

West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council

Meeting of the West Tytherley, Frenchmoor and Buckholt Parish Council held in King Edward's Hall, West Tytherley, on Monday 14th September 2026, 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr N Carpenter (Chairman), Cllr M Down (Vice-Chairman) Cllr F Collier, Cllr F Collyer, Cllr R Gribble, and Cllr N Macpherson.

Also present: 6 Parishioners, Cllr N Adams-King (HCC), and S Bailey (Clerk).

2609-1	Chairman's remarks
Welcome to the meeting, thank you all for coming. If you are recording the meeting, please declare it.	
2609-2	To receive and accept apologies for absence
Cllr S MacDonald was unable to attend, the Parish Council accepted his apologies.	
2609-3	To receive declarations of pecuniary and personal interests relating to items on this agenda
The Chairman and Cllr Collyer have an interest in agenda items 2609-9 and 2609-16a and thus will not take part in any discussions or decisions relating to these agenda points.	
2609-4	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th July 2026
The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
2607-5	To receive report from Hampshire County Council
Cllr Adams-King gave an update on HCC: - Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – In other Counties LGR has been paused, but in Hampshire it has been withdrawn. There are a number of reasons it was withdrawn, firstly the Government had no defence to the judicial review HCC had filed against them and LGR, the Government had also breached both guidelines on LGR, by having no sustainable plan and by making the decision to progress LGR in an unsound fashion. Since the withdrawal HCC have received all their legal fees back and they have reserved their right to reinstate their challenge to LGR should the Government try and move forward with a similar plan. It is likely that it will take several years before a new plan is presented. - Devolution – This is now firmly established. A mayor is due to be elected in May 2028, but with the withdrawal of LGR this may be brought forward to May 2027. They are currently working on a growth plan, a skills and training plan, a transport plan and the spatial development strategy, which should help ease the pressure on local plans. - Local Plan – He is concerned that TVBC have pulled their Local Plan, particularly in light of the LGR withdrawal. Hopefully they will go back to their original Local Plan and get that through. He is really pushing Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) as they are the only protection Parishes have. - Highways – Work is continuing ready for the autumn, particularly digging grips. He is pushing for Dean Road to get done soon. The additional funding has helped get more work done, but it is unfortunately still not enough. - Parishioner question – On the Warren to the A30 there are still road closed signs and no road markings. - Cllr Adams-King – He will look into it, it would also be helpful if you could report any issues on the HCC website and then let him know the reference number. - Parishioner question – Are speculative developments still coming in? - Cllr Adams-King – Yes, very much so, this is why the NDP is so important.	
2609-6	To receive report from Test Valley Borough Council
Cllr MacDonald was unable to attend but sent a report:	

