Flax Bourton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th March 2026 commencing at 7:30pm in the Hall at Flax Bourton Primary School

Those present were noted as Councillors: Coombs, Crawford, Seaver and Apps and twelve members of the public

Also present Mrs H Nelson (Parish Clerk)

One member of the public arrived at 7:15pm
Four members of the public arrived at 7:22pm

197(25) **Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

District Councillor Waite gave her apologies, she is attending the Dundry PCM.

198(25) **Declarations of interests from members regarding the Agenda**

Declaration of non-pecuniary interest as Trustee of the Flax Bourton Hub Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) by Cllr Coombs.

199(25) **Public Forum Session**

Three members of the public arrived at 7:32pm

One member of the public queried Flax Bourton CIC and questioned the funds held. The situation was explained by the Parish Council. The CIC retains directorship of the CIC. The CIC continues to hold funds but an application for a grant has been refused.

Five members of the public arrived 7:35pm

The current balance is understood to be just over £13k.

One member of the public arrived at 7:40pm

Action: The parish council to contact the financial regulator again

200(25) **Community land discussion**

The land includes the site of the old youth club. One member of the public said that land to the left of the plot was offered by Sustrans for a community orchard/ space in the past. The member of public will forward earlier correspondence to the Parish Council.

The community discussed a range of ideas for the 1.5-acre green-belt site, including children's facilities, benches, a pump track, rewilding, a community orchard, and the possible return of the youth club. Questions were raised about insurance, maintenance, budget, and the land's suitability for uses such as allotments. The land would be taken on a peppercorn lease, and a large majority of attendees supported the council pursuing this. Suggestions included learning from other parish councils, creating a questionnaire for young people, holding an event on the site or at the school, and using leaflet drops with QR codes to gather wider community input once the land had been acquired.

The council mentioned the cancellation of the X7 bus service to ensure everyone was aware of it.

Eight members of the public left at 8:25pm

201(25) **Councillor Co-option**

202(25) **Minutes for Approval**

It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th February 2026

203(25) **Finance and Personnel**

a) Payments totalling £145.00 were ratified since the last meeting on 9th February 2026.
b) **It was resolved** to approve the new invoices totalling £2,775.90 for online payment and the return of £1,500 to the Stancombe Community Fund as electrical installation

Chair …… **Date**……

was provided free of charge by NSC for the defibrillator. The Bank Reconciliations, monthly accounts statements, Payments and Receipts Schedules were also **received and authorised**.

204(25) **Planning**

a) **26/P/0285/CRN - Barn To Rear Of Eastfield, Main Road, Flax Bourton** - Prior Notification for the change of use of an agricultural building to a flexible commercial use (commercial storage)

Action: Clerk to contact planning asking for more information before any decision is made by the council

205(25) **North Somerset Council Local Plan 2041**

The inspector's report will be provided in October. A highways/ planning policy team email regarding the transport team have modelled the traffic impact for Nailsea and Backwell. The modelling suggests that there will be daily impact on Flax Bourton. The MP has walked through the village and was shocked by the traffic and the quality of the pavements.

206(25) **North Somerset Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP)**
The bus shelter by The Grange should be replaced by the end of March. The one opposite the Jubilee might also being replaced.

207(25) **Biodiversity Duty**

a) River Kenn Survey Project. There's a question whether the River Kenn goes through Flax Bourton.

208(25) **Flooding**
The council was updated on further work on the flood scheme.

209(25) **Flax Bourton Hub**
There has been some graffiti in the playground and the noticeboard. The graffiti has since been removed (the graffiti on the wet pour has been removed at the cost of the parish council). The Clerk has reported the incidents to Avon and Somerset constabulary.

Architect's drawings have been obtained for an external WC and the WC will be code locked.

210(25) **Farleigh Green playing fields and playground**
No update on filming of playing fields and village hall. A resident has contacted the council regarding branches falling from trees. Maintenance trimming was carried out last year.

Action: Clerk to ask resident for photos of instances.

