

Minutes July 2025 (Approved at Sept Meeting)

Babcary Parish Council
Monday 14th July 2025 8pm at The Hut

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mr Philip Sketchley, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Miss Vee Vyner, Mr Damien Pick, Mrs Jane Diamond, Mrs Jasmine Tucker, Parish Clerk and 1 Member of the Public.

Apologies: Mr Steve Street, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor) & Mr Henry Hobhouse (County Councillor).

1) Matters Arising

- i) Pothole Repairs updates, some improvements to the sides of the roads have been seen but potholes continue to be an issue.
- ii) Flooding issues, no change.
- iii) The Hut's revamp, renovations pending, awaiting decorator to start.
- iv) The Parish Council confirmed renewal of Asset of Community Value (ACV) registration on The Red Lion
- v) The Local Government Boundary Commission, has recommended that Babcary moves to Ilchester ward instead of the current Castle Cary ward. The parish council agreed to object to this and SH has responded.
- vi) Stones on verges many now hidden by over growing vegetation causing damage to cars, stones have been highlighted by spray painting.
SH has contacted Tracy Harris at Highways request reflector posts and Babcary sign repair.
- vii) Babcary Parish Council welcomed Jane Diamond as a new Parish Councillor.

2) Finance

- i. Capital Reserve Account stands at £18,010.19 (updated balance received after meeting)
Current Account balance £50.
HISCOX insurance renewal & 3 years fix at £443.77.
Babcary Website maintenance 123-reg Web Host renewal £123.30

3) Planning Consultation

- i. Ref: 25/01654/S73A
Address: Headland Cottage, Foddington Road, Babcary, TA11 7EQ
Applicant: Miss Violet Vyner
Proposal: Minor alterations, demolition of existing rear extension & the erection of single storey rear extension to the dwelling.
Comments welcome by 29/07/25, Nick Toop dealing.
Miss Vyner declared an interest.
No Objections.
- ii) Mr Graham Hughes, attended the meeting to inform the council of his intention to seek permission to build a single detached property at the end of his garden. Courtesy attendance re pre planning application. Neighbours have been consulted.

4) Correspondence

- i) Flood Wessex, Tuesday 8th of July Flood Warden Workshop, poster displayed in Babcary WhatsApp. 2nd Flood Warden Newsletter re summer flooding, flash floods and dry weather.
- ii) Somerset Council Enhanced Highways Maintenance, forwarded to all Councillors, option to a join pilot scheme 25/06/25, whereby parishes could pay for an enhanced highway services beyond the statutory minimum maintenance. Queries were raised as to whether once council volunteers help maintenance are they then taking on the works ad infinitum & will the council then be wholly responsible for costs? Will village litter pick volunteers now need to undergo costly training to do this in future?
- iii) The Chairs Awards for Service to the Community, nominations to be made before 18/07/25, no nominations.

5) AOB

- i) GK, letter re Environment Agency notice of intention to stop maintenance of The River Cary on privately owned strip, investigation into local ownership of riverside properties found other owners had received similar letters.
SH to investigate.

GOING FORWARD DRAFT MINUTES will appear in the Village news and Views' . Once approved at the subsequent months meeting they then will be posted, with any updates/amendments and DISPLAYED ON the BABCARY WEBSITE under 'Parish Council Minutes' section. [Www.babcaryparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.babcaryparishcouncil.org.uk)