



Creech St Michael Village Hall

MINUTES

of Committee Meeting held on

Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 7pm

- 1. Welcome** Jan welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending
- 2. Present** **Iris Chown** (President); **Jan King** (Chairman); **Peter Brown** (Vice Chairman); **Liz Sweeting** (Treasurer); **Margaret Gover** (Secretary); **Lin Deeley**; **Martin Peat**; **Gaynor Underhill**; **Alan Prime**; **Douglas Jones**; **Barbara Williams**; **Annabelle Peters** and **Rebecca Beautyman** (Manager)
- 3. Apologies** Were received from Brenda Picknell
- 4. Minutes of last Meeting** Were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairm
- 5. Matters Arising** There were no Matters Arising
- 6. Managers Report**

1. Website Revamp & Engagement

I am pleased to report that our revamped website has been live since 3rd January. In the short time since, the data shows that visitors are staying on our site for over three times longer than they were previously. This suggests that the new layout is much more engaging and useful for the community. I am currently awaiting a few final details from our regular hall users to complete their dedicated pages, but overall, the feedback regarding the new website has been excellent.

2. Fundraising & Community Vibrancy

I would like to continue with fundraisers this year. Given how popular Bingo was, I suggest we keep it running as a staple. Additionally, I would like to explore inviting “pop-up” hosts to the hall, such as pottery painting or local craft workshops - particularly during the school holidays. These events are designed to be low-risk: the hosts bring their own supplies and charge for the activity, while we provide the refreshments. Whilst these events may not generate a direct profit for the hall, the real value lies in the footfall. It brings new people through our doors, establishes the Hall as a centre for village life, and helps us connect with a younger generation of potential volunteers. I would also like to discuss with committee members LD and LB to discuss their contacts and expertise (SASP Sensory/Educational), to see where we might collaborate on new activities for the hall.

Signed Date.....

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7. Treasurers Report

- **EDF-currently £298.00 in credit** we have received an e-mail to say there would be an increase in the direct debit to £392.16 per month from March 1st . agreement that DD with remain at £250.00 with any debt occurred being paid as it occurs
- Bionics to send quote for our business energy – runs out Jan 29th
- Interest Rates will drop from 1.75% to 1.55% from January 23rd on the two Gold Accounts
- CIL (community infrastructure levy) monies have been transferred to Projects account -garden fund
- Hallmaster -price increase from January 1st , current £265.00
- New £279.00 (due July)
- McAfee price due on February 19th cost will be: £114.99, which has been paid
- Music licence for this year £256.42 Roughly £90.00 less than last year. They have amended their Terms and Conditions No new licence is issued

MONTHLY ACCOUNTS up to November 30th 2025

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

SOURCE	AMOUNT	PAYEE	AMOUNT
HALL HIRE	3286.75	ARROW ELECTRICS	206.00
		Water boiler	
CAR PARK	72.00	BT	55.38
CHRISTMAS FAYRE TABLE RENTS	40.00	CAF account fee	5.00
		CARETAKER	150.00
		CLEANER	210.00
		EDF	250.00
		LAUNDRY	80.00
		MANAGER /BOOKINGS	365.75
		GIFF GAFF -phone	12.00
		ALLIED WESTMINISTER insurance	1471.03
		REPLACEMENT/RENEWELS	72.75
		TRANSFER TO PROJECTS ACCOUNT (Garden Fund)	50.00
		WASTEOLGY	60.00
TOTALS	3398.75		2987.91

TREASURERS ACCOUNT: £13,077.43

RESERVES

ACCOUNT: £ 23,623.34 **PROJECTS ACCOUNT:** £29,757.57 (**Garden Fund** £1,075.60)

Signed Date.....

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MONTHLY ACCOUNTS DECEMBER 2025

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

SOURCE	AMOUNT	PAYEE	AMOUNT
HALL HIRE	3796.00	BT	55.38
CAR PARK	72.00	CAF account fee	5.00
CHRISTMAS FAYRE TABLE RENTS	20.00	CARETAKER	195.00
CIL	20,000.00	CLEANER Incl dec payment	240.00 90.00
BULL STREET DONATION	73.15	COMMUNITY NEWS EVENT	75.00
PARISH COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY NEWS EVENT	75.00	EDF	250.00
		LAUNDRY	90.00
		MANAGER /BOOKINGS Incl website management	703.00
		GIFF GAFF -phone	12.00
		T&C ELECTRICAL lighting	181.75
		TRANSFER TO PROJECTS ACCOUNT (Garden Fund)	20,573.15
		WASTEOLGY	60.00
		WINDOW CLEANER	25.00
TOTALS	£24,036.15		£22,555.28

TREASURERS ACCOUNT: £14,558.30

RESERVES ACCOUNT: £ 23,726.41

PROJECTS ACCOUNT: £50,464.55 (Garden Fund £21,648.75)

8. Community News CREECH CONNECTED

Rebecca Beautyman

I've been thinking a lot about the end of the Creech community news. I appreciate that taking it on is not an option, but for nothing to replace it would be such a shame and would leave the Village with no way of finding out what's happening in the area.

