it was agreed to hold a short meeting of the Recreation Ground Trustees at 7pm on Thursday 27th November 2025 prior to the full Council.
- c. **Veteran Tree at Alcombe**. There was a discussion on whether to accept the liability from Highways at Wiltshire Council for the Veteran tree at Alcombe and then to consider its subsequent management. The Clerk confirmed that the tree can be added to the Parish asset register under the extant public liability cover. Tree Parts Ltd have quoted £1,240 in Year 1 and £1,500 per year (excl VAT) thereafter to manage the asset (with some additional free work).
 - In principle, it was agreed to adopt the Veteran tree and to accept the liability from Wiltshire Council. It was acknowledged that trees are a significant part of the Parish heritage and character.
 - ii. Given concerns over the overall scale of tree management costs (as a percentage of the Precept), the Open Spaces Committee was directed to engage with Tree Parts to reduce costs where possible.

- iii. Cllrs did not want to set a precedent and future requests to protect trees would be considered on a case by case basis.
- d. **Christmas staff and councillor event**. It was agreed that the Christmas and Staff drinks would be held on Thursday 18th December at 6pm in the Pavilion. There would be a long-service certificate for the OSM.
- e. **Schedule of policies**. The new schedule of numbered policies was noted. The new IT policy would firstly be presented at the Finance and Governance Committee.
- f. **Wild Waters Festival** 2026. Cllr Parker updated on the latest plan to hold the major WWF event every 2 years. There was scope to stage a minor event in the intervening year; she asked fellow councillors to help advertise for an organiser, noting that Wessex Water and other environmental groups might be keen to engage. The Chair noted that 2026 would see 185th anniversary of the Brunel Tunnel and the centenaries of the Recreation Ground and the CPRE.
- g. **Welcome to the Parish letter.** Cllr Parker updated on the proposed note to all new arrivals in the Parish; councillors were very supportive and passed on their thanks. A link would also be placed on the website.
- 10. **Correspondence**. To receive any urgent correspondence.
 - a. **Middlehill Car Park**. The issue of closure at the car park space at Middlehill will be considered at the at the Open Spaces Committee on 10th November.
 - b. **Open Spaces Society**. A proposal has to become a member of the Open Spaces Society £45 pa will be considered at Open Spaces Committee.
 - c. **Box School Fun Run (with paint dye)**. The request to use the Recreation Ground on Sunday 16th November by Box School was noted and agreed; the School would be asked to acknowledge the agreement by using the line......by kind permission of the Box Parish Council.

11. Finance Accounts.

- a. The outstanding **accounts for payments** were agreed and the income and expenditure reports for September and October were presented now in a new format. The Clerk also explained the highlights from the October Statement of Balances. Copies of these documents are at Annex A.
- b. End of Audit period AGAR 24/25. The Clerk presented the comments and observations from the External Auditors. Although there were minor comments, the Auditors have approved the Council accounts. The quarterly bank reconciliation checks are now done regularly.
- 12. **Representative Reports**. Chair's Diary, Representatives' reports and report from County Councillors.

- a. Cllr Ingeldew confirmed that a grant request letter has now been received from Selwyn Hall.
- b. Cllr Chamberlain provided feedback from Wiltshire Council:
 - i. The new Council is to promote equity, 'fairness for all' and engagement with budget-setting.
 - ii. He greatly valued recent visits to Hazelbury Manor and to the Parish highways with Cllr Davies, the Chair and the Senior Highways Engineer.
 - iii. He was asked to provide feedback to Wiltshire Council on the importance of protecting trees and bio-diversity
- c. Cllr Hopkins also provided feedback from the Area Board:
 - i. She would check the policy on tree TPOs.
 - ii. There was a discussion on the vexed topic of SIDs in the Pasrish she confirmed that this was raised at the Area Board and would continue to be a challenging topic until resolved. She would check some of the statements for accuracy from Council officers. The Chair emphasised the need for consistency and clarity from Wiltshire Council.
- 13. Future Agenda and General reports. Items of report and future Agenda item:
 - a. Pond on the Lower Common. The Clerk would check the insurance implications if a small pond was constructed on the Lower Common.
 - b. Cllrs wished to thank the Area Board for the recent Tennis grant, in addition to the Community First grant of £10k and the successful bid for £18k from the Great Western Community Forest project.
 - c. The Grounds team were to check the scaffold pole arrangement prior to erecting the Poppy dispay.
 - d. 16th November there will be a Cemetery working party. More seeds and bulbs might be required.
 - e. In light of the recent resignation, the need to readvertise for co-opted councillors was emphasised.