- Local Government Reorganisation - Notwithstanding the decision by Central Government in early summer around LGR – effectively to merge Test Valley with the New Forest, Winchester and East Hampshire – that decision has, as of last week, been “withdrawn” by the recently re-appointed Housing and Local Government Secretary, Angela Rayner. The view is that the decision will be reconsidered during the Party Conference recess, and we should know more later this year. Importantly, it has been “withdrawn” not merely “paused”, so we may or may not see a different future for Test Valley. I was never a fan of LGR as I do have significant reservations about the purported cost savings and efficiencies. I do however know that it will move Local Government further away from Local People with the resultant impact on Local Democracy. I also know that Local Government in the future will only be sustainable with a fundamental change in funding – the idea that simply making councils bigger will solve their financial problems is fantasy. The impact of all of this is that significant Council time, and taxpayer money, has almost certainly been wasted. TVBC will now exist for longer (although how much longer nobody knows) and TVBC elections will now take place in May 2027.
- Planning - Central Government imposed a 78% increase in Test Valley’s housing targets in December 2024. In good faith, through 2025 and early 2026 TVBC progressed a new draft local plan in an attempt to address that increased housing target and with the aim of limiting the borough’s vulnerability to future speculative development. Following yet further changes to national planning policy, it became clear that even if TVBC had adopted a new Local Plan later this year, the borough would continue to be vulnerable to speculative development for many years ahead due to the dramatic fall off in Housing Delivery (ie developer’s building and completing new homes, which are completely outside the control of the council). As such, TVBC took the difficult decision to pause the Local Plan in July and instead pivot towards a new Local Plan based on the expanded geography of the new Mid Hampshire Council (ie with our partner councils in the New Forest, Winchester and East Hampshire). With last week’s announcement about LGR being “withdrawn” we are now left in limbo (again) in regards Local Plan while Central Government work out what they want to do next – while at the same time, Test Valley continues to suffer from unplanned, speculative development of inappropriate scale and in inappropriate locations. To make matters worse, Central Government has also changed planning policy such that Local Councillors no longer have an automatic right to call planning applications to committee, with decisions instead being decided by officers. A further erosion of local democracy! The only saving grace in all of this is that many of the speculative planning applications currently being pursued will, in my view, never be built. With the housing market moribund due to high mortgage costs and construction costs, and limited buyer demand due to cost of living and general economic uncertainty, developers would have to be very brave financially to take the risks of pursuing these developments. I continue to assist a number of communities as they seek to resist speculative development applications. Recent precedent from other parts of Hampshire highlight that the planning inspectorate has and will reject inappropriate development in the countryside (although the bar for refusal remains extremely high).
- Fly-tipping - A man has been ordered to pay more than £1,300 after admitting to fly-tipping in Andover. Residents can report fly-tipping online at www.testvalley.gov.uk/fly-tipping.
- Andover Museum - TVBC and Andover Town Council are proposing to join forces to support the future of Andover Museum and the Museum of the Iron Age, with Hampshire Cultural Trust (HCT) seeking a combined funding package of £150,000. The two councils have been working closely with the HCT, which operates the museum, to identify a long-term solution that protects one of Andover’s most valued cultural and heritage attractions after fears it could close without long-term funding. If agreed, TVBC will provide £100,000 and Andover Town Council will contribute £50,000 to support the museum to remain open through LGR to March 2029. It is intended that this funding will provide time for HCT to explore more financially resilient and sustainable service delivery options and operating

models in partnership with the new unitary authority and Andover Town Council. Andover Museum and the Museum of the Iron Age play an important role in preserving and sharing the town's story, welcoming visitors, supporting education and providing opportunities for people of all ages to connect with the area's rich heritage.

- Annual Canvass 2026 - Residents across Test Valley will be contacted as part of the annual electoral canvass, an important process that helps ensure the electoral register remains accurate and up to date. The canvass is a legal requirement. Its purpose is to confirm who lives at each address and who is eligible to be registered to vote. Keeping the register accurate helps protect the integrity of elections and ensures residents can take part in local and national polls.

2609-7	To consider updating our Neighbourhood Development Plan
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Alan Bannister, the former NDPSG leader, made the following statement:

As a consequence of the uncertainty over LGR to council boundaries and the delay in the update to The Local Plan I want to make a statement to the Parish council on the NDP which is in a spirit of co-operation and assistance for the way forward. Firstly, I want to dispel the myth that planning applications for development are only about design especially in a conservation area. The Local Plan supported by our NDP (2022) contains policies covering the Environment and Landscape, Housing and Design, and Infrastructure including highway safety) and Community (ELHDIC). Depending on the nature of individual planning applications, differing emphasis on certain policies is applied.

Secondly, Our Joint NDP took over 5 years to develop (longer than hoped because of COVID), led by a NDPSG in support of the two parishes of West Tytherley and West Dean. Its good governance was strictly controlled covering a comprehensive survey of parishioner and local business's wishes in all the three main areas (ELHDIC). Financial rules were established and Conflicts of Interest were identified. Risk analysis was conducted.

At different levels of preparation/drafting, consultation was conducted not only within our parishes (including land/house/business ownership) and the two council authorities (including Highways) but across a wide-ranging list of public and private stakeholders (over 70) such as CPRE, Natural England. Historic England, Environment Agency, Special Protection Areas including the Solent and New Forest.

