



Box Parish Council

30th March 2026

Minutes of the Box Parish Full Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 26th March 2026 at The Pavilion, Box, SN13 8NT

1. **Present:**

Cllr T Walton (Chair)	Cllr R Leach
Cllr R Haslett	Cllr P Suchley
Cllr N Ingledew	Cllr B Walton
Cllr R Davies	Cllr M Tye
Clerk – S Vickery	Cllr P Chamberlain (Wiltshire Councillor)

2. **Apologies.** Apologies (and acceptance) for absence were received from Cllr Duncan, Cllr Parker, Cllr Roache and Cllr Johnston (accepted). Cllr Wragg (Unitary Cllr) was also absent. The Council was Quorate.
3. **Public Question Time.** There were 6 members of public present.
- a. One member wished to convey thanks to the Council for their efforts in supporting the local residents' objection to the latest TRO scheme for Hazelbury Hill.
4. **Declarations** of interest relating to items on the Agenda. There were no new declarations.
5. **Chair's Announcements.** The Chair had no new announcements.
6. **Co-Option.** The Council had received an application for Co-Option from Mr Doug Celerier (DC). He outlined his CV and his reason for joining the Council. He has lived in Box since 2023 and has had an association with the village for over 8 years. He is the CEO of a Tech R&D company. He expressed that he was also diligent and quite dogged in his commitment to causes. He has volunteered in various capacities over his career. He has also invested in the War Memorial. There was then a series of questions from councillors:
- a. Cllr question – High standards of behaviour are expected. The Code of Conduct and Standing Orders makes this clear. Do you understand collective responsibility and the Social Media policy – do you understand the constraints? Would you be able to help with Sustainability issues? DC replied that he was aware of constraints and thought that he would help to represent the community. He would be able to contribute to sustainability.

- b. Cllr question – social media posts. It is suggested that your posts potentially undermine the Council? DC felt that free speech was important, but he would not undermine the Council. He had some personal issues and experience with the planning process considering his own property.
- c. Cllr question – as a busy CEO, will you allocate sufficient time in the next 3 years? DC believed that he had sufficient time. DC joined the NP Steering Group but found that it was largely a waste of time as he could not change the direction. He felt that there was a lack of transparency and an inability to correspond with the Steering Group and Parish Council on the NP. He felt that the NP might be negatively perceived.
- d. Cllr question about accepting collective responsibility. DC confirmed that he would accept this concept.
- e. A Cllr commented on the value of the Plan and his input to the Plan on behalf of the parishioners.
- f. A Cllr was concerned about fixed opinions and lack of flexibility in understanding the direction of the Parish Council and working collaboratively. DC replied that he had strong feelings on various issues.

The Council then met in private¹ and discussed the co-option:

- g. The Vote. The Council unanimously agreed to co-opt DC.

7. **Committee minutes** and reports from chairs:

- a. **Personnel Committee.** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd March 2026 were submitted and taken as read:
 - i. **Resolved.** A revised salary for the OSW (alignment of scale points for dual role) was approved. The vote was unanimous.
- b. **Planning Committee.** The Minutes of the Meetings on 26th February and 16th March 2026 were submitted and taken as read:
 - i. **Not Resolved.** The release of the June 2025 Part A (or a percentage) of the Neighbourhood Plan was not considered. The Plan was not yet ready for release.

8. **Finance Accounts.** (attached at Appendix A)

- a. The accounts for payment for March 2026 income and expenditure were submitted and agreed.

¹ Members of the public were excluded for any confidential items (co-option discussion) in accordance with the Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960.

- b. The latest statement of balances; the estimated End of Year position were submitted to note.
- c. Feedback from the Internal Audit, 26th March 2026. The IA was delayed until 2nd April.
- d. Earmarked Reserves at End of Year. The next F&G will consider how some General Reserves might be reallocated to EMRs. The current EMRs, in new Committee format were noted.

9. Items of Discussion:

- a. Annual Community meeting – Thursday 14th May at Rudloe CC, 4pm - 7.30pm.
 - i. A poster to advertise is in production; there is a wish to include as many community groups as possible. In future, the location will alternate between Box village and Rudloe.
 - ii. The recent CWG also spoke about the Revels event and the CPRE Best Kept Village entry.
- b. Out of Sync Financial approvals:
 - i. Gazebo for Council. **Resolved** (7 in favour with one Abstention) to spend no more than £1,200 (excl VAT), after checking the offer of a gazebo from DC.
 - ii. Goal posts at Rudloe. **Resolved** (unanimous) to spend no more than £800 (excl VAT) on a set of goalposts for Rudloe.