Chair …… **Date**……

211(25) **Highways**

a) **Cancellation of the X7 bus service –** as mentioned above. this has been taken up by our local MP and District Councillor
b) **A370 Safety Scheme** – no update
c) **Pavements and Footpaths** –pavements need a considerable amount of work to clear them from debris. The quarry has been approached about the ongoing problem of silt and rocks.
d) **Public Rights of Way** – no update.
e) **Alternative path Belmont Estate** – no update.
f) **Stancombe Lane waste bin** – no update.
g) **Safe route to school** – no update.
h) **Parish Boundary sign and gateway signs** – the gateway signs are being manufactured and parish boundary sign has been requested.
i) **Station Road -** pedestrian and safety concerns. This has become increasingly urgent if the X7 is cancelled as Station Road is dangerous to walk along to the X9 bus stop. North Somerset Showground have been asked for a permissive path along the hedge and will consider it. The council is waiting for a meeting.
j) **Email from Red Bus Nursery** - they have written requesting a 20mph for child safety reasons. The council have already requested a 20mph for Farleigh Green. The suggestion has been proposed to combine both areas into a 20mph zone.

212(25) **Quarry (Tarmac)**
No update.

213(25) **Defibrillators**
The cabinet installation at the end of Post Office Lane has been completed and the Clerk will set up the new defibrillator in due course.

214(25) **Assertion 10 (AGAR 2025/26) Digital and Data Compliance**
Our IT support is working on updating the website and creating email addresses for the Clerk and councillors.

215(25) **Clerk's Report**
The Clerk's report was noted.

216(25) **Local Devolution Programme**
No update.

Three members of the public left 9:10pm

217(25) **Policies and Procedures**
The Health and Safety Policy, the Risk Assessment, the Asset Register, the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Training Policy and Accessibility Statement were approved.

218(25) **Date of the next Meeting**
To note the date of the next **Parish Council Meeting** as to be held on **13th April 2026** in the **Hall** at **Flax Bourton Hub** at **7:30pm**.

Meeting ended at 9:23pm

One member of the public left at 09:35pm

Chair …… **Date**……

FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS FOR MARCH 2026

Receipts

Name	Receipt no	Details	Date received	Method	Net Amoun	VAT	Total	Notes	Minute agreed
Lloyds Bank	25:R24	Interest	9/2/2025	BACS	£24.54	£0.00	£24.54		
Stancombe Quarry Fund	25:R25	Reimbursement of grant for electrical installation of defib	10/3/2026	BACS	-£1,500.00	£0.00	-£1,500.00	Scribe explains this should be entered as a negative receipt	
				TOTAL	**-£1,475.46**	**£0.00**	**-£1,475.46**		

Payments

Name	Invoice no	Details	Payment date	Method	Net Amoun	VAT	Total	Notes	Minute agreed
HP Instant Ink	25:161	Printer ink cartridge	11/3/2026	DD	£5.41	£1.08	£6.49		
Google Workspace	25:152	Google Workspace 1-28 Feb 26	6/3/2026	DD	£8.40	£0.00	£8.40		
Tesco Mobile	25:156	Monthly charge for phone	2/3/2026	DD	£7.50	£0.00	£7.50		
Corporate Cleaning Services	25:153	Dog Bin and Farleigh Green Collections Feb 26	10/3/2026	BACS	£115.00	£0.00	£115.00		
CPS Grounds	25:154	Grounds Maintenance-field- March 26 (S106)	10/3/2026	BACS	£400.95	£80.19	£481.14		
Helen Nelson	25:158	Clerk's Salary March 26	31/3/2026	SO					
One Drive	25:160	Backup storage	15/3/2026	DD	£1.66	£0.33	£1.99		
AED Locator (E.U.) Ltd	25:149	New defib cabinet for school	11/2/2026	BACS	£714.95	£139.00	£853.95	VAT not charged on carriage	
Jason Ball	25:157	Cleaning graffiti on wet pour	10/3/2026	BACS	£145.00	£0.00	£145.00		
HMRC	25:150	Month 10 PAYE	10/3/2026	BACS	£157.89	£0.00	£157.89		
Defib space t/a Defib World	25:151	Spare electrode pads for defibrillator	11/2/2026	CARD	£104.99	£21.00	£125.99		
Lloyds Bank plc	25:159	Monthly Service charge	19/3/2026	DD	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25		
				TOTAL	**£2,679.30**	**£241.60**	**£2,920.90**		

Transfers Commercial Instant Access Account to Community Account

Details	Date transferred	Amount	Notes
For bills	9/3/2026	4700	
		TOTAL	**£4,700.00**

Invoices out

Name	Invoice no	Details	Invoice sent	Due date	Net Amoun	VAT	Total	Notes