

ENMORE PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING

Tuesday July 7th 2026 at 7.30 pm in Enmore Memorial Hall

Attendance: Cllr Jackson, Cllr Brailsford, Cllr Fergusson, Cllr Hucker,
Volunteer Clerk: D. McIlroy, L. Manning SID volunteer, Mr & Mrs S Bowditch. Mr S Hucker.

1. Apologies received from Cllrs Hopkins and Hubbard and Parish Clerk V. Johnson.
Cllr Jackson as Vice chairman therefore took the meeting.

2. There were no Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items.

3. To approve minutes of meeting on May 5th 2026.

Cllr Brailsford proposed that the minutes were correct. Cllr Fergusson seconded the proposal, all agreed and the minutes were duly signed with no amendments.

4. There were no public comments on agenda items.

Mr Bowditch wished to make a comment regarding planning enforcement which Cllr Jackson assured him would be discussed under item 12 on the agenda.

5. Actions arising from the previous meeting minutes.

There were two outstanding items. One concerning available SID data which would be dealt with under item 11 by L. Manning.

The other was a meeting with the golf club regarding footpath which would be dealt with under item 12 Footpath report.

6. Correspondence.

The only correspondence received was a letter sent to all residents of Enmore from Sir Ashley Fox informing them he would be visiting the village on July 24th at 2.45pm for an hour or so.

Cllr Jackson asked that as many councillors as possible could attend the meeting.

Enmore Memorial Hall has been booked for the visit.

7. Somerset Local Plan Consultation response.

Cllr Brailsford has read the plan and informed the parish council that Somerset Council wished for feedback on their long term (to 2045) plans for the future needs of the county.

Expectation is that the plan will allocate land for 75,000 new homes as well as employment, infrastructure, community facilities and environmental protection.

There were four main themes; A Greener, Climate Resilient Somerset, Homes for All, A Healthy, Connected Somerset and A Flourishing, Productive Somerset- which she outlined.

As all councillors agreed with these broad aims, Cllr Brailsford suggested that there was no need to submit any response to the current consultation. This was agreed.

Cllr Brailsford also described the interim HELAA report that had just been published. HELAA is the Housing and Economic Land Assessment which has been done on potential development

sites submitted to the authority for inclusion in the Plan. The HELAA assesses sites for potential suitability on a range of measures. No sites in Enmore Parish had been submitted; the closest being two at the top of the Enmore road in Durleigh (potentially suitable for housing) and one in Broomfield close to Lodes Lane (potentially unsuitable). Her full report will be available on the website.

8. Proposed planning applications. Parish council discussion and responses

Planning application number: 27/26/00001

Proposal: Full planning permission sought for the erection of a multi-purpose building for stabling and agricultural storage and an access track in their field.

Location: The Old Bakery, Enmore Road TA5 2DP.

Cllr Brailsford presented details of the planning application and invited comments. There were no comments other than confirmation that there has been no objection to the proposal from neighbours. Cllr Brailsford therefore proposed that the parish council support the application. Cllrs Hucker seconded the proposal and all agreed with this decision.

Cllr Brailsford would submit a comment in support of the application on behalf of the Parish Council, giving the following reasons:

- The building meets specific countryside needs (welfare of horses and security of equipment)
- The scale is acceptable for the location and proposed use (although a large building it will be well screened from the road.)
- The design is in keeping with similar buildings (small and large) in the village
- Any impact on neighbouring properties will be negligible due to the surrounding hedgerows
- The applicant has met the BNG requirement.

ACTION: Cllr Brailsford to respond to Somerset Planning department in support of application.

9. Finance

Cllr Jackson reported that the new Enmore village sign was at the foundry and that the invoice would be sent out in due course.

She requested approval of payments of:-

£78 for Wilder Enmore signs (one in situ the other to be placed under new village sign.)

£9 for a replacement key for the notice boards.

£18.50 for another cPre award sign for Goathurst as although both villages were given the award only one sign was presented. This is to be put on Enmore Memorial Hall with approval from the Hall committee.

