Supporting Papers

Mudford Parish Council meeting

29th October 2026

Prepared by: Petra Galloway

Parish Clerk/RFO

26/255 To receive an update on matters arising from previous meetings and to review the action list:

i. Withy Bed land registration (Clerk) – supporting documents are nearing completion.
ii. A359 path to Hales Meadow (Clerk) – awaiting a site visit from SC's Highways team.
iii. Permissive paths (Clerk) – ongoing.
iv. Thorney Lane (Cllr Bartlett) – Cllr Bartlett has spoken to the landowner, who indicated he is amenable to carrying out the necessary works if the materials were supplied by Somerset Council.
v. Footpath north of River Yeo to Snake Island/Trent (Clerk, Cllr Bartlett) – Cllr Bartlett has inspected the footpath and agrees that the trees have been planted too close together. He is leasing with SC's Area Footpath Coordinator who contact the landowner to investigate the matter further. Cllr Bartlett has also suggested that the stile could be replaced by a kissing gate and will enquire whether this could be arranged.
vi. Recreation Ground's bramble hedge (Clerk) – the hedge has been cut and the area is now tidy. An invoice is expected shortly.
vii. 25/01367/S73 complaint (Clerk) – the clerk contacted the Monitoring officer but has not yet received a response.
viii. SAPPP consultation (Clerk) – completed by the clerk.
ix. Cemetery drains (Clerk) – the drains have now been cleared by Somerset Council.
x. 3VFG meeting with Somerset Council – flood resilience programme (Clerk) - the clerk and the chair attended the meeting at the invitation of the 3VFG.
xi. Quotes for play repairs (Clerk) – 3 quotes were requested; however, only one quote for partial works has been received so far. The clerk expects a second contractor to visit the site next week.
xii. Quotes for cemetery chapel repairs (Clerk) – 4 quotes requested. The clerk expects to receive one quote within the next few days.

ACTION LIST

Note: The action list has now been updated to include actions arising from the Community Plan, which are marked **"CP"**.