I've put together an idea I'd like to call Creech Connected. It's a way to bring every local business, the churches, school and all the local hall & events into one place. This will also mean we can avoid two big local events clashing! I know that for many in the village, the magazine was special because it was a way of communicating what was happening locally, especially for those without internet access. But as we know, printing and

Signed Date.....



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distribution are expensive and take a lot of hands. So, I'm proposing we start Creech Connected online first. Think of it as a digital noticeboard on google. It's free to run, we can update it in a matter of seconds, and it's available to everyone with the internet immediately. We could even start a Facebook platform for it so that people can extend the knowledge to their neighbours or family members that do not have the internet - Also we can involve the village agent to get the word out to those without internet and perhaps have a monthly diary page printed out and displayed at the Hall. I would like to design the calendar to be very easy to read. It would be colour-coded: one colour each for wellness and outdoors / social and arts / kids and families / volunteering and civic. My thought is to have a main calendar for those big one-off events like the Christmas Fayre, and a separate calendar for weekly goings-on. It would be tidy, bright, and simple. I know it sounds like a lot of work, which can be daunting, but I've already done all the heavy lifting. I've set up the mainframe for the calendar, an email, and an online form for people to submit their events. I have also linked them all together, so that when someone fills in the form, it automatically loads into a ready-made spreadsheet on my laptop. I look it over, approve or reject it and if approved it will pop directly onto the calendar. There will be no extra work other than updating the google calendar when required. I'll happily be the gatekeeper to make sure all the

9. Booking Report New Hirers:

We have a new regular group starting at the end of this week, Somerset Stage & Screen Orchestra.

New Booking Form:

People now have two ways of booking with us online. The link that sends them to Hallmaster to create a booking, or a booking form that is on our new website. The form seems to be popular with first time users, and I have already seen a significant reduction in phone calls and enquiry emails in the 3 weeks since it went live. Also, I am unsure whether this is a coincidence or not, but each booking that has been booked directly through this form rather than Hallmaster, so far, have all paid within less than 24 hours of booking. Which creates less work for me and for the treasurer especially.

Bookings:

DBP

December - January:

Classes - 351 hours and 45 minutes

Meetings - 101 hours and 30 minutes

Single Use/Parties - 160 hours

Committee/Private - 32.5 hours

Total 645.75

Running at over 50% capacity.

Only one cancellation in this period, due to non payment.

Signed Date.....



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10.Village Hall Garden

Following a meeting with Peter Brown, Liz Sweeting and Margaret Gover Jan met with two contractors to ask for a quotation for landscaping the Village Hall Garden. A plan had been agreed to include Tree works, Removal of Hedge and Fencing, Block paving to existing hard surfaces, and a block paved area and paths, Sleeper beds concrete path extension, levelling and turfing of lawn. The quotes ranged from £21,000 -£30,000. The merits of both contractors were discussed and it was decided that in the interests of transparency further quotes should be sought. This to be arranged in the very near future.

11.Parking Management

The Committee had been approached by a parking Management Company who would monitor the parking situation ensuring that only users of the Village Hall were using the parking facilities. There would be no cost to the Hall.

Details of this had been circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting. The members were divided in opinion of whether to pursue this. Following discussion Lin volunteered to research how the carpark was used and by whom, as it was unclear whether or not there was a continuing problem with users being unable to use the carpark.

12.A.O.B

Alan reported that the water boiler was out of order again. Instructions will be written and placed near the boiler to ensure users are informed of correct procedure for use.

Barbara requested that we obtain new Banners advertising our Markets . TBA

The Committee reviewed the Managers Role and unanimously agreed that Rebecca was doing a fantastic job which was over and above what had been envisaged when she started. It was also agreed that she should be paid for the whole of her contracted time ie 30 hours per month and continue to send a detailed worksheet/invoice for the work she has done.

Her PayScale will be reviewed after she has completed one year in the role.

Her work so far has been very much appreciated and noted by the Committee and has made a huge improvement to the running of the hall.

Please note the Dates of next meetings

Committee meetings

19th March at 1.30pm

21st May at 6pm

AGM

6th June at 2pm

Signed Date.....