

**Babcary Parish Council**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 8.00pm at The Hut**

Present: Mr Philip Sketchley, Mr Steve Street, Mr Damien Pick, Mrs Vee Vyner, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor) & Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk).

Apologies: Mr Simon Hoar & Mrs Jane Diamond.

January 2026 Exceptional Minutes agreed & signed.

**1) Matters Arising**

- i) Potholes! Pothole ref-858385 (Langdon Farm) reported, repaired in December but now already needs to be repaired again! Substandard repair concerns that Keir are subcontracting out works.  
Somerset County Council funds are all allocated, Parish Council advises registering potholes to.....  
<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/potholes-and-road-damage/>  
if possible, please give details of pothole i.e. photo and location (What Three Words) to [philsketchley8@gmail.com](mailto:philsketchley8@gmail.com) so we can keep a reference log.  
Many other potholes have been registered, the above is just an example of an ongoing enquiry.
- ii) Placing of suggested new defibrillator discussed, BPC needs a location for an additional defib, is anyone happy to take on a defibrillator? The equipment requires constant electricity source to maintain heat to equipment. But VERY LOW power consumption  
Suggestions of either The Hut or a personal address, please contact Mr Simon Hoar, [sihoar@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sihoar@yahoo.co.uk)  
-if you think you could help be a home for a defibrillator.
- iii) New laptop & printer discussed for Parish Clerk, SS going ahead with refurbished laptop, software package to be confirmed.
- iv) River Cary & Environment Agency Watercourse, ongoing, disputed maintenance of vegetation in the river, letter received by Glynis Kingston, same sent to other local owners of properties along the river.  
In essence the EA are declaring that they have no legal responsibility to carry out this maintenance in 'low risk' areas due to insufficient funding.  
Paperwork confirms watercourse maintenance is the duty of owners but payments to Environment Agency still due, still contentious.  
Full details to be posted on Babcary WhatsApp.
- v) Village Crime concerns, Alison Loker, Neighbourhood Sergeant, revised police visit date 21/02/26.  
Application to Parish Council Community Safety Grant from Crimestoppers South West Karen MacDonalds, discussed, forwarding details to Alison Loker PCSO, for further input on Crimestoppers validity.
- vi) Assertion 10, and Accessibility training on 12/02/2026 giving further info on website PS to feed back in March 2026 meeting.

**2) Finance**

- i) Capital Reserve Account stands at £16,090.44 Current Account balance £50.

- ii) Dog Refuse & bin removal quote £1,216.80 (Dec 2024), reviewed, purchase of new bin for all waste discussed, removing the 3 bin clearance cost, revisit in March 2026 meeting. Somerset Council subsequently offered a lockable bin container, which can take all types of waste including dog bags, f.o.c. which just needs to be refurbished so a saving of c. £500
- iii) Clerk training SALC £25 inv.2596
- iv) PATA £60.20 ref 0541PPS
- v) CAB £50

### 3) Planning Consultation -

- i) None

### 4) Correspondence

- i) 2nd air ambulance 05/02/26, discussed charitable donation, to conclude next meeting.
- ii) Support for community warmer greener homes received via Somerset County Council, details published for advice on Babcary Whats App & Babcary Facebook, met with mixed responses, BPC are not promoting Thermly.
- iii) CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) update on where they are this year & charitable donation request £50 cheque raised.
- iv) Have your say on Social Care in Somerset, have you used social care? How can it be improved [www.somerset.gov.uk/ascstrategy26-29](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/ascstrategy26-29)  
Survey closes 27/03/26.
- v) Every Life Matters, suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business (free online training)  
Contact Every Life Matters on Somerset Events Training  
<https://www.mindinsomerset.org.uk/training/orange-button/>

### 5) AOB

- i) Date and Time of Next Meeting: 8pm Monday 9th of March 2026 in the Hut.

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)