

**Draft Summary of Minutes of the Spetisbury Parish Council Meeting held at 7.15pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 in the Village Hall.**

Cllrs present: S Dunhill (Chair), S Hall, M Cheesley, K Bew, S Woodford, R Rutherford, E Calnan, B Cooper (DC)

Members of the Public: 6

**Agenda**

**26/12. To Receive Apologies:** None

**26/13. Declaration of Interest and Grant of Dispensation:** None

**26/14. Open Forum:** James Statham, Project Lead, Dorset Council (Bridges & Highways Structures) gave an update on the position regarding the closed Bridleway and bridge at Keyneston Mill. Applications have, or are being, submitted to the Environment Agency, Dorset Council Conservation Officers and the Mill owner for permission to commence the work. He is hopeful that this can be started in July and completed before the river levels start to rise again. There is no intention to close the Bridleway permanently.

Mr Moss raised the issues regarding the fencing by the Church. Clerk to contact the landowner and ask for resolution. The pavement alongside the wall at the School/ Church is uneven and dangerous. Clerk to contact Highways.

Cllr Hall raised the issue regarding the broken 40mph sign. Cllr Cooper to progress.

The flooding and broken road surface at the top of West End is causing major concerns to residents. Clerk to contact Highways.

Cllr Woodford asked if we could express our thanks to Mr Harry Dipple for replacing the mailbox outside the Village Hall.

**26/15. Ward Councillors's Report:** Cllr Cooper has met with residents and the watercress beds owner regarding the West End flooding. This is ongoing.

**Items for Decision:**

**26/16. Minutes of the Meeting Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 were agreed and signed by Cllr Dunhill.** Proposed Cllr Rutherford, seconded Cllr Woodford.

**26/17. Annual Audit Assertion 10:** The clerk presented a precis of this new assertion which concerns digital and data compliance and it is the major drive for the annual audit. The clerk confirmed that the Parish Council meets all its obligations.

**26/18. Review the Council's IT Policy:** The clerk displayed the revised policy. This will be distributed and discussed at the April meeting.

**26/19. Flooring in the Hall:** Cllr Woodford gave an update regarding the recurring rot in the floor. There are a number of possible causes but it was decided to install a vent as the first option. Proposed Cllr Calnan, seconded Cllr Hall.

**26/20. Life Education Wessex – consider funding School presentations:** The Council have supported this venture for a number of years and it was agreed to fund £175. Proposed Cllr Cheesley, seconded Cllr Woodford.

**26/21. To Approve Financial Statements for January and February and list of payments and sign the same:** A copy of the accounting statements were displayed to Councillors and signed by Cllr Dunhill. Proposed Cllr Cheesley, seconded Cllr Bew (January). Proposed Cllr Rutherford, seconded Cllr Woodford (February).

**26/22. Correspondence and Clerk's report:** A list of circulated emails was displayed.

Planning: 2 Gallop Cottages and 30 High Street both granted.

Annual Audit – due after 31<sup>st</sup> March. Papers to go to Rosemary Accounting as soon as practicable.

Registration of Village Hall deeds – Blanchards Bailey have been instructed to act.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm

**26/23. To confirm date of next Meeting as Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm.** Meeting closed at 8.15pm.