The mirror outside Smocombe House has disappeared and due it being on the junction of Spaxton turning another has been requested.

As all the previous mirrors were purchased by D. Comley (who is no longer a parish councillor) invoices will need to be found for costings of the replacement.

In order for the mirror to be replaced as soon as possible a limit of £60 was deemed sufficient to cover the cost. Cllr Brailsford therefore proposed that a new mirror be purchased up to a cost of £60. This was seconded by Cllr Hucker and all others agreed.

All payments requested were approved.

ACTION: Cllr Hucker to organise purchase and installation of new mirror

10.Changes to bank details.

To simplify the financial arrangements of Enmore Parish Council it has been decided to close the Lloyds bank account and keep one account at Nat West.

However, Cllr Jackson will ask V. Johnson to investigate other banks for the parish council to ensure that there are no better options available to parish councils.

It was proposed by Cllr Fergusson and seconded by Cllr Hucker that the new online and cheque bank signatories should be V. Johnson, Cllr Brailsford, Cllr Jackson and for the foreseeable future A. Stoye. This was agreed by all and thanks given to A.Stoye for offering to undertake this.

ACTION: A.Stoye (previous RFO) to begin process of closing account with Lloyds and transferring funds to Nat West account. Update bank signatories with Nat West.

11. Speed management/SID update.

L. Manning reported that from January –May there were 108,000 vehicles noted along past the Enmore Inn. The average speed was 27mph but a vehicle had been recorded at a speed of 107mph. 13 cars were noted as going faster than 70mph- which as a percentage of vehicles using the road was not a large number.

Councillors asked if data for the times of excessive speeding could be collected.

This information could then be passed onto the police as evidence for the need to police surveillance.

L. Manning suggested that he thought it would be possible but he would need to investigate further.

Cllr Jackson asked if L. Manning could investigate how to change the messages on the SIDs indicating that the SIDs were being monitored.

Cllr Jackson thanked L. Manning for undertaking this work.

ACTION: L. Manning to collect times of speeding vehicles and how to change messages for discussion at the next meeting.

12. Reports

Footpaths

Cllr Hubbard circulated her report prior to the meeting.

Cllrs Fergusson and Hubbard are organising a meeting Matt Brooke (Manager Enmore Park Golf course) For the safety of walkers it would be ideal to walk down the gully, however there are significant issues with flooding at the lower end.

Cllr Hubbard was anxious to start the formal process to protect the route of the Hollow way/Ancient Packway by Modification. However, as Cllr Jackson noted the process is a long one and will take time. She thought the best approach was to have an open meeting with the golf club and ascertain their thoughts on the gully drainage. Ideally to be able reach an agreement with the golf course and ensure adequate signage is in place for the benefit of golfers that they are aware of walkers on the course.

ACTION: Cllrs Hubbard and Fergusson to meet with M. Brookes towards end of August.

Wilding.

Cllrs Jackson and Hucker had circulated their Wilder Enmore prior to the meeting.

There was not as much litter from the litter pick undertaken in June. However, some asbestos had been found. For future reference if asbestos is found on public land it is to be reported to Somerset council who will organise safe removal of it. It is not to be collected by litter pickers. Neighbourhood watch.

Cllr Fergusson stated that there were no incidents or reports of crime in the area until today where there had been a report of a break in. He reminded all to lock outbuildings and remain vigilant.

Planning/Roads

Mr& Mrs Bowditch expressed concerns about the lack of planning enforcement in Enmore. In particular, their issues with neighbours putting numerous static caravans without permission. Cllr Jackson noted that previously the parish council have looked to the enforcement officer for planning issues in Enmore and no action was taken. However, a letter had been sent to a local resident for a supposed minor planning infringement creating much worry and concern for the resident.

Following discussion, it was agreed that one letter be written to the named Planning Enforcement officer listing the specific planning issues in Enmore with an expectation of a reply. Cllr Fergusson noted that it was assumed that the planning enforcement office was over worked but they had found time to investigate a minor planning issue.

