

Donhead St Mary Parish Council



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held in The New Remembrance Hall, Charlton
on **Wednesday 1st July 2026** at 7:15pm

Present: Cllr. Roger Brake (Chairperson)
Cllr. Ros Rogers Cllr. Thomas Rossiter
Cllr. Lin Walker Cllr. Eric Adams
Cllr. Paul Dewey (for agenda item 27 only)

In Attendance: Mr Simon Pritchard (The Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public in Attendance: Zero

Public Comments:

None

Report from Cllr Murray, Wiltshire Council:

A copy of Cllr Murray's report had been emailed to councillors before the meeting and is on the parish council's website.

Cllr Murray was unable to attend the meeting.

Item no:	
17	<u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</u> A. <u>To Receive any Apologies for Absence:</u> ○ Cllr. Phoebe Fortescue – family commitment ○ Cllr. Bruce Hibbert – away ○ Cllr. John Feltham – family engagement ○ Cllr. Gerry Murray (Wiltshire Councillor) – clashing commitments B. <u>Acceptance of Apologies for Absence:</u> It was proposed by Cllr Rogers to accept the apologies received from Cllrs: Fortescue, Feltham & Hibbert, seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved unanimously.
18	<u>Declarations of Pecuniary Interests & Dispensations:</u> None
19	<u>Adoption of Minutes:</u> The minutes of Wednesday 6th May 2026 had been presented for adoption. It was proposed by Cllr Adams to adopt the minutes of Wednesday 6th May 2026, seconded by Cllr Rossiter and resolved unanimously.

Donhead St Mary Parish Council: Wednesday 1st July 2026

Email: parishclerk@donheadstmary-pc.gov.uk

Website: www.donheadstmary-pc.gov.uk

Signed: _____ Date: _____

TRAFFIC CALMING IN THE PARISH:

A. A30: Speed Monitoring:

Cllr Dewey was not in attendance at this point to give a report.

B. Traffic Survey – Birdbush, Ludwell:

The data from the SID at Birdbush is showing that the 85 percentile has been consistently 36.0mph, this means the area should qualify for a community speed watch. The police have reported that they will not accept the data from the SID, and that a formal traffic survey by Wiltshire Council will have to be undertaken.

It was agreed to request the survey on the basis that there is no cost to the Parish Council.

C. A30 (Salisbury Road) Request for Speed Limit Assessment on 50mph zone:

Wiltshire Council issue number: 14.24.16 - originally raised November 2024 (The Parish Council made a formal request to LHFIG (Wiltshire Council) to have the 50mph zone between Charlton Lane and the border of Dorset assessed for appropriateness with a view to having the speed limit reduced. The cost of a speed limit assessment was £3,250 (LHFIG contribution £2,437.50 / Parish Council contribution £812.50)).

The speed survey result was received in March 2026 by the Parish Council. The report recommends a reduction along a third of the area surveyed, but not the full stretch. Part of the reason given is the lack of housing. The Parish Council has noted that there are areas in the current 40mph zone that have less housing, so the approach seems inconsistent. The result of the survey has been appealed with Wiltshire Council (via LHFIG). Wiltshire Council has now agreed how the appeal system will work. However, it is not clear if this case has been automatically feed into the appeals system or if it needs resubmitting, the Chair of LHFIG has been contacted for clarification.

D. Request for 7.5t Weight Limit on Dennis Lane:

Wiltshire Council issue number: 14.25.04 - originally raised May 2025

The update from last weeks LHFIG meeting: Was told that the survey has been completed but the local Highways Engineer hasn't had the time to analyse the results.

E. Village Gateways in Charlton:

It was resolved by the Parish Council in Sep 2025 to ask Wiltshire Council to cost a village gateway project for Charlton. Locations were agreed by the Parish Council in January 2026 and sent to LHFIG (Wiltshire Council) for approval and costing. In June 2026 an online meeting was held with Wiltshire Council, two sites are appropriate. A suitable location for a third sign (coming in from the A30) could not be found. Local Highways Officers will consider an alternative warning sign which will require less verge space.