10. Items of Correspondence: Urgent correspondence has been received as follows:

- a. Transport / Road Safety Plan for Hazelbury Manor. The proposed note to the Planning Department on Parish transport concerns was agreed earlier by the Planning Committee.
- b. Easter Egg hunt at the Upper Common on Easter Sunday. Approval was granted for this event, with the proviso that no litter or chocolate is left behind post event.
- c. Best Kept Village. The Parish entry is in final production.
- d. Proposed resolution to Mill Lane residents' concerns.
 - i. The Council had read the Tree Surveyor's report.
 - ii. A meeting had been held on site with the Mill Lane residents.
 - iii. Although some reluctance was shown by the residents, they had agreed to the Council's proposal to re-site 3 trees. The GWCF will be informed.
 - iv. **Resolved**. The Council agreed the recommendation to re-site (unanimous).

11. **Representative Reports.** Chair's Diary, Representatives' reports (Area Board and LHFIG) and report from County Councillors.

- a. Cllr Leach briefed on the Operational Flood WG North. More use could be made of the county WG should the Parish need more environmental control measures.
- b. The Chair briefed on the opportunity to survey the river catchment area. The ponds at Hazelbury Manor were mentioned in terms of helping with Parish drainage.
- c. The Chair and Vice Chair attended the WALC Environment Network session and found it useful. The Network spoke about the importance of hedges, tree and orchards. The Climate Action group needed to be convened shortly.
- d. On May 15th, there is an event at County Hall for Highways.
- e. Unitary Councillor.
 - i. The emergency scrutiny of the Hazelbury Hill TRO. An alternative design might be proposed and Box PC might be able to influence the scheme. The Council agreed that taking the initiative would be considered. The Chair was concerned about some of the language used by Wiltshire Highways. The Council hoped to assist with Options. The outcome needs to be proportionate.

Action: Clerk to draft a note to Cllr Smith with an offer to help.
 - ii. Contact with the Highways Engineer had improved and SIDs sites had been visited.
 - iii. The May CAB has now been moved.
 - iv. Traffic management plan for WOMAD is developing.
 - v. Recycling waste changes for 2027 were briefed.
 - vi. The My Wilts app will be improved.

12. **Future Agenda Items and General Reports.** Items of report and future Agenda items.

- a. Working Party dates:
 - i. Cemetery WP on 29 March.
 - ii. Recreation Ground on 19 April.
 - iii. War Memorial on 9 May.
- b. Lacy Wood use by school children was noted (litter and a fire pit were a concern).
- c. Glovers Lane. There was occasionally restricted access for push chairs. Parish Highways noted.

13. **Dates of forthcoming meetings:**

Buildings Management	9 th April
Planning & Open Spaces	13 th April
Planning & Full Council	30 th April

14. **Date of next meeting** – as above, 7.30pm on Thursday 30th April 2026. The meeting ended at 9.15pm.

Signed and dated by the
Chair.....

Details	Totals
Avon Sports Bowls contract	£696.20
Avon Sports (materails)	£108.00
Salaries	£5,745.32
HMRC Payments	£3,211.63
J H Jones Cemetery Contract - Mar	£887.33
Chipping Pavement - PAYMENT	£3,462.00
Water2Business	£278.22
NEST	£445.20
Feminen Hygiene Initial	£40.03
Octopus Energy - Tractor shed	£97.73
Octopus Energy - Chapel	£12.00
Octopus Energy - Office electric	£128.69
Office Gas	£37.83
Octopus Energy - Pavilion elec 6 months	£797.03
Pavilion Gas 6 months	£483.41
bOnline internet	£97.06
Novuna (Mower)	£396.00
Hills Waste	£207.59
Lloyds Charges	£4.75
Amazon monthly subs	£8.99
Amazon - cleaning materials	£130.47
Great West Way 3rd Year	£230.40
John Millar - Petrol	£73.50
Fire Alarm service - FAC	£378.00
SLCC - membership	£316.00
Paul Emmerson - Chapel Porch	£1,150.00
John Miller - tool purchase	£724.00
LP Property - Tractor Shed	£1,445.00
afc Corsham - Grant Rudloe Fund EMR	£5,000.00
SLCC - Clerk CiLCA qual	£495.00
Corsham hardware - engraving	£45.98
Amazon - bench oil and paints	£114.28
Wilts Council Cox	£9.00
Paul Emmerson - car park	£3,350.00
Bendry wood - Haha bridge	£271.89
Tree Parts - tree move	£924.00
Corsham hardware - wheelbarrow	£59.99
Corsham hardware - engraving and wheel	£71.99
Hi Tech Engraving Chapel	£37.00
Nick Matthews - autocad	£959.40
B&Q - DYL paint	£149.98
Networld - Rudloe goals	£765.44
Giff Gaff	£10.00