14. Dates of forthcoming meetings:

Finance and Governance	3 rd November
Open Spaces	10 th November
Highways	17 th November
Full Council	27 th November

15. Date of next meeting – as above, 7.30pm on Thursday 27th November 2025.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm

Signed Chair.....

Annex A - Finance Documents

Statement of Balances

Statem	ent of Balances						
as at	27-Oct-25						
Lloyds				Rep	presented in the following Fund	s	
	Current Account	£11,288					
	High Interest Acct	£106,061			General Reserves	£171,036	
			£117,348				
	Less payments to go out	£866			EMR - Sickness cover	£7,000	
	Working balance		£116,482		CIL 22/23	£1,310	
					CIL 21/22	£2,218	
Lloyds					CIL 20/21	£18,403	
•	Fixed term deposit	£25,000			EMR Rudloe & Boxhill	£15,441	£17,500 removed for RCC
					EMR Cemetery	£15,700	
	Balance in Lloyds		£141,482		EMR Pavilion	£32,363	
					EMR Planning & Cons	£6,841	
Tennis Ac	count	£10,338			EMR Playing Fields	£11,500	
			£10,333		EMR Office	£11,568	
Investme	ents				EMR Highways	£8,236	
	Bath Buiding Soc	£85,947					
	Nationwide	£63,854					
			£149,801				
Total Fun	ds Value		_	£301,616		£301,616	

Summary Income & Expenditure

Finance & Gov		Cemetery		Monthly Summa	ry of Expendit	ure - Sep 25		Finance and Go	vernance
		· ·							
Row Labels 3 S	um of F&G	Row Labels	Sum of Cemetery	Finance & Governa	ince	£494.24		Row Labels	■ Sum of F&G
Amazon Prime fee	8.99	Fountain Timber - Cemetery Fenc	e 661.48	Playing Fields		£1,303.35		Bank interest	5.87
bOnline internet	44.8	J H Jones Cemetery Contract	739.44	Pavilion & Building	S	£574.66		Gift Aid donation (t	enn 1250
Castle Water	30.83	Grand Total	1400.92	Cemetery		£1,400.92		Grand Total	1255.87
Lloyds Charges	5.87			Planning & Conser	vation	00.02			
Microsoft	87.49	Planning & Conservation		Boxhill & Rudloe Op	oen Spaces	20.00		Playing Fields	
Octupus Energy - Office electric	35.62			Personnel		£10,606.80			
Office Gas	36.37	Row Labels	▼ Count of Planning	Highways		£1,836.00		Row Labels	▼ Sum of Pl Fields
Westcare Supply Zone - Printer in	103.27	Grand Total			Total		£16,215.97	Bowls Club contra	ct 580.17
Wilts Council lease Jubilee Centre	50							Bowls Club materi	als 169.5
Wilts Council NDR car park	91			Monthly Summa	rv of Income			Football Income -	
Grand Total	494.24	Boxhill & Rudloe Open Space	95	,	,			Grand Total	924.67
Orana rotat	101121	Dominia a maatoo opon opaso	,,,	Finance & Governa	nce	£1,255,87		orana rotat	024107
Playing Fields		Row Labels	▼ Count of Box & Rud	Playing Fields		£924.67		Pavilion & Build	inge
rwyingriews		Grand Total	- Count of Dox & Hud	Pavilion & Building	8	£1,479,53		i uvidon a buita	11183
Row Labels J S	um of Pl Fields	Orana rotat		Cemetery		£1,071.10		Row Labels	▼ Sum of Pavilion
Avon Sports (Bowls) Contract	580.17	Highways		Planning & Conser	vation	00.03		Defib donation	1263.28
Avon Sports (Bowls) Materials	169.5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Boxhill & Rudloe O		00.03		Pavilion hire	216.25
D Fletcher B&Q (membrane roll)	17.9	Row Labels	▼ Sum of Highways	Personnel	Jon opacco	20.00		Grand Total	1479.53
Hills Waste	148.37	Beazer Elect - Valens Lights	1836	Highways		20.00			
ROSPA Safety Inspection Play are	232	Grand Total	1836		Total		£4.731.17	Cemetery	
Water2Business	15.41	Orana rotat	2000		Total	-	2-1,7-02.127		
Wilts Council NDR Pay & Rec	140	Personnel						Row Labels	▼ Sum of Cemetery
Grand Total	1303.35	reisonnet						Headstones	400
Orana rotat	1000.00	Row Labels	▼ Sum of Pers					HF Lettings - Lodge	
Pavilion & Buildings		DBS Checks	43					Horse Field rental	33
. uriusii u zuituiiigs		Giff Gaff	6.67					Grand Total	1071.1
Row Labels J S	um of Pavilion	HMRC Payments	4088.67					Orana rotat	207212
bOnline internet	36.08	NEST	433.23						
Feminen Hygiene Initial	33.36	Novuna (Mower)	330						
LP Property	382.8	Octupus Energy - Chapel	12.62						
Water2Business	15.42	Octupus Energy - Tractor shed	27.17						
uru o uunnan on	107	Salaries	5665.44						
Wilts Council NDR Pav & Rec									

