

ABBOTS LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held at Village Hall, Abbots Leigh on Monday 08th September 2025 at 7.00pm

MINUTES

Present: Councillors S Talbot-Ponsonby (Chair), K Das (Vice Chair), R Delany, J Ho Marris.

Parish Clerk Nicola Rice

Absent: Councillors M Walker

Public Participation – No members of public present.

31/25 To note the absence of councillors at the meeting.

The absence of Councillors M Walker was noted.

32/25 To accept declarations of interest in accordance with the Adopted Code of Conduct September 2024.

There were no declarations of interest.

33/25 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on Monday 14th July 2025.

It was resolved to approve the minutes.

The Chairman signed the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

34/25 Planning, New Applications:

25/P/1739/AOC	Roots Allotments Abbots Leigh Road	Request to discharge conditions 8 (CCTV Posts), 9 (Entrance Gate), 12 (Vehicular Access Surfacing), 13 (Horse Box Removed), 14 (Solar Panels Removed), 21 (Tree Protection Plan) and 22 (Remedial Works) from application 24/P/1911/FUL. <i>Note that those conditions had been met but object to the fact that the conditions 6 and 7 relating to the containers had not been met.</i>
25/P/1678/FUH	Hazelhurst Pill Road Abbots Leigh BS8 3RG	Demolition of existing conservatory and proposed erection of a single storey rear extension to include a new decking area. <i>No comment.</i>

25/P/1617/FUH	Oak Wood Lodge Abbots Leigh Road Abbots Leigh BS8 3QB	Proposed erection of a single storey timber frame car port structure and associated works, to create vehicle parking and storage. <i>No comment.</i>
25/P/1477/FUL	Rise 1 Harris Lane Abbots Leigh BS8 3QX	Proposed demolition of the existing dwelling and garage with the subsequent erection of a replacement dwelling and detached garage with associated landscaping and hardstanding works. <i>Abbots Leigh has no comment to make on this application other than to request that should it be approved, there should be a condition attached that the garage can not be converted into an additional dwelling in the future.</i>

Approvals/Refusals/Withdrawn:-

25/P/1335/FUH	14 Knightcott Road Abbots Leigh BS8 3SB	Demolition of the existing conservatory and proposed erection of a new replacement warm roof conservatory to the front elevation. <i>Registered.</i>
25/P/1263/TPO	Leigh Court Road Pill Road Abbots leigh BS8 3RA	Sycamore - Remove 3 lowest branches and remove all deadwood. Prunus - Remove. Fallen Ash Stem - Remove. Sweet chestnut -Reduce scaffold limbs over driveway by 3m. T259A (Holly) - Remove. T278 (Larch) -Remove dead/broken branches and remove detritus from unions. G275 (Ash) – Remove hanger/dead branches and remove understorey to allow for platform access. T236 (Douglas Fir) - Remove broken branches and Deadwood. Adjacent to T236 (Ash) - Remove. <i>Approve.</i>
25/P/1341/PIP	12 Knightcott Road Abbots leigh BS8 3SB	Permission in Principle for the demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of 2no. dwellings. <i>Refuse.</i>
25/P/1286/H2PA	Grangewood House Manor Rd Abbots Leigh	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposal to construct an

	BS8 3RP	additional storey to existing dwellinghouse, to a maximum height of 10.78 metres. <i>Decided, Prior approval - refuse (not PD)</i>
25/P/1285/HHPA	Grangewood House Manor Rd Abbots Leigh BS8 3RP	Prior approval request for the erection of a single storey side/rear extension with a flat roof that would 1) extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 7.91 metres; 2) have a maximum height of 3.85 metres and 3) have eaves that are 3.85 metres high. <i>Decided, Prior approval not required.</i>
25/P/0846/LDP	14 Knightcott Road Abbots Leigh BS8 3SB	Certification of Lawful Development for the removal of existing side conservatory and erection of a larger replacement conservatory in place. <i>Refuse.</i>

35/25 Local Plan - On the 28 July 2025 we had a meeting with Jason Beale and Marcus Hewitt and PEIG PC. It should be noted that we objected as a Parish Council to the fact that the latest plan is proposed to include 1100 additional houses in a new Pill Strategic Development Area, which had not been included in the initial consultation document. As of today, the final package of the text is not ready and now be ready for the October 2025. Regulation 19 of the local plan will be open for 6 weeks. Anyone that comments will be allowed to attend and make an oral representation.

The Parish Councils have been invited to a presentation by the Agents about a proposal to develop 100 houses on the land opposite St Katherine's school on 21st October. It was agreed to attend to listen to their proposals.

36/25 To consider the approval and payment of the following monthly invoices.

Any invoices received after the publication of the agenda will also be considered.