Green Spaces and Assets of Community Value were identified. The shop, while a treasured asset, is not registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) as is the pub. It should be as soon as possible.

The entire document backed up by evidence was thoroughly examined by a government approved planning lawyer and following several changes, cleared for Referendum. The made document was passed into law in March 2022.

With the uncertainty of how local councils will update their Local Plans, I strongly recommend the PCs produce a document/table that identifies/correlates the policies in the latest National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2026) versus the current Local Plans and our NDP. I am offering to do that with the help of two councillors (Margaret Down and Jane Higgins) and present to both councils in November's meetings. I will not be attending the October meeting (personal reasons). After the November PCs I will retire from attending PCs unless there is any specific item on the agenda that directly affects us. None of this work should delay current planning applications but will ensure we are ready for the future when the dust settles!

- The Parish Council thanked Mr. Bannister for all his work and his generous offer to help update the NDP and look forward to his findings in November.
- Cllr Adams-King noted that he may be able to help, as he has previously used AI as a starting point to help review similar documents. He will send Mr. Bannister the appraisal the AI carries out on the NDP.
- Mr. Bannister is sceptical of using AI but will have a look at the document Cllr Adams-King sends.
- Cllr Adams-King explained that as our NDP is approaching 5 years old it will lose some of its potency, so it is vital that we review it so that it can buy us another 5 years protection.

Cllr Adams-King left the meeting at 7:46pm**2609-8 To receive an update on the bottle bank**

- The Clerk spoke to BT, and they explained that for the homeowners to have fibre broadband they must connect to the post by the Hall as there is no fibre broadband down Church Lane.
- The only option is to raise the height of the cable by either attaching it to the hall or by putting in a new post at the bottom of the Hall's lawn and attaching it to that.
- At the Hall Committee meeting they decided that they would rather a post is installed at the bottom of the lawn. The Clerk has informed BT of this, and they are now liaising with the Hall directly.
- Additionally, they decided that in order for the bottle bank to return they would like the Parish Council to fund a 1m high fence and gate around the bottle bank location.
- The Parish Council are concerned about this being a wise use of funds and unanimously agreed that before agreeing they would like to know how much the fence/gate would cost, also how long it is going to take BT to install the new pole and when kerbside glass collections are due to start.
- The Clerk will speak to the Hall Committee and HCC to find this out.
- The Parish Council also considered putting the bottle bank on a privately owned track as a temporary measure until kerbside glass collections begin.
- Cllr Collyer will speak to the landowners to see if this is something they would agree to.
- In the meantime, the Parish Council is happy to help people take bottles to other local bottle banks. Please contact them if you require assistance.

2609-9 To receive an update on the Community Meeting held on 10th August 2026

Sally Walker, the Chair of the Village Shop, gave the following update:

- Thank you to the Parish Council for organising the meeting.
- 60 people attended the meeting, of which 85-95% were very positive about the shop extension.
- The main topics covered in the meeting were: funding, running costs, and how everything is going to be managed. To view the full 24-page update, please visit our website: <https://www.westtytherley-pc.gov.uk/community/west-tytherley-frenchmoor-buckholt-parish-council-15366/village-shop/>
- The key areas going forward will be; communication, fundraising, and setting up a project team.
- Very excitingly TVBC have just confirmed that they will be awarding the shop a £45,000 grant.

A Parishioner made the following statement:

- I have read all the relevant documents on the TVBC Planning Application website, including the recent input from Nick Culhane Highway consultant. I have read carefully the 50-minute presentation given by the chair of the Shop Committee at the meeting on the 10th August, which I attended. I have seen the Update in the Thorngate September Newsletter and assume that will form the basis of the update at Agenda Item 2609-9. My comments of 17 July on the TVBC website for the Planning Application 26/01281/FULLS remain, especially the parking issues. There is no available/suitable parking outside the shop. Despite the arguments and counter arguments regarding parking, the practical issues (disabled parking bay) need resolving whichever way the planning application goes. I am very supportive of the shop as a treasured asset in the community. I want it to remain viable. I think an extension will be admirable, provided it is primarily to help the shop survive indeed to thrive. Over years I have enjoyed so many community spirited moments in the shop. Thank you especially to Fee, Emma, Amy, Chloe, Neil and all the shop committee and their volunteers past and present. Also thank you to all the regulars in the shop who always have time for banter and a chat. As I said at the meeting of 10th August my concern over the split aims of a grocer's shop and

coffee shop, and the high priority given to the latter, remain. I hope that the financial forecast is robust and there are no conflicts of interest. I wish the shop well and let us hope the planning officer/committee supports the application.