Finance & Governance		Cemetery						Fin & Gov	
	₹ Sum of F&G	B	V 0			0.105		D I . I . I .	0
RowLabels		Row Labels	Sum of Cemetery	Monthly Summa	ry of Expenditure	- Oct 25		Row Labels	Sum of F&G
A 3 Colour prints - S vickery Amazon Prime fee	12.6	6 monthly NDR Chapel and C		F: 1.0		7.755.40		Castle Water refund	25.02 100
	8.99	A L King - Lodge roof repair	385	Finance & Gover	nance	7,755.42			
bOnline internet	44.8	Boston Seeds	215.83	Playing Fields		2,490.94		Grand Total	125.02
Gallagher insurance - 6 month Premium	4075	J H Jones Cemetery Contrac		Pavilion & Buildin	ngs	4,260.63			
Gallagher insurance - Cyber	367.36	LP Property	66	Cemetery		3,303.42		Playing Fields	
Grant - Corsham Wind Band	1000	Octupus Energy - Chapel	12.15	Planning & Cons		80.00			
Grant for trail leaflet - Barry Cox	250	Paul Emerson - Chapel porc		Boxhill & Rudloe	Open Spaces	104.99		Row Labels	Sum of Pl Fields
Lloyds Charges	5.38	Grand Total	3303.42	Personnel		9,040.60		Bowls Club contract	580.17
Octupus Energy - Office electric	40			Highways		115.71		Football Income - pitch	70
Office Gas	40.74	Planning & Conservation	1		Total		27,151.71	Football Income showers	70
Phil Mclounan IT support Office	40							Tennis income	90
PKF - Audit fee	840			Monthly Summa	ry of Income			Grand Total	810.17
Poppy sewing - Bron Walton	43.96	Row Labels	Sum of Planning						
Selwyn Hall - lamp post electric	35.59	Marilyn Tye - Fountain rail pa	int 80	Finance & Gover	nance	125.02		Pavilion & Buildings	
Wilts Council - Election costs	860	Grand Total	80	Playing Fields		810.17			
Wilts Council NDR car park	91			Pavilion & Buildin	ngs	2,967.09		Row Labels	Sum of Pavilion
Grand Total	7755.42	Highways		Cemetery		1,523,50		Bridge Club	1764.75
				Planning & Cons	ervation	2,222.00		Pavilion hire	176.26
Playing Fields		Row Labels	▼ Sum of Highways	Boxhill & Rudloe				Pilates	518
- taying rotas		Paints for Trade	115.71	Personnel	орен орассо			WIHire	52.08
Row Labels	₹ Sum of Pl Fields	Grand Total	115.71	Highways				Yoga	456
Avon Sports (Bowls) Contract	580.17	Orana rotat	115.71	Highways	Total		5.425.78	Grand Total	2967.09
Avon Sports (Bowls) Materials	169.5	Boxhill & Rudloe			Totat		3,423.76	Granu rotat	2507.05
H Jones Rudloe Green	976	BOXIIII & RUUIOE						Cemetery	
		5	Y 0,					Cemetery	
Membrane - S Vickery (Amazon)	60.1	Row Labels	✓ Sum of Box & Rud						
Paints for Trade	100	Low Common planting - Barr						Row Labels	Sum of Cemetery
S Newbury - Skip Hire	450	Grand Total	104.99					Headstones	200
Water2Business	15.17							HF Lettings - Lodge	790.5
Wilts Council NDR Pav & Rec	140	Personnel						Horse Field rental	33
Grand Total	2490.94							Interments	500
		Row Labels	✓ Sum of Pers					Grand Total	1523.5
Pavilion & Buildings		John Miller - Fuel and service							
		NEST	433.23						
Row Labels	✓ Sum of Pavilion	Novuna (Mower)	330						
bOnline internet	36.08	Off Road Electric - Mule Serv							
Boston Seeds	200	Grand Total	1189.36						
Feminen Hygiene Initial	75.7	Salaries	5715.24						
Gallagher insurance - 6 month Premium	1200	HMRC	2136						
Nick Matthews - Architect study	2510								
Octupus Energy - Pavilion electric	13.33	Total Pers	9040.6						
Octupus Energy - Tractor shed	40.56								
Pavilion Gas	12.79								
Symons - Hire fee refund	50								
Water2Business	15.17								
Wilts Council NDR Pay & Rec	107								
Grand Total	4260.63								
Oranu rotat	4200.03								