Invoice date	Supplier	Description	Amount £	VAT £	Total £
None	Nicola Rice	Clerk's salary	649.86	0	649.86
None	Mick Dillon	Caretakers salary	850.00	0	850.00
None	HMRC	PAYE	281.39	0	281.39

27.8.25	BDO	External Auditor	315.00	63.00	378.00
31.8.25	Clerks Expenses	Quarterly expenses & Photo copying	20.70	0	20.70
None	Nest	Pension	19.41	0	19.41
27.8.25	Simon TP	Village Hall Costs	116.17	0	116.17
18.8.25	GB Sports	Playground Inspection	30.00	6.00	36.00

It was resolved to approve the payments.

37/25 To receive the North Somerset Councillor report.

Ward Councillor Report (Pill Ward) from Councillor Jenna Ho Marris.

Pill Library is facing closure, there is a consultation which will close 24 October and I urge ALPC to respond, consider the impacts to our residents, and to consider what support it can provide. There is an engagement session on 17 Sept 2-6pm at Pill library. Why is NSC considering closing this library? Councils have a legal obligation (Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964) to provide “a comprehensive and efficient” library service for all those who “live, work, or study and want to access the service”. Beyond this legal definition NSC does not have any statutory requirement to provide library services and due to the severely constrained financial situation we have included cuts and changes to services with a view to saving 433,000 over 2 years starting from next Financial Year. There are 11 libraries in total. There have been successive library closures since 2009 by previous administrations which have targeted Long Ashton and Backwell while Congresbury was able to convert towards a community run model. In August Simon and I met with a Pill group keen to set up a Friends group to explore ways to keep the service going. Many AL residents use Pill library although some prefer Clifton or Bristol alternatives. Propose that ALPC members (STP/ JHM) continue to work with AL residents and Pill residents.

Action JHM & STP: ALPC members to consider AL impact & wants/needs, attend engagement, draft consultation response & support Pill PC and Friends group to come up with proposal.

38/25 To discuss village matters

Police Report

No updates since June 2025.

Village Hall

It has been suggested that a headset microphone should be purchased as the current microphone isn't always clear. The lapel microphone should be considered to be mended. Some councillors considered that we should not repair the lapel microphone and just buy the headset microphone. Approx cost is £600. **Action STP** to instruct. The Halls regular electrical survey needs doing, it was agreed to ask Roland J Bell to carry out the work. Additionally, an upgrade to a less sensitive trip switch for the solar panel system is needed at the same time as it regularly trips out, probably because we have an earth to ground in the hall. **Action STP** to get a quote with a view to instructing Roland J Bell to do the work.

A new Parish Council letter box has been ordered to be fitted beside the kitchen entrance in advance of the official address being changed. It was noted that since the installation of the Solar Panels in April the monthly ratio of electrical power generated and the amount of power used was between 2.1 and 2.9. In the winter half of the year, it is likely to be reversed. There are minor changes needed for the VH Website to include the dishwasher, clarify terms for children's parties and meeting times. **Action STP and MW**

Former Skittle Alley - nothing to report.

Traffic Issues & Footpaths

Kamala is still waiting for Bristol university in regards to monitoring the air quality. Kamala will contact PEIG PC regarding SID again, as she has had no response from her first email.

STP has had details of the proposed cycle path works outside Clifton College Sports ground, a new sign for the junction with Dennyview Road, relocation of misplaced signs and adjustments to the cycle path alongside Leigh Bank by the George which includes flexible bollards to protect the posts in the path. **Action STP** to follow up with the owner of Leigh Bank

Verges

Verges at Poundbatch and outside the church yard have been cut by Kevin Weeks. David Smith will be asked to flail the verges to Manor Road, Manor Lane, A369 between Home Farm Road and the Avenue and the east verge of the A 369 from Harris Lane towards the George. STP to instruct David Smith. Community pay back team did not come as expected at the beginning of September and will now come this Saturday (13th) and every 4 weeks this weekend. Discussions have been had with Bob Buck of Pill & Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council whether we share this service.

Playing Fields & Events

A TPO is required for the removal of the dangerous goat willow tree in the Playing Field **Action STP** to apply. Kevin will be cutting the hedges. Civic Society are considering using a third party professional to manage the fire works with the CS managing the rest including the bonfire for the annual event in the old school field.

Abbots Pool

There is a working party this weekend.

Civic Society

Nothing to report.

39/25 To receive the Chair's report.

Nothing additional to report.

40/25 To receive Clerk's report.

The parish clerk wishes to let the Councillors know that Abbots Leigh Parish Council has passed the AGAR for 24/25. The parish clerk will officially be on holiday week commencing 15th September for 1 week. Request for remaining Parish Councillors to complete the paperwork to become signatories for the bank account so that there is flexibility for approvals in the event of councillors being away. **Action JHM and KD**

41/25 To consider items for the next meeting agenda.

The meeting closed at 20.30pm.

End of minutes.