

DONYATT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on July 15th 2025 @ 7pm in the David Willis Room, Donyatt Village Hall.

Present: Cllr D Light- Chairman, Cllrs S Payne, G Wilson, J Attlesey, K Light.

One member of the public.

25/51 Public question time including Somerset county councillor reports. No report had been received; no ward Cllr was in attendance. An email offering to clear the undergrowth at Donyatt Halt, especially the area around the Dragons Teeth had been received from a member of the public who was present. After discussion it was agreed that Cllr D Light would meet on site with the member of the public and discuss a possible way forward. The Council expressed their thanks for their interest and offer made. With the changes within Somerset Council as a result of the Council becoming a Unitary Council, Donyatt Parish Council in common with many Parish Councils appreciate offers from residents volunteering their help.

25/52 To receive any apologies for absence . Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J McKenzie.

25/53 To receive any declarations of interest and approve any dispensations. Cllr J Attlesey declared an interest in Item 10. Noted and accepted.

25/54 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2025. The minutes were approved and signed.

25/55 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 2025. The minutes were approved and signed.

25/56 Review action points and update from last meeting held on 14th May 2025

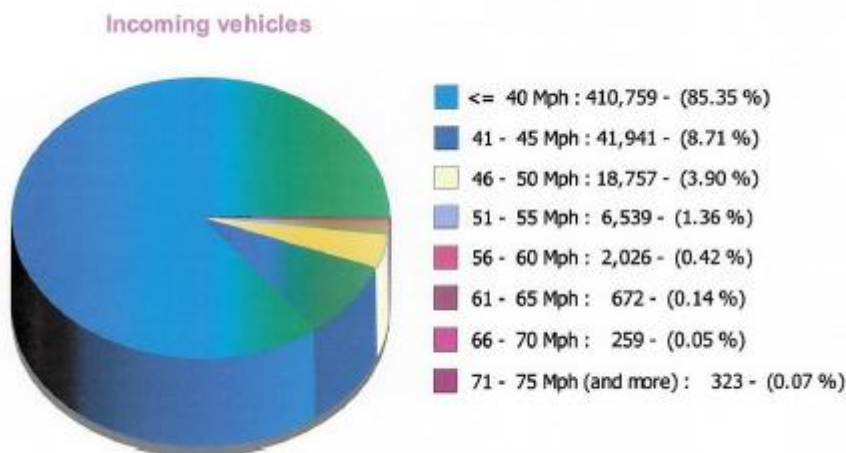
Website accessibility and new website update. Clerk reported that this matter is ongoing and quotes will be collated and presented to a future meeting. A new website must be in operation before March 2026.

25/57 DRAC– update re letter to apply for the recreation area to be designated a village green. Clerk reported that a letter has now been received from the lessees and trustees of the Recreation Area. The Clerk will complete the required paper work and submit to SC. With the staff changes at SC it is possible that this matter may not be dealt with in the near future.

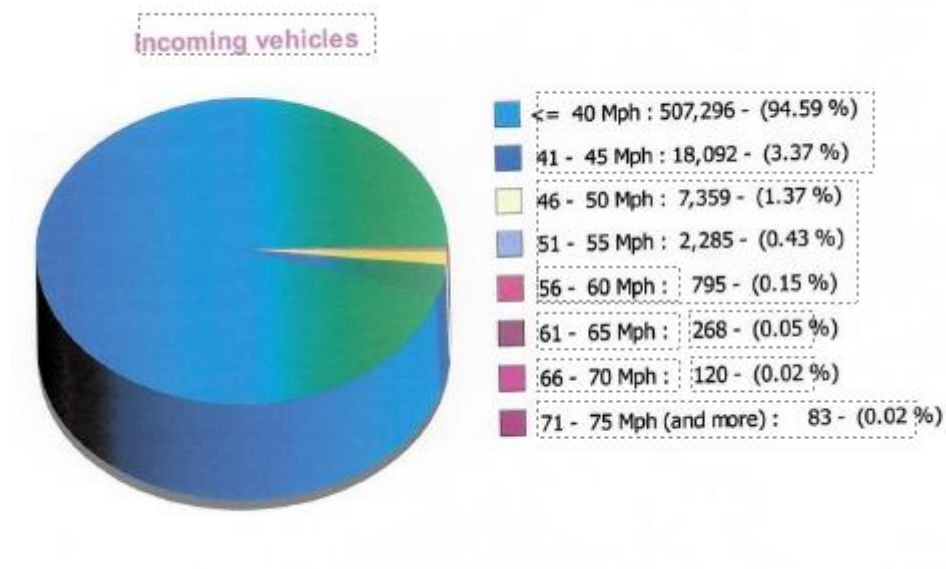
25/58 Drainage works at Stibbear Lane. Cllr Attlesey reported that the drainage work was progressing well, there has been some damage to the tarmac surface, hopefully SC will repair the affected area. The next stage of the drainage is to upgrade the drainage on either side of the A358.

