

December 2025 Minutes agreed & signed.

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mr Philip Sketchley, Mrs Jane Diamond, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor) & Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: Mr Steve Street, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mr Damien Pick, Mrs Vee Vyner.

1) Matters Arising

- i) Local Government Boundary Commission update, no further updates.
- ii) River Cary & Environment Agency Watercourse, ongoing, disputed maintenance regarding responsibilities & affiliated costs, no further updates.
- iii) General village maintenance, SH in consultation with Andy Baron (Somerset Council Highways) suggested reflector posts instead of commonly used stones or cones along roadsides, currently in consideration.
The drainage outside Grey Stones was noted as a flood point AB aware and looking into.
Telegraph pole outside Percy House has sustained damage, again a reflector has been suggested to stop this reoccurring, referred to BT, BT declined to make necessary changes unless their equipment is damaged.
Pot holes & gulley outside Broadacre Dilkes Lane have been rectified.
- iv) Payment for Dog Bins & bags, BPC or PFC, revised costs from council received, £338 plus vat per year, querying increased amount (JT to look into) messaging Jonathan Stevens, as per Somersetbinproject@somerset.com communication.
- v) Babcary.gov.uk email address required for parish clerk - no other parish members a statutory requirement.
PS to attend Assertion 10, training on 12/02/2026 giving further information on website requirements.
- vi) Village Bonfire and the Playing Field Committee update, meeting held 09/12/25 Annual Playing Field Committee Minutes supplied, key points Annual Bonfire to be more carefully monitored, fencing off car park area to prevent access to the bonfire itself whilst allowing normal access to community facilities.
Controlled access for depositing garden waste into a trailer near The Hut during Saturday Shops during October only, allowing supervision on hand to check EA guidelines are adhered to. Existing spoil heap to be removed when weather improves.
Aim to stop unsanctioned waste disposal.
- vii) Clerks & Officer Training, Jasmine Tucker to attend The Annual Governance Statement, including The New Assertion No 10, on 12th January, notable comments no more cheque book payments, PC should be moving on to online payments.
- viii) Village Crime concerns, Alison Loker, Neighbourhood Sergeant, agreed Police to visit Babcary Hut on 24th of January (PCSO Melanie Cherrington-Ferkins to attend) 11am at The Hut.
- ix) Restart a Heart, Charlotte Humber, Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance, proposed training, at The Hut 17th of January 2026 at 11am.
22 parishioners to attend.

Defib box is situated in the old telephone box next to the village bus stop maintained by SH on a monthly basis, discussion re purchasing a second Defib & placing in Foddington to be discussed next meeting.

PS suggested a Stop a Bleed kit to be purchased for the Hut, to be discussed.

2) Finance

- i. Capital Reserve Account stands at £16,063.60 Current Account balance £50.
- ii. ICO change in costs £52.00
- iii. Precept deadline 30/01/26. As there was not a full attendance of the Parish Councillors it was decided to hold a follow up meeting (Jan 26th) to re-discuss and agree on any precept increment
- iv. Discussed Parish Clerk laptop, along with Clerk parish email, JT to source laptop.
- v. Annual grass cutting reimbursement to Playing Field £798, cheque raised.

3) Planning Consultation -

- i) Red Lion, Babcary

The appeal against the Asset of Community Value was rejected by Somerset Council. The Red Lion Inn, Main Street, Babcary, TA11 7ED shall remain on the Council's List of Assets of Community Value.

4) Correspondence

- i)

5) AOB

- i) Horse sign on Babcary Lane needs fixing again, PS to attend.
- ii) KM Somerset CC have spent £5mil on new computer system.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 8pm Monday 9th of February 2026 in the Hut.

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