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL ACTION LIST

CP: Stands for Community Plan actions agreed on 29th Sept 2026

Item	Meeting Date	Action	Assigned To	Review Date	Outcome	Status	
70	30-Jan-25	To continue communication with RoW re path diversion.	Clerk	Ongoing	Pending	Open	Emailed in January 26
73	27-Feb-25	Arrange for the work on rainwater pipe	Clerk	27-Mar-25	Pending	Open	Work done, awaiting invoice
89	29-May-25	Withy Bed Conservation project - engage with YRCT	Clerk, Cllr Bartlett	Ongoing	Pending	Open	
94	29-May-25	Council logo - investigate trademark	Clerk	26-Jun-25	Pending	Open	
141	26-Mar-26	East Lanes - street light on agenda (September)	Clerk	15-Sep-26	Pending	Open	
144	30-Apr-26	Put Pavement issues (top of the village) on Highways Maintenance scheme list	Clerk	18-May-26	Pending	Open	
159	30-Jul-26	Seek quotes for chapel roof works, continue pursuing Enhanced Highways Maintenance scheme (response from LCN)	Clerk	20-Aug-26	Pending	Open	
161	30-Jul-26	Pursue SC re A359 path to Hales Meadow	Clerk	20-Aug-26	Pending	Open	Issue reported by the clerk - awaitin
163	30-Jul-26	Continue work on Permissive paths	Clerk	20-Aug-26	Pending	Open	
164	30-Jul-26	Work on documentation for the Withy Bed (including Statement of Truth)	Clerk, Cllr Bartlett, Cllr Bowring	20-Aug-26	Pending	Open	
165	27-Aug-26	Talk to the landowners about RoW issue re Thorney Lane road surface.	Cllr Bartlett	24-Sep-26	Pending	Open	
171	24-Sep-26	Email SC re complaint for an update	Clerk	01-Oct-26	Pending	Open	Emailed - no response
174	24-Sep-26	Discuss north of River Yeo with Cllr Bartlett	Clerk	15-Oct-26	Pending	Open	Issue discussed - awaiting Cllr Bartl
175		Keep an eye on repalcement of Mudford sign at the bottom of the village - promised to be replaced by Highways	Clerk		Pending	Open	
176	29-Sep-26	CP: Discuss Communication strategy including leafleting, noticebaords, Facebook, WhatsApp	Clerk	26-Nov-26	Pending	Open	
177	29-Sep-26	CP: Explore grant options for VH secondary glazing	Clerk/VH Committee	27-Nov-26	Pending	Open	
178	29-Sep-26	CP: Explore options for more comfortable seating at the VH (consider budget)	Clerk/VH Committee	14-Jan-27	Pending	Open	
179	29-Sep-26	CP: Consider biodiversity enhancement at the Cemetery (no-mow areas)	Clerk	30-Mar-27	Pending	Open	
180	29-Sep-26	CP: Assess the accessibility of public footpaths	Clerk	30-Mar-27	Pending	Open	
181	29-Sep-26	CP: Promote and advertise accessible walking routes	Clerk	30-Mar-27	Pending	Open	
182	29-Sep-26	CP: Pavement parking actions (education, reporting)	Clerk	30-Mar-27	Pending	Open	
183	29-Sep-26	CP: Pelican Crossing (investigate options) and also improvements at pedestrian crossing opposite the VH	Clerk	29-Apr-27	Pending	Open	
184	29-Sep-26	CP: Request further visual calming and re-instatement of Speed camera plus HGV re-routing	Clerk	29-Apr-27	Pending	Open	
185	29-Sep-26	CP: Assess need for more traffic calming measures	Clerk	01-May-27	Pending	Open	
186	29-Sep-26	CP: Ensure sufficient funds available for replacement of Speed devices if required (budget)	Clerk	26-Nov-26	Pending	Open	
187	29-Sep-26	CP: Planning training - sufficient budget	Clerk	26-Nov-26	Pending	Open	
188	29-Sep-26	CP: Identify Actions to reduce climate-related risks	Clerk	29-Apr-27	Pending	Open	
189	29-Sep-26	CP: Identify biodiversity actions such as more planting and bird boxes	Clerk	14-Jan-27	Pending	Open	
190	29-Sep-26	CP: Work with 3VFG, VH to develop seasonal activities	Clerk	29-Jul-27	Pending	Open	

26/256 Planning:

i. To receive a report on planning decisions:

a. 26/00299/FUL; Rosemary, Main Street, Mudford, Yeovil
Application permitted with conditions (29th September 2026)

b. 26/01830/PAMB; Land at 356192 120392, Ashington Lane, Limington, Yeovil
Application permitted with conditions (30th September 2026)

c. 26/01393/NMA; Land Os 3400, Mudford Road, Yeovil
Application withdrawn (28th September)

ii. To receive a report on planning decisions made after the agenda was published on 23rd October 2026.

iii. To note planning application 26/02182/DPO; Thorney Lane Farm, Marston Magna, Yeovil.

Proposal: Application to Discharge a S106 Agreement between South Somerset District Council and Mr & Mrs D.A. Tottle dated 7th June 2004 relating to: (a) the tying of land to the dwelling permitted; (b) the provision of evidence regarding the ownership/occupation of the land upon written request; and (c) the occupation of the dwelling by a person working in the locality in agriculture, or a widow, widower or dependant of such a person which serves no useful planning purpose relating to planning application 03/00817/OUT.

This is a notification only and in line with the Council's Constitution and the adopted scheme of delegation and terms of reference, the decision for this application is delegated to officers. This notification is therefore being provided as a matter of courtesy for your information.

iv. To consider planning application 26/02172/COU; Parsonage Farm, West Mudford Road, and agree the council's comments and any delegations to the clerk.

Proposal: Full planning permission for the change of use of 3 existing agricultural storage buildings to a mixed agricultural use incorporating livestock rearing/accommodation.

The deadline for comments has been extended to 30th October.

Information from the supporting documentation (Halpin Robbins, dated 22/09/2026):
The proposed development comprises the relocation of three existing modern agricultural buildings, necessitated by the surrender of the main farmstead at Parsonage Farm following a family reorganisation. The proposal does not represent an expansion or intensification of the agricultural enterprise; rather, the buildings will replace agricultural infrastructure previously available at Parsonage Farm and will serve a reduced farming operation.