Then the work can begin.

Ms. Walker thanked the Parishioner for his input and explained that they have not dismissed the parking issues and are looking at it as a separate matter. She noted that as a business they need to remain agile when problems arise, rest assured, they will make it work.

2609-10	To receive an update on the Resilience Project
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- Cllr Gribble has been given a map of all the water hydrants in the village, thank you to Paul Strutt, and given the recent local fires it is good for everyone to know their location.
- The Clerk has added a Resilience Project tab to the Parish Council website, which is where this map is located: <https://www.westytherley-pc.gov.uk/community/west-tytherley-frenchmoor-buckholt-parish-council-15366/southern-water-information/>. She will also publish the map on the village Facebook group so as many people are aware as possible.
- Cllr Gribble also has a lot of resilience information currently in A3 and A0 size paper, so is looking for the best way to put these on the website.

2609-11	To receive an update on a Parishioner's offer to donate a bench to the Parish Council
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- The bench the Parishioner has offered to donate will be made of C24 construction timber with a protective wood treatment. The Parishioner will also give some extra money to Men's Shed so they will maintain the bench.
- The Parish Council unanimously decided that the bench would be best installed by the fence next to the play park.
- The Clerk will liaise with the Parishioner to get the bench installed.

2609-12	To receive an update on moving the bin at the junction of Dean Road and Coopers Track
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The contractor has now installed a concrete base for the bin to sit on, at a cost of £182.42.

2609-13	To review the Financial Risk Assessment
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The Parish Council unanimously agreed that the Financial Risk Assessment does not need updating.

2609-14	To review what maintenance the village needs
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- There was a wasps nest by the play park, the footpath warden had attempted to treat the nest but was unsuccessful, thank you to him for trying. A professional pest controller was called in as the nest posed a significant danger to children using the park. The quote for this work was £65, the Parish Council unanimously agreed to pay this. The area should be avoided until at least 16/09/2026, then Cllr Collier will go and inspect/clean the area/pavilion.
- Cllr Macpherson inspected some issues raised with the play park, the basket swing leg is still sturdy, the ladybug isn't loose as far as he could tell, however there is a piece of wood that has rotted and has a bolt sticking out. The Clerk has contacted the handyman to have a look at this piece of wood and quote for a repair.
- The landscaper has trimmed the tree suckers that were starting to intrude into the play park.
- The landscaper cannot take on any more work at the moment so cannot tend to the War Memorial.
- The Clerk has now spoken to the Lengthsman and discovered that he was not receiving any of our jobs from Stockbridge Parish Council (the Council who manages the Lengthsman scheme). The Clerk will now liaise directly with the Lengthsman so hopefully jobs can start getting done again. So far, he has painted the bench by the bus stop, the bus shelter and the recreation ground fence. We are still waiting for him to trim around the bench up Chalkpit Lane, fix the steps on footpath 5 and resit the SID pole.
- New jobs for Lengthsman – Clear branches on Dean Road and tidy up footpath around the village shop.

2609-15	To receive an update on the roads and footpaths
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- A hedge at the North end of West Dean Road is significantly protruding into the road. The Clerk will write to the Landowners to ask them to trim it back.
- At the south end of Scouts Lane, a big puddle appears when it rains. Contractors dug new grips last week, but in the wrong place, the water would need to run up hill to get to them.
- Footpath Warden report – Footpath 8 is still overgrown. The track from Chalkpit Lane to Strides Farm is still overgrown, Cllr Collier has sent the landowners an email about this.