F. A350 Speed Limit Assessment (with East Knoyle and Sedgehill & Semley Parish Councils): Originally raised May 2024

	Appeal has been submitted to the Wiltshire Council Cabinet Member for Highways to override the report that says the current speed limits are appropriate on the A350 north of Shaftesbury. Situation is the same as agenda item 20C
21	<u>Community Grants - St Johns Ambulance:</u> St John Ambulance attended the Four Villages Fete to promote its defibrillator awareness initiative. It was proposed by Cllr Walker to make a £250 community grant towards this initiative, seconded by Cllr Adams and resolved 3-in favour; 1-abstention.
22	<u>Planning, Tree & Licensing Applications:</u> No applications had been received by the time of the meeting.
23	<u>The Community Orchard, Ludwell:</u> A local contractor has been engaged to clear all the brambles and the pathway through the Orchard, at a cost of £350, but this work is yet to take place. An assessment of any further works required will take place once the brambles have been cleared.
24	PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE: <u>A. Payments to be Approved:</u> 1. S. Pritchard – D’fib battery & pads - £373.20 2. S. Pritchard – Plastic wallets - £5.39 3. S. Pritchard – Padlock - £23.99 4. S. Pritchard – Punched pockets - £10.99 5. S. Pritchard – WFHA & Travel Feb to May 26 - £125.15 It was proposed by Cllr Rogers to make the payments, seconded by Cllr Walker and resolved unanimously. <u>B. List of Payments Made:</u> The list had been circulated and was received. <u>C. Budget Vs Spend to Date:</u> To latest budget information had been circulated and was received.
25	<u>Insurance Renewal 2026/27:</u> The policy was renewed on the 1st June. It was proposed by Cllr Walker to approve the policy, seconded by Cllr Rogers and resolved unanimously.
26	<u>PLAYGROUNDS: Latest Inspections Reports & Updates:</u> Nothing of high risk to report. The medium risk items in the report have been attended to; sign removed and caps replaced.

	The Parish Clerk had inspected the fencing surrounding the Remembrance Hall small play equipment and concluded that the top and bottom railing will need to be replaced in the next year - Will seek quotes. Also, the fencing around the table tennis area is deteriorating. Cannot see the point in repairing this fence as it serves little purpose, suggest that the council remove rather than replace or repair - Will seek quotes.
27	<u>Members Portfolios – Verbal Reports:</u> a) Parish Council Chair’s Updates: ○ Wiltshire Council have made a start on the new Local Plan. First step is a call for sites. It is possible for the Parish Council to put forwards suggestions. b) Wiltshire Council Area Board – Cllr Brake ○ Missed the last meeting and of the one taking place tonight at the same time as this meeting. 19:53 – Cllr Dewey joined the meeting 20:02 – Cllr Walker left the meeting c) New Remembrance Hall Committee Representative – Cllr Adams ○ Nothing to report d) The Sports Club – Cllr Dewey ○ Refit of the ladies loos has been completed but was over budget. ○ There will be two men’s football teams this coming session and a junior cricket team. ○ The Brian Gray memorial match raised £800 for good courses. e) Memorial Fields Representative – The Chairperson & Cllr Dewey ○ The fencing by the bus stop entrance needs some attention ○ There is concern over the speed of cars leaving the site and them not stopping at the twin-junctions to check for traffic. ○ The Wessex Internet cable has been laid. ○ The Parish Clerk noted that he had advised the Memorial Fields Trust to purchase some public liability insurance – not clear if this was done. f) Footpaths / Rights of Way – Cllr Rogers ○ A new stile has been installed on the footpath in Charlton. g) The Parish Steward – Cllr Feltham h) Highway Matters / LHFIG – Cllr Hibbert ○ Cllr Rossiter reported that the kerb on the Dennis Lane junction is being warn/runover on the Shaftesbury side. i) Flood Warden - Cllr Walker j) Snow Warden – Cllr Rossiter ○ Nothing to report k) National Landscape Matters – Cllr Fortescue ○ Cllr Rogers reported attending the annual planning seminar hosted by the Cranborne Chase National Landscape, it was very detailed, could do with a simpler councillors guide. l) Parish Clerk’s Updates: Meeting Closed at 20:30