For the purposes of the Somerset Phosphate Budget Calculator, both the existing and proposed land uses are characterised as "lowland grazing". The development is therefore assessed on a "lowland grazing"-to-"lowland grazing" basis, resulting in no change in the applicable land-use category and consequently no increase in calculated nutrient loading arising from the development.

In addition, the development will not facilitate an increase in livestock numbers. Following the surrender of the existing farmstead and associated reorganisation, the farming enterprise will operate with approximately 200 fewer cattle on the holding. This reduction is not relied upon to offset an increase arising from the landuse calculation, which is already neutral, but provides further evidence that the proposal represents a reduction rather than an intensification of the livestock enterprise.

Accordingly, the land-use assessment demonstrates a neutral nutrient position, while the substantial reduction in cattle numbers further supports the conclusion that the relocated buildings will not facilitate agricultural intensification. The proposed development is therefore considered to be nutrient neutral, and no additional nutrient mitigation is required as a consequence of the proposed relocation of the three agricultural buildings.

v. To consider and agree a response to new information and documentation relating to the Land OS (LVA and Bloor Homes planning applications), 25/02769/REM, 26/00856/DOC1 and 25/01367/S73, including any delegation of authority to the clerk.

New documents have been uploaded to the planning portal. The proposed Deed of Variation has now been published under the S73 application, and further correspondence from the LLFA has been published under both the DOC1 and Reserved Matters applications. The clerk has prepared two draft response letters for the council's consideration.

vi. To consider commenting on planning applications, applications for the discharge of conditions, and any amendments or new submissions to applications previously discussed (including applications outside of the parish boundary), received on or after 23rd October 2026, including any delegations to the clerk.

26/257 - Report from previous accounting spreadsheet:

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL 2026-27

Receipts and Payments Summary for the year ending 31st March 2027

	Last Year	This Year	Transfer from Reserves	Budget	Remaining including transfers from Reserves	Remaining based on initital budget	Remaining % based on initial budget	Variance
	2025-26	2026-27	during 26-27	2026-27	2026-27	2026-27	2026-27	between years
RECEIPTS								
Precept	£ 46,467.00	**£ 55,082.00**						£ 8,615.00
Deposit Interest	£ 1,422.11	**£ 3,279.62**						£ 1,857.51
Cemetery Fees	£ 7,800.00	**£ 850.00**						-£ 6,950.00
Grants	£ 5,500.00	**£ -**						-£ 5,500.00
CIL	£ -	**£ 87.93**						
Other	£ 5,150.00	**£ 500.00**						-£ 4,650.00
VAT repayment	£ 5,526.77	**£ 5,979.30**						£ 452.53
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**£ 71,865.88**	**£ 65,778.85**						**-£ 6,087.03**
PAYMENTS								
Operations								
Salaries	£ 10,252.17	**£ 5,801.03**		£ 11,500.00		£ 5,698.97	50%	-£ 4,451.14
Admin	£ 3,863.55	**£ 2,096.53**		£ 3,492.00		£ 1,395.47	40%	-£ 1,767.02
Subscriptions	£ 853.72	**£ 705.23**		£ 960.00		£ 254.77	27%	-£ 148.49
Insurance	£ 1,391.32	**£ 1,428.71**		£ 1,800.00		£ 371.29	21%	£ 37.39
Training	£ 800.00	**£ 50.00**		£ 520.00		£ 470.00	90%	-£ 750.00
Audits	£ 610.00	**£ 610.00**		£ 700.00		£ 90.00	13%	£ -
Legal Advice	£ -		£ 1,500.00					
Parish Maintenance								
Grounds Maintenance Contract	£ 4,956.44	**£ 2,190.55**		£ 5,243.00		£ 3,052.45	58%	-£ 2,765.89
Hedges and Trees	£ 1,685.00	**£ -**		£ 3,500.00		£ 3,500.00	100%	-£ 1,685.00
Cemetery	£ 666.77	**£ 268.15**	£ 300.00	£ 500.00		£ 231.85	46%	-£ 398.62
Play Area/Inspections	£ 913.82	**£ -**		£ 3,455.00		£ 3,455.00	100%	-£ 913.82
General Parish Maint/Drains/Flood	£ 5,497.40	**£ 591.50**		£ 6,412.00		£ 5,820.50	91%	-£ 4,905.90
25-26 Projects and Grants								
Grants	£ 4,778.17	**£ 520.00**		£ 7,000.00		£ 6,480.00	93%	-£ 4,258.17
Parish Projects	£ 70.00	**£ 8,011.52**	£ 1,250.00	£ 8,000.00		-£ 11.52	0%	£ 7,941.52
Up Mudford Challenge	£ 16,205.63	**£ 31,686.80**	£ 34,794.37	£ 5,000.00	£ 8,107.57	-£ 26,686.80	-534%	£ 15,481.17
Land North of Mudford Rd	£ -			£ 2,000.00		£ 2,000.00	100%	£ -
VAT incurred	£ 5,774.04	**£ 6,596.12**						£ 822.08
Budget additions (To Reserves)				£ 6,000.00				
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**£ 58,318.03**	**£ 60,556.14**	**£ 37,844.37**					
s137 sub-total		**£ 520.00**						
Exc of Recpt over Paymts	£ 13,547.85	£ 5,222.71						
plus balances b/fwd	£ 102,688.24	£ 116,236.09						
Balances c/fwd	£ 116,236.09	£ 121,458.80						