ACTION: Cllr Brailsford to contact Mr & Mrs Bowditch and draft letter to planning enforcement.

Cllr Jackson that no invoice has been received as yet from Somerset Council Highways for completed road work. She asked if this could be chased up as funds have been allocated for it.

ACTION: V. Johnson to contact Highways regarding missing invoice.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed 8.30pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman of Council

NEXT MEETING Tuesday September 1st 2026 at **7.30pm**

Footpaths Report for Enmore Parish Council's 2026 Annual Parish Assembly held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 10 June 2026 in Enmore Memorial Hall

Rescued impassable Bridleway BW 15/20 (Broomfield Hall Road to Cobbs Cross). It has been so nice to avoid walking on Enmore Road between Enmore School and Tirelands Farm, and the condition of this Right of Way has been improving all winter and now into summer. I recently saw a fox in front of me.

Cropping - Over the years I have again and again reported instances of over-cropping in maize and rye grass fields near Enmore School and the Golf Club. Now that most of the maize for the BioMass plant in Cannington has been harvested, legal paths over fields are no longer blocked and walkers should not be deterred from using them. But the damage has been done and most walkers aren't that adventurous. As another footpath user said to me, "it would appear that certain farmers are deliberately not maintaining or restoring the footpaths across their land to discourage walkers".

NB "Landowners and farmers are now required to maintain public rights of way crossing their land when claiming payments under the Single Payment Scheme administered by the Rural Payments Agency (RPA). If Somerset Council Enforcement Officers have to take formal enforcement action to ensure a ploughed or overgrown path is reinstated to its minimum width, they have no option than to follow DEFRA's advice and report the matter to the RPA". I do report overcropping on the Interactive Map, and the Warden tells me he is keeping a record of those landowners, who have not cleared a route, and letters are sent out. Otherwise, their names will be passed onto the Enforcement Officer.

Last year, Councillor Fiona Jackson and I thought it necessary to protect the route of the Heritage Asset Hollow way/Ancient Packway on Enmore Golf Course by Modification. We also hoped to provide for the safety of walkers by using the Gully. And also sort out legally the encroachment of the Club House and buildings on the Right of Way. I have been working on a Form A Modification of the Golf Course Right of Way BW:15/4 through Sue Coman, Rights of Way Officer (Definitive Map). A Diversion Order needs to be requested by the Golf Club because Right of Way BW15:4 has been "obstructed". She says such an order is outside the remit of the Modification process and has already sent a copy of my draft to the Warden, suggesting he deal with this as it is a planning matter.

Last year, I reported a Diversion Order for Bridleway BW4/20 (subject to a statutory 4 week consultation period, which expired 29/01/2025). This should open up a new route from Broomfield Hall Road just above BW15/20 mentioned in 1 above, which has been inaccessible for many years and brings one out on the Cobbs Cross Track. This route is actually just in Broomfield Parish. The latest I heard was that the landowner had been given more time to prepare for the right of way. Enmore is just in Warden John Melrose's area, as is Broomfield Parish but not Goathurst.

Amanda Hubbard, Enmore PPLO 10/06/2026

Planning report composed by Cllr Brailsford

7. Somerset Local Plan consultation response

Cllr Brailsford described the current status of the Somerset Local Plan process and the consultation underway.

The plan is for the 20 year period to 2045. Expectation is that the plan will allocate land for 75,000 new homes as well as employment, infrastructure, community facilities and environmental protection.

This is the first stage of the consultation on the scope of the plan; the community engagement process; and the plan vision and outcomes.

The current summary of the vision is for the Plan to deliver:

Greener, Climate-Resilient Somerset

- Tackling climate change.
- Increasing resilience to environmental risks.
- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment.
- Supporting sustainable development and biodiversity. [\[somersetco...nspace.com\]](#)

Homes for All

- Delivering sufficient housing.
- Providing affordable homes.
- Meeting the needs of different groups and communities.
- Ensuring new housing is sustainable and well located. [\[somersetco...nspace.com\]](#)

A Healthy, Connected Somerset

- Health and wellbeing.
- Strong communities.
- Access to services and facilities.
- Sustainable transport and connectivity across Somerset. [\[somersetco...nspace.com\]](#)

A Flourishing, Productive Somerset

- Economic growth.
- Jobs and skills.
- Supporting businesses.
- Creating prosperous and resilient communities and places. [\[somersetco...nspace.com\]](#)

Councillors agreed with these broad aims and Cllr Brailsford suggested that there was no need to submit any response to the current consultation. This was agreed.