2609-16 **To review new planning applications and decisions**

- a) **26/01281/FULLS West Tytherley Post Office - Alterations to fenestration.** The first submission was made with an error, which has now been corrected. Cllr Down, Cllr Collier, Cllr Gribble, and Cllr Macpherson unanimously agreed that no vote is needed.
- b) **26/01655/CLPS Drove Farm Cottage, Dean Road - Lawful development certificate.** This application has been withdrawn.
- c) **26/01566/FULLS 6 North Lane - Erection of garden annexe.** This is a similar development to the house next door. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to no objection.
- d) **26/01515/FULLS Sopps Farm, The Coach Road - Installation of ground mounted solar photovoltaic array and erection of battery storage shed.** The field they are being installed in is not near the road, so will not be visible. Two footpaths run close by, however they will only be slightly visible from one footpath. A 2x1x2m shed will also be build next to the panels. The application is in line with section E2 of the Local Plan and EL1 and EL8 of the NDP and is considered a sustainable development by the NPPF. They can also be removed at any time. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to no objection.
- e) **26/01910/FULLS Drove Farm Cottage, Dean Road - Erect oak framed garage.** The garage will be 6x9.4m. A few small trees will need to be removed, but they are protecting the roots for the bigger trees. It is compliant with the Local Plan. It is quite close to the road, but as there are many trees in the area it will be hard to see. The application does not include drainage and as there is already a drainage issue in that area it should be considered. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to no objection on the condition that the drainage is considered and properly installed.
- f) **Tree Preservation Order Friars Orchard, Rectory Hil.** The Parish Council noted this decision.
- g) **Tree application decisions.** A dead horse chestnut tree has been removed at West Tytherley school. 2 dead ash trees that have TPOs need to be removed at Glebe House, Rectory Hill.

2609-17 **Finance**

a) To start considering the budget for the 27/28 financial year

Red numbers still liable to change.

Receipts	Actual 25/26	Budget 26/27	Actual 26/27	Variance 26/27	Forecast 27/28
Precept	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00
VAT Reclaim	£2,140.09	£1,000.00	£597.30	£-402.70	£200.00
HCC	£344.00	£350.00	£344.00	£-6.00	£344.00
Interest	£152.29	£175.00	£90.00	£-85.00	£100.00
Pavilion Hire	£200.00	£200.00	£220.00	£20.00	£250.00
Refunds	£33.04	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Receipts	£22,869.42	£21,725.00	£21,251.30	£-473.70	£20,894.00
Payments					
Utilities	£1,377.47	£1,500.00	£200.00	£1,300.00	£300.00
Website/Email	£307.26	£350.00	£329.76	£20.24	£350.00
Payroll	£9,451.09	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	£11,000.00
Clerk Expenses	£0.00	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	£50.00
Locum Clerk	£140.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Speed Indicator Device	£259.50	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Finance	£762.00	£200.00	£260.00	£60.00	£300.00
Contractors	£1,387.00	£1,500.00	£747.42	£752.58	£1,500.00
Updating NDP	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£5,000.00
Election	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Resilience Project	£1,756.61	£200.00	£50.00	£150.00	£100.00
Playparks	£346.00	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Hall Contribution	£1,050.84	£1,200.00	£1,063.96	£136.04	£1,200.00
Insurance	£1,022.79	£1,050.00	£1,000.63	£49.37	£1,050.00
Replacements	£571.23	£0.00	£6.66	£6.66	£500.00
Training	£0.00	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	£200.00
Subscriptions	£391.00	£375.00	£328.00	£47.00	£375.00
Defib	£0.00	£500.00	£300.00	£200.00	£0.00
Asset Purchase	£0.00	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00	£150.00
Donations	£60.00	£500.00	£1,030.00	£530.00	£500.00
VAT	£597.30	£1,000.00	£200.00	£800.00	£500.00
Total Payments	£19,480.09	£19,275.00	£16,016.43	£3,258.57	£24,575.00
Money Into Reserve	£3,389.33	£2,450.00	£5,234.87	£2,784.87	£3,681.00
Balance Carried Forward	£15,544.22	£17,994.22	£20,779.09	£2,784.87	£17,098.09

The Parish Council will review this budget and rediscuss at the next meeting.

b) To note the NALC pay scale increase

The Clerk is on pay scale 19, which is increasing from £16.62 an hour to £17.17 an hour, back dated to April.

c) To agree upcoming invoices

- Killtech Pest Control £65 (quote) – agreed
- Michael Eastwood Landscaping £500 – agreed
- West Dean playpark contribution £300 – agreed

d) To note July and August's receipts/payments and expected receipts/payments.