Reconciliation with bank accounts at 30th September 2026

Unity Trust Current Account	£ 1,571.81
Unity Trust Savings Account	£ 28,244.13
Redwood Bank 95 day notice	£ 61,435.41
Redwood Bank 1 yr Bond	£ 10,000.00
Redwood Bank 35 day notice	£ 20,207.45
Less Outstanding payments	£ -
Add Outstanding lodgements	£ -
Total balances at bank	£ 121,458.80

Mudford Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

This report includes one or more cost centres that have been marked as confidential. This means that only the totals are shown without any further detail

Receipts

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
1	Parish Precept	55,082.00	55,082.00						(0%)
2	Deposit Interest	3,500.00	3,129.62	-370.38				-370.38	(-10%)
3	Cemetery Fees	2,000.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00				-1,000.00	(-50%)
4	Grants (received)								(N/A)
5	CIL		87.93	87.93				87.93	(N/A)
6	Other		500.00	500.00				500.00	(N/A)
7	VAT repayment								(N/A)
66	Transfer from Reserves income								(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL	**60,582.00**	**59,799.55**	**-782.45**				**-782.45**	**(-1%)**

Salaries

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
	SUB TOTAL				**11,500.00**	**5,801.03**	**5,698.97**	**5,698.97**	**(49%)**

Admin

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
10	Clerk allowance				492.00	246.00	246.00	246.00	(50%)
11	Clerk expenses				100.00		100.00	100.00	(100%)
12	Chair/Councillor Expenses/Allow				100.00		100.00	100.00	(100%)
13	Payroll				300.00	166.00	134.00	134.00	(44%)
14	Website				350.00		350.00	350.00	(100%)
15	Parish Online Mapping				90.00	63.00	27.00	27.00	(30%)
16	IT Support				140.00		140.00	140.00	(100%)
17	Accounting Software				500.00	447.00	53.00	53.00	(10%)
18	IT (MS Office)				130.00	129.60	0.40	0.40	(0%)
19	Unity Bank Multicard Charge				50.00	15.00	35.00	35.00	(70%)
20	Bank Charges				100.00	42.00	58.00	58.00	(58%)
21	Hall Hire and storage				1,000.00	935.00	65.00	65.00	(6%)
65	Printing and Stationary				140.00	52.93	87.07	87.07	(62%)
	SUB TOTAL				**3,492.00**	**2,096.53**	**1,395.47**	**1,395.47**	**(39%)**

Subscriptions

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position	
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend	
22	SALC/NALC				380.00	335.23	44.77	44.77	(11%)
23	SLCC				330.00	200.00	130.00	130.00	(39%)
24	ICCM				115.00	110.00	5.00	5.00	(4%)
25	CPRE				80.00	60.00	20.00	20.00	(25%)
26	ICO				55.00		55.00	55.00	(100%)