Appendix – Financial Documents March 2026

- Notes:**
- i. Pavilion Electric and Gas is now charged 6 monthly. There was a return via solar panels of £134.30*
 - ii. The AFC Corsham grant was actually in March, not Feb.*
 - iii. There is a further payment for the Cemetery eco-crete, subject to project completion.*

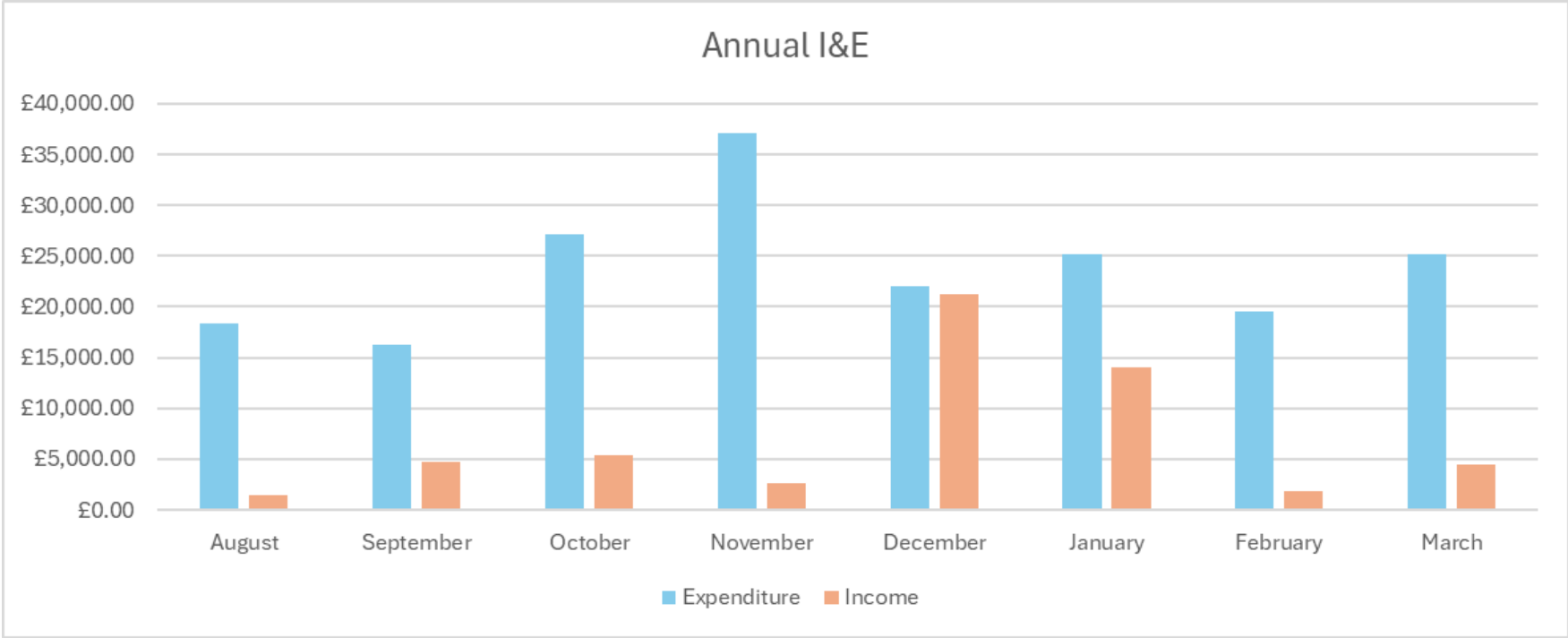
Statement of Balances and estimate of accrued spend

Statement of Balances							
	as at	24-Mar-26		Represented by the following			
Lloyds							
	Current Account	£15,907		General Reserves	£45,824	Note*	To pay in year
	High Interest Account	£11,235					
			£27,142	Earmarked Reserves			Stonemason £3,350
	Less payments this month	£1,589					Swing £1,800
	Working balance		£25,554	Open Spaces	£58,000		Projector £500
				Buildings	£59,544		Audit £500
Lloyds				Planning	£6,000		Gazeboo £1,200
	Fixed Term deposits	£25,000		Highways	£8,000		Goals £800
				F&G	£16,000		Rialtas £750
	Balance in Lloyds		£50,554	Personnel	£7,000		
						£154,544	Sum £8,900
Tennis Account							
		£13.44	£13.44				
Investments							
	Bath Building Soc	£85,947					
	Nationwide	£63,854					
			£149,801				
Total Value			£200,368		£200,368		
Note*	There will be an item at the next F&G on whether to convert some of the General Reserves to Earmarked Funds						

