

Minutes May 2026 (Approved)

Babcary Parish Council

Monday 11th May 2026 8.00pm at The Hut

Present: Mr Simon Hoar, Mrs Glynis Kingston, Mrs Vee Vyner, Mrs Jane Diamond, Mr Damien Pick, Mr Phil Sketchly, Mr Steve Street, Mr Kevin Messenger (County Councillor) Mrs Jasmine Tucker (Parish Clerk) & 1 Member of The Public (MP).

Apologies: Mr Henry Hobhouse (County Councillor).

April 2026 Minutes agreed & signed.

1) Election of chairman and vice chairman AGM MEETING

Simon Hoar, Chairman, Phil Sketchley proposed, Damien Pick seconded.

Phil Sketchley, Vice Chairman, Simon Hoar proposed, Damien Pick seconded

2) **Annual Parish Meeting - Open forum - no concerns raised.**

3) **Matters Arising**

- i) Potholes, Safety Defect Completion Monthly Review HH forwarded response to potholes Perry Hill, Dilkes Lane & Foddington Road now marked for repairs. PS reported back that potholes on Perry Hill were reported in late November 2025, repaired in December, and then broke down again in January 2026. It was re-reported and eventually got re-repaired in late March /April. This is just one example of many potholes reported. Please continue report any potholes or subsequent damage to vehicles due to potholes to Somerset Council.

On a lighter note, thank you to the kind soul who filled/patched the potholes along Babcary Lane. HH still to contact Tracey Harris (Highways) in moving forward.

- ii) Defibrillator update, SH sourced a 2nd defibrillator, via BHF (British Heart Foundation) for £1648, this includes a heat & light weatherproof bundle. It was suggested BPC contact Viridor re costs incurred for 2nd defib (Funds secured for bat boxes in the village possible further funds available).
- iii) Parish Clerk, .gov email, has been delayed due to current website being renewed. Website renewal by approved company required to add uk.gov email address. JT has approached approved companies in order to switch to compliant website in due course.
- iv) Dog refuse bin removal & multi use bin refurbishment progress, PS has painted ¼ of the new bin and SH has installed a new concrete base in preparation for renewed bin.

4) **Finance**

- i) Capital Reserve account stands at £20,280.83 Current Account balance £50.
- ii) AGAR instructions received April 2026, Babcary Parish Council certifies that during the financial year 2025/26, the higher of the authority's total gross income for the year or total gross annual expenditure, for the year did not exceed £25,000, and will be completing a certificate of exemption, confirmed, 11/05/26.
- iii) VV & JD bank account signatory status to be requested.

5) Planning Consultation -

- i) 26/00530/FUL Land at end of Dilkes Lane, Babcary
Awaiting Decision.

- 6) **Red Lion ACV** - car park disposal. Asset of Community Value Ref : ELP/HJS/ACV96S
Community Right to Bid. The parish council received notification from Somerset Council that the owners of the Red Lion were seeking to dispose of part of the car park. A six-week moratorium period has therefore come into effect from 6 April 2026 and ends on 18 May 2026 giving community groups an opportunity to express an interest in buying the car park asset of community value in place.
The parish council did not consider it practical to make a bid on the part of the car park being sold, though concerns were raised regarding alternative car parking provisions should this go ahead.
One comment received, Gary Tubridy.

7) Correspondence

- i) i) A substantial letter was received from Charie & Clare Garrard regarding the Red Lion and raising many issues. It was decided to invite them to a meeting prior to the next parish council to discuss the issues face to face and foster a better relationship for the future success of the pub.
- ii) Tim Marshwood, Heritage at Risk, Finger Posts & Somerset Forge regarding the state of the fingerposts. They were last repainted in 2018. SH has responded and will be repainting them in due course.
- iii)

- 8) **AOB**
 - i)

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