Mudford Parish Council

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	SUB TOTAL				**960.00**	**705.23**	**254.77**	**254.77 (26%)**

Insurance

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
27	Insurance				1,800.00	1,428.71	371.29	371.29 (20%)
	SUB TOTAL				**1,800.00**	**1,428.71**	**371.29**	**371.29 (20%)**

Training

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
28	Councillor Conduct				170.00		170.00	170.00 (100%)
29	Councillor and Clerk GDPR				200.00	50.00	150.00	150.00 (75%)
30	ICCM Training				150.00		150.00	150.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**520.00**	**50.00**	**470.00**	**470.00 (90%)**

Audits

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
31	Internal Audit				300.00	295.00	5.00	5.00 (1%)
32	External Audit				400.00	315.00	85.00	85.00 (21%)
	SUB TOTAL				**700.00**	**610.00**	**90.00**	**90.00 (12%)**

Grounds Maintenance Contrac

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
33	Grounds Maintenance Contract				4,403.00	2,190.55	2,212.45	2,212.45 (50%)
34	Additional Cuts (Grounds Mainte				840.00		840.00	840.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**5,243.00**	**2,190.55**	**3,052.45**	**3,052.45 (58%)**

Hedges and Trees

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
35	Tree survey				1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00 (100%)
36	Tree and hedges works				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
37	Emergency Tree Works/Biodiver				1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**3,500.00**		**3,500.00**	**3,500.00 (100%)**

Mudford Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

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Cemetery

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
38	Caretaker				500.00	268.15	231.85	231.85 (46%)
39	Cemetery Maintenance				300.00		300.00	300.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**800.00**	**268.15**	**531.85**	**531.85 (66%)**

Play area/Inspections

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
40	Play Area Maintenance				2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00 (100%)
41	Weekly and Operational Inspecti				775.00		775.00	775.00 (100%)
42	Yearly Inspection (Play Area)				180.00		180.00	180.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**3,455.00**		**3,455.00**	**3,455.00 (100%)**

General Parish Maintenance/D

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
43	Bin collections				2,912.00	591.50	2,320.50	2,320.50 (79%)
44	Ditches (Maintenance)				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
45	Maintenance of Assets				2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**6,412.00**	**591.50**	**5,820.50**	**5,820.50 (90%)**

Grants

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
46	RBL and Citizens Advice				500.00		500.00	500.00 (100%)
47	Flood Group and others				4,000.00	520.00	3,480.00	3,480.00 (87%)
48	Village Hall and others				2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**7,000.00**	**520.00**	**6,480.00**	**6,480.00 (92%)**

Parish Projects

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
49	Parish Projects				9,250.00	8,011.52	1,238.48	1,238.48 (13%)
	SUB TOTAL				**9,250.00**	**8,011.52**	**1,238.48**	**1,238.48 (13%)**

Mudford Parish Council

Summary of Receipts and Payments

All Cost Centres and Codes

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Up Mudford Challenge

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
50	Up Mudford Challenge				39,794.37	31,686.80	8,107.57	8,107.57 (20%)
	SUB TOTAL				**39,794.37**	**31,686.80**	**8,107.57**	**8,107.57 (20%)**

Land North of Mudford Road

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
51	Land North of Mudford Road (Sc				2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**2,000.00**		**2,000.00**	**2,000.00 (100%)**

Earmarked Reserves

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
52	EMR General maintenance arou							(N/A)
53	EMR Long term chapel maintena							(N/A)
54	EMR Long term cemetery mainte							(N/A)
55	EMR Computer/Printer replacem				500.00		500.00	500.00 (100%)
56	EMR Parish Projects							(N/A)
57	EMR Play area long term replac				1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00 (100%)
58	EMR Cemetery land/consecratio				1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00 (100%)
59	EMR Up Mudford Challenge							(N/A)
60	EMR Highways & speed control				3,000.00		3,000.00	3,000.00 (100%)
61	EMR Defibrillator fund							(N/A)
62	EMR Election				500.00		500.00	500.00 (100%)
63	EMR Community Survey and Pla							(N/A)
	SUB TOTAL				**6,000.00**		**6,000.00**	**6,000.00 (100%)**