Income and Expenditure breakdown for March 2026

F&G		Monthly Summary of Expenditure - Mar 26		Playing Fields	
Row Labels	Sum of F&G			Row Labels	Sum of Pl Fields
Amazon monthly subs	£7.49	Finance & Governance	£817	Allotment Rent	£59.00
bOnline internet	£44.80	Playing Fields	£870	Bowls Club contract	£580.17
Great West Way 3rd Year	£192.00	Pavilion & Buildings	£3,077	Bowls Club materials	£90.00
Lloyds Charges	£4.75	Cemetery	£5,012	CPRE Bridge grant	£930.00
Octopus Energy - Office electric	£122.56	Planning & Conservation	£0	Grand Total	£1,659.17
Octopus Energy - Tractor shed	£93.08	Boxhill & Rudloe Open Spaces	£5,000		
Office Gas	£36.03	Personnel	£11,151	Pavilion & Buildings	
SLCC - membership	£316.00	Highways	£0	Row Labels	Sum of Pavilion
Grand Total	£816.71	Total	£25,148	Pilates	£30.00
				Grand Total	£30.00
Cemetery		Monthly Summary of Income		Cemetery	
Row Labels	Sum of Cemetery	Finance & Governance	£0	Row Labels	Sum of Cemetery
Chipping Pavement - PAYMENT	£2,885.00	Playing Fields	£1,659	HF Lettings - Lodge	£790.50
J H Jones Cemetery Contract - M	£739.44	Pavilion & Buildings	£30	Horse Field rental	£33.00
Octopus Energy - Chapel	£11.43	Cemetery	£2,824	Interments	£1,900.00
Paul Emmerson - Chapel Porch	£1,150.00	Planning & Conservation	£0	Memorial Board	£100.00
Water2Business	£226.00	Boxhill & Rudloe Open Spaces	£0	Grand Total	£2,823.50
Grand Total	£5,011.87	Personnel	£0		
		Highways	£0		
Playing Fields		Total	£4,513		
Row Labels	Sum of Pl Fields				
Avon Sports (materails)	£90.00				
Avon Sports Bowls contract	£580.17				
Hills Waste	£172.99				
Water2Business	£27.22				
Grand Total	£870.38				
Pavilion & Buildings					
Row Labels	Sum of Pavilion				
bOnline internet	£36.08				
Feminen Hygiene Initial	£36.70				
Fire Alarm service - FAC	£315.00				
LP Property - Tractor Shed	£1,445.00				
Octopus Energy - Pavilion elec 6	£759.08				
Pavilion Gas 6 months	£460.39				
Water2Business	£25.00				
Grand Total	£3,077.25				
Boxhill and Rudloe					
Row Labels	Sum of Box & Rud				
afc Corsham - Grant Rudloe Fun	£5,000.00				
Grand Total	£5,000.00				
Personnel					
Row Labels	Sum of Pers				
Amazon - bench oil and paints	£95.23				
Amazon - cleaning materials	£108.73				
Corsham hardware - engraving	£38.32				
Giff Gaff	£8.33				
HMRC Payments	£3,211.63				
John Millar - Petrol	£61.25				
John Miller - tool purchase	£603.33				
NEST	£445.20				
Novuna (Mower)	£330.00				
Salaries	£5,745.32				
SLCC - Clerk CiLCA qual	£495.00				
Wilts Council Cox	£9.00				
Grand Total	£11,151.34				

Annual breakdown (from August)



Ear Marked Reserves - 20 Year Plan			
			2026-27
Committee	Code	Item	Sum
Open Spaces	4259	Trees & Orchards	£5,000
	4298	Tree Surveys	£2,000
	4706	Boundary Walls	£9,000
	4668	Rec Path	£2,000
	4615	Lovar Garden	£7,000
	4625	Tennis Courts	£6,000
	4635	Play Equipment	£16,000
	4 605	Mule	£5,800
	4610	GWCF	£5,200
			Fund for Rudloe
		Total	£58,000
Highways	4003	TRO Fund	£3,000
	4008	Car Parks	£4,000
	4505	Bus shelters	£1,000
		Total	£8,000
Buildings	4230	Cemetery Chapel	£8,000
	4225	Lodge	£6,000
	4706	Parish assets	£8,000
	4426	Design studies	£2,400
	4771	Defib	£1,800
	4711	Parish Office	£3,000
	4428	s106	£30,344
		Total	£59,544
Finance & Gov	4786	Selwyn Wall	£5,000
	4794	Elections	£6,000
	4704	Office Equipment	£5,000
		Total	£16,000
Planning	4531	BPNP	£6,000
		Total	£6,000
Personnel	4058	Sickness	£7,000
		Total	£7,000
		Totals	£154,544