Cllr Brailsford also described the interim HELAA report that had just been published. HELAA is the Housing and Economic Land Assessment which has been done on potential development sites submitted to the authority for inclusion in the Plan. The HELAA assesses sites for potential suitability on a range of measures. No sites in Enmore Parish had been submitted; the closest being two at the top of the Enmore road in Durleigh (potentially suitable for housing) and one in Broomfield close to Lodes Lane (potentially unsuitable).

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In May 2026, the Wilder Enmore and Goathurst Initiative was awarded a CPRE Countryside Changemaker Award with a presentation of Awards lunch on 11th June. Sadly, Beth Riches was unable to attend but Brenda Smith, churchwarden at Goathurst Church, is came in her stead to represent Goathurst. Brenda has worked very hard with Beth helping make their Churchyard a haven for wildlife. It is hoped another award copy can be funded as only one was given for two villages! This will be requested at the next PC meeting.

FJ presented at Bishops Lydeard Parish Council's Annual Parish Meeting on 20/5. Alison Roberts, BL Parish Councillor was given FJ's name by Robin Stamp, Chair of Friends of the Quantocks. It was met with a warm response. They were delighted to hear how easy it was to start your own litter pick through the support of Somerset Council and are keen to get started as soon as possible on Wilder Bishops Lydeard Initiative. They have just purchased a wood, so have a perfect blank starter canvas to work with.

FJ was at the launch of the Wilder Broomfield Initiative on 26th May. The Broomfield Parish Council were so delighted with their village turnout and the enthusiasm. This certainly has been seen on their Wilder Broomfield WhatsApp group which FJ feels privileged to have been made a member of.

FJ presented at the Somerset Cricket Ground at the launch of the Somerset LNRS on 30/6, an event chaired by Georgia Dent, CEO of SWT. There were about 80 attendees nearly all involved in conservation organisations eg Environment Agency, National Trust, WWT, RSPB and the Rivers Authority.

The presentation was centred on the importance of improving wildlife habitat/corridors on private land and the suggestion this could be led by Councils. Doing this provides vital wildlife corridors that fill in the gaps in the Nature Recovery Network, linking together the larger scale wildlife conservation activities across Somerset. FJ chatted with two members who were also parish councillors from Westonzoyland and North Curry who both wanted copies of the presentation.

FJ has a meeting on 10/7 with members of Spaxton Parish Council to discuss starting their Wilder Spaxton Initiative.

Churchyard

There was another full School visit on the 12th May and included a book reading by local author Aidan Meighan who launched his book The Folklore of Trees recently in March. The day was a great success - it was wonderful to see the awe in the students' eyes when each class measured the yew tree and discovered that it has been a youngster in Henry VIII's reign! The School also visited the Church on 19/6 with Josh Schwieso, a local historian, explaining key points of interest on the interior and exterior of the Church. This is to help put together the Nature and Heritage Trail for locals and visitors alike.

Jubilee Meadow

Plans for a natural looking bug hotel are planned in one corner of the Jubilee Meadow. The planted elms are doing well.

School

See under Churchyard.

Residents' Gardens

There has been much sharing and enthusiasm on the Wilder WhatsApp Group which has been lovely to see.

Litter Pick

Another Litter Pick took place on Sunday 14th June. A good turnout and refreshments much enjoyed afterwards. Unfortunately some asbestos was recovered from a ditch and required special arrangements by Somerset Council to dispose. All future finds of asbestos are to be left in situ and Somerset Council informed of location.

EPC Initiative Traffic Management

Yet to receive an invoice for completed works from Highways