Legal Advice

		Receipts			Payments			Net Position
Code	**Title**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	**Budgeted**	**Actual**	**Variance**	+/- Under/over spend
64	Legal Advice				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
	SUB TOTAL				**1,500.00**		**1,500.00**	**1,500.00 (100%)**

Summary

NET TOTAL	**60,582.00**	**59,799.55**	**-782.45**	**103,926.37**	**53,960.02**	**49,966.35**	**49,183.90**
V.A.T.		5,979.30			6,596.12		
GROSS TOTAL		**65,778.85**			**60,556.14**		

26/259 ii. To approve clerk's GDPR training (SLCC) at a cost of £57.75 + VAT

Clerk's recommendation
Following the Internal Auditor's report, the clerk recommends that this training be attended to further strengthen the clerk's knowledge, which has already been developed through completion of the ICO's online training videos.

Legal power
LGA 1972 s175

Budget
Training (Cllr and Clerk GDPR) - £120 available

Course details
https://www.slcc.co.uk/event/gdpr-data-protection-core-responsibilities-and-best-practice-1-december/

The UK data protection laws can appear confusing and daunting. But there are also specific obligations that local council clerks should prioritise.

This interactive training workshop focuses on the core obligations and considerations for local council clerks, to help protect you and your organisation.

Topics include:

- Terms and definitions
    - Governance
- Principles and lawful bases
    - Privacy Policies and Cookie Pop-ups
- External Communications
    - Data Subject Requests
- Basic Data Security
    - Legally Mandated Documentation

Attendees will receive tried-and-tested templates and example documents for use within their organisations, and a certificate of attendance for CPD purposes.

Date

Tuesday 1 December, 10:00am – 11:30am

Price

Members: £57.75 + VAT
Non-Members: £87.75 + VAT

Mudford Parish Council
Reserves Balance
2026 - 2027

Reserve	OpeningBalance	Transfers	Spend	Receipts	CurrentBalance
Earmarked					
General maintenance around pa	10,304.58	-6,000.00			4,304.58
Long term chapel maintenance	4,884.00	-300.00			4,584.00
Long term cemetery maintenanc	20,526.20	-10,000.00		1,000.00	11,526.20
Computer/printer replacement fu	896.00	500.00			1,396.00
Parish Projects	4,365.40	-750.00			3,615.40
Play area long term replacemei	7,883.00	1,000.00			8,883.00
Cemetery land/consecration sta	13,170.00	1,000.00			14,170.00
Up Mudford Challenge	18,795.87	-18,794.37			1.50
Highways & speed control fund	3,595.14	3,000.00			6,595.14
Defibrillator fund	2,317.51				2,317.51
Election	1,295.53	500.00			1,795.53
Community survey and plan	6,000.00	-6,000.00			0.00
Total Earmarked	**94,033.23**	**-35,844.37**		**1,000.00**	**59,188.86**
TOTAL RESERVE	**94,033.23**	**-35,844.37**		**1,000.00**	**59,188.86**
GENERAL FUND					62,269.94
TOTAL FUNDS					121,458.80

Reserves – previous system (Excel)