Outs (Current Account)

Date	Payment	Total	VAT	Net	Balance
09/07/2026	Octopus Energy	£20.56	£0.98	£19.58	£2,691.13
22/07/2026	Hugo Fox (Emails)	£20.99	£3.50	£17.49	£2,670.14
23/07/2026	HMRC	£157.54	£0.00	£0.00	£2,512.60
27/07/2026	Hugo Fox	£11.99	£2.00	£9.99	£2,500.61
31/07/2026	S Bailey Payroll	£722.18	£0.00	£722.18	£1,778.43
31/07/2026	Office Allowance July	£26.00	£0.00	£26.00	£1,752.43
10/08/2026	Jamie Bowditch (Dog bin base)	£182.42	£0.00	£182.42	£1,570.01
11/08/2026	Octopus Energy	£19.44	£0.93	£18.51	£1,550.57
24/08/2026	Hugo Fox (Emails)	£20.99	£3.50	£17.49	£1,529.58
25/08/2026	Hugo Fox	£11.99	£2.00	£9.99	£1,517.59
28/08/2026	S Bailey Payroll	£722.18	£0.00	£722.18	£795.41
28/08/2026	Office Allowance August	£26.00	£0.00	£26.00	£769.41

Ins (Deposit Account)

Date	Receipts	Total	Balance
09/07/2026	Interest	£8.67	£21,109.51
10/08/2026	Interest	£9.25	£21,118.76

The Parish Council checked the balances against the bank statements.

Expected Receipts/Payments

Ins

Receipt	Expected Total	Date
Precept	£10,000.00	September

Broughton FC	£200.00	September
Interest	£70.00	Monthly (Approx £10.00)
HCC	£258.00	Quarterly (£86.00)
Total	£10,528.00	
Outs		
Payments	Expected Total	Date
ICO	£47.00	December
Electricity	£175.00	Monthly (Approx £25.00)
Website/Email	£230.86	Monthly (£32.98)
Payroll	£5,270.00	Monthly (Approx £740.00)
Bank Service Charge	£29.75	Monthly (£4.25)
Water	£100.00	Quarterly (Approx £50.00)
HMRC	£300.00	Quarterly (Approx £150.00)
Clerk Expenses	£50.00	Unknown
Contractors	£1,300.00	Unknown
Playparks	£1,000.00	Unknown
Training	£200.00	Unknown
Defib	£500.00	Unknown
Asset Purchase	£150.00	Unknown
Donations	£500.00	Unknown
Total	Total £9,852.61	
2609-18	Matters for future meetings	
- Cllr Collier is looking into the shelf life of defibrillator pads, as it is a shame to keep throwing away unused pads. - The Parish Council unanimously agreed to order a poppy wreath for the war memorial at a cost of £30. - BT were seen carrying out work on the telephone box, the Clerk will look into what they were doing.		
2609-19	Public Session: To receive questions from members of the public	
- Parishioner question – Some spectators of the Broughton junior football teams have been bringing their dogs onto the recreation ground. Can we let them know that this is not allowed? - The Clerk will speak to Broughton FC’s Chairman about this issue. - Parishioner question - Can the signage in the village be reviewed? - The Clerk will put this on the next agenda. - Parishioner question – Can the village shop put something in the noticeboard? - Cllr Down, Cllr Collier, Cllr Gribble, and Cllr Macpherson unanimously agreed to this.		
2609-20	To decide on the date for the next meeting	
Monday 12 th October, 7pm.		
Meeting Closed at 8:57pm		

N Carpenter

Chairman of the Parish Council