25/59 SID data. Cllr Payne tabled reports noting that since 6th March 2025 – 14th July 2025 the section of the A358 from Peasmarch to Donyatt (40mph) had seen 481,276 vehicle movements. The section of the A358 coming in from A303 to Donyatt saw 536,298 vehicle movements. Average vehicle compliance with speed limits just under 90%. Average daily vehicle movements are 7,768.

Peasmarch to Donyatt SID data:



Incoming traffic from A303 to Donyatt SID data:



25/60 Update re Cycleway Chard- Ilminster. Cllr D Light had met with Somerset Council representatives, including reps from Rights of Way, Chard & Ilminster. Persimmon have pledged 80K towards maintenance of the cycleway between Chard & Ilminster. It is not known at what stage of the Canal Way development this money will be paid, it is expected that building will commence early in 2026. An informal working group with Ilminster/Chard/Donyatt may be the most effective and pragmatic way forward. The area may be eligible for an accessibility grant.

25/61 Flood Alleviation Plans: Highways representative John Nicholson is due to visit the most affected areas in July 2025. Cllrs D Light & S Payne will meet with him to discuss Flooding and Crow Lane. The Council consider that “run off” from farmland, resulting from removal of traditional crops and hedges is a major contributor to the regular flooding. PC may consider making representations to SC regarding leasehold land which is owned by SC; requests for better management to alleviate flooding are of primary concern.

25/62 FINANCIAL REPORTS

- Approve & sign Bank statements to date.
- Current account £2949.95 Instant access Account £16045.50 Total funds held: £18995.45
- To approve and sign bank reconciliations.
- Payment requests for authorisation.

25/63 ONGOING ISSUES

- Traffic calming measures through Sea – the signage is due to be installed by SC.
- Canal Way – update from meeting held on 26th June 2025. Developer now indicates that 311 units will be built. There is concern regarding the access road, and removal of a hedge to facilitate this. DPC will continue to monitor to site. Some houses may directly abut the boundary with Donyatt and potential water run off will also be monitored.
- Drainage & Flood Prevention

25/64 Update re Enhanced Highway Maintenance – Report from SC was noted.

25/65 Pre planning application. Cllr Attlesey outlined a proposed development for his current property within the current curtilage and adjacent land.

25/66 Village Fete – This event was very successful and provides much needed support for the Parish Church. Agreed to publicise event earlier next year and request volunteers to assist.

25/67 Re-surfacing and re curbing pathway Crow Lane to Village Hall – Cllr Payne expressed his concerns regarding the current condition of the surface and absence of pavement curbs in some areas. Vehicles encroach onto the pavement causing further damage and jeopardising pedestrian safety. Agreed that Cllrs DL & SP will meet with John Nicholson – SC Highways representative on site to discuss issue and possible resolutions.

25/68 Public Pathway Liaison Office vacancy – no applications have been received – Cllr D Light is considering acting as overall liaison contact and using Village volunteers to maintain the footpaths.

25/69 Reports to note:

a. **Rivers Annual Report.** – noted:

15/07/25 PAYMENT REQUESTS FOR AUTHORISATION. Approved.

15 07 2025	Refund Clerk	FILCA & PIALC	144.00
REGULAR PAYMENTS TO NOTE			
Salary	SO	28 th monthly	333.64
HMRC	SP	28 th monthly	78.41

Meeting closed at 21.00hrs.

Next meeting is 09th September 2025