Accounts for Payment

Details	Method	Codo	Totals
	BACS	Code	£367.36
Gallagher insurance - Cyber Gallagher insurance - 6 month Premiun		4400 4400	£5,275.02
Nick Matthews - Architect study	BACS	4400	£3,275.02 £3.012.00
PKF - Audit fee	BACS	4422 4720	£3,012.00 £1,008.00
Marilyn Tye - Fountain rail paint	BACS	4530	£80.00
Symons - Hire fee refund	BACS	4530	£50.00
Off Road Electric - Mule Service	BACS	4605	£356.38
A 3 Colour prints - S vickery	BACS	4240	£15.12
Paints for Trade	BACS	4008	£257.05
J H Jones Rudloe Green	BACS	4635	£1,171.20
John Miller - Fuel and service	BACS	4250	£154.98
6 monthly NDR Chapel and Cemetery	BACS	4200	£1,235.00
Phil Mclounan IT support Office	BACS	4705	£40.00
Paul Emerson - Chapel porch stone	BACS	4227	£650.00
Low Common planting - Barrie Dix	BACS	4121	£104.99
Selwyn Hall - lamp post electric	BACS	4220	£35.59
Wilts Council - Election costs	BACS	4794	£350.00
Wilts Council - Election costs	BACS	4794	£510.00
Poppy sewing - Bron Walton	BACS	4240	£43.96
Membrane - S Vickery (Amazon)	BACS	4625	£60.10
S Newbury - Skip Hire	BACS	4265	£450.00
C.I.S.I.Sury Chip into	2,100	-1200	2.55.00
Salaries	BACS	4050	£5,715.24
HMRC Payments	BACS	4055	£2,136.00
Avon Sports (Bowls) Contract	BACS	4620	£696.20
Avon Sports (Bowls) Materials	BACS	4621	£203.40
J H Jones Cemetery Contract	BACS	4231	£887.33
Castle Water	BACS	4710	
Grant for trail leaflet - Barry Cox	BACS	4110	£250.00
Grant - Corsham Wind Band	BACS	4110	£1,000.00
A L King - Lodge roof repair	BACS	4225	£462.00
LP Property	BACS	4225	£66.00
Water2Business	BACS	4210	£30.34
NEST	DD	4052	£433.23
Feminen Hygiene Initial	DD	4425	£90.84
Octupus Energy - Tractor shed	DD	4661	£42.59
Octupus Energy - Chapel	DD	4220	£12.79
Octupus Energy - Office electric	DD	4220	£84.78
Office Gas	DD	4221	
Octupus Energy - Pavilion electric	DD	4220	£14.00
Pavilion Gas	DD	4221	£13.43
bOnline internet	DD	4215	£97.06
Novuna (Mower)	DD	4607	£396.00
Wilts Council NDR car park	DD	4200	£91.00
Wilts Council NDR Pav & Rec	DD	4200	£247.00
Hills Waste	DD	4656	
Lloyds Charges	DD	4201	£5.38
Amazon Prime fee	DD	4730	£8.99
Giff Gaff	SO	4047	
Boston Seeds	Debit	4231	£298.99
Boston Seeds	Debit	4265	£200.00