EARMARKED AND GENERAL RESERVES	Reserves at 31/3/2025	Minus Transfers from Reserves FY25-26 (does not include movements between reserves)	Plus Additions to Reserves 31st March 2026 (does not include movements between reserves)	Reserves at 31/03/2026	Minus Transfers from Reserves on 1st April 2026	Plus budgeted aditions to reserves FY 2026-207	Reserves at 29/10/2026	Notes
General maintenance around parish	£ 10,304.58	£ -	£ -	£ 10,304.58	£ (6,000.00)		£ 4,304.58	25/352 (March 26) £6,000 moved to Up Mudford challenge budget line
Long term chapel maintenance (period?)	£ 3,884.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 4,884.00	£ -		£ 4,584.00	Plus £1,000 from EOY, Minus £300 26/26 (30th April 26) moved to Cemetery Budget line
Long term cemetery maintenance (period ?)	£ 10,812.97	£ -	£ 9,713.23	£ 20,526.20	£ (10,000.00)		£ 10,526.20	Includes budget reserves 25-26 (£500) plus remaining funds from Cemetery budget line at EOY (£1,413.23); Includes Cemetery fees from 25-26 (£7,800), 25/352 (March 26) £10,000 moved to Up Mudford Challenge budget line
Computer/printer replacement fund (5yr)	£ 746.00	£ -	£ 150.00	£ 896.00	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 1,396.00	
Parish Projects (identify & period?)	£ 3,835.40	£ -	£ 530.00	£ 4,365.40	£ -		£ 3,615.40	Finger posts/Bus shelter/ noticeboard/bridge, Include remaining funds from budget at EOY (£600), 26/115 £750 (3rd July 26) vired to Parish Project budget line
Play area equipment long term replacement fund (period?)	£ 9,000.00	£ (2,117.00)	£ 1,000.00	£ 7,883.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 8,883.00	Minus skate park repairs (Sept/Oct 25) and swing repairs (Oct 25) £2,117 moved to General Parish Maintenance budget.
Cemetery land/consecration starter fund (Ring fenced - 5yr?)	£ 12,170.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 13,170.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 14,170.00	
Up Mudford Challenge	£ 8,601.50	£ (8,000.00)	£ 8,794.37	£ 18,795.87	£ (8,794.37)		£ 1.50	£8,000 moved from General Reserve to Up Mudford Legal Challenge budget line in 24-25 - moved to Up Mudford Legal challenge reserves on 31st March 25 (as it was unspent), moved back to the Up Mudford budget line in April 25 Motion 25/09, £9,400 moved from General Reserve 25/223 (October) , £5,000 added March 26 (25/352)- FOMAG donation plus Funds from EOY (£3,794.37), 25/352 (March 26) £8,794.37 moved to Up Mudford Challenge Budget line on 1st April 26, £10,000 moved to the Up Mudfod Challenge Budget line - 20th May 26/54 (Defendant's Adverse costs)
Highways & speed control fund	£ 3,095.14	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 3,595.14	£ -	£ 3,000.00	£ 6,595.14	
Defibrillator fund	£ 2,117.51	£ -	£ 200.00	£ 2,317.51	£ -		£ 2,317.51	
Election (Ring fenced)	£ 1,295.53	£ -	£ -	£ 1,295.53	£ -	£ 500.00	£ 1,795.53	
Community Survey and Plan - not in existence 26/22 30th April 26	£ -	£ -	£ 6,000.00	£ 6,000.00	£ (5,500.00)		£ -	£5,000 grant from SALC and £500 from Admin budget (unspent) FY 2025-2026 used as income (transfers from Reserves) for 2026-2027 budget agreed in January 2026 motion 25/298 . £500 Viridor Grant moved to parish projects budget line 26/22 on 30th April 26 and the reserve ceased to exist
General Reserve	£ 36,825.61	£ (12,000.00)	£ 6,777.25	£ 22,202.86	£ -		£ 20,702.86	£12,000 transferred in August 25 Motion 25/151 to Up Mudford Budget line. £9,400 moved to Up Mudford reserves 25/223 (October 25). Contains: All black budget lines remainder £5,452.41 with overspend in relevant categories deducted (except Cemetery Maintenance and £500 from admin for community survey reserve) + VAT (minus £247.27 - less returned than incurred) + Deposit Interest (£1,422.11) + Other receipts (£150, not the FOMAG donation). £1,500 moved to Budget - new budget line Legal Advice created 3rd July 26 motion 26/121
Total Reserves	**£ 102,688.24**	£ (22,117.00)	£ 35,664.85	**£ 116,236.09**		**£ 6,000.00**	**£ 78,891.72**	

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

AUDIT FINDINGS ACTION PLAN

Purpose: To record, monitor and report progress against findings/recommendations arising from Internal and External Audits.

Responsible Officer: Clerk/RFO Review Frequency: Quarterly by Full Council Publication: Published on the Council website

Audit Type	Findings/ Recommendation	Agreed Action	Minute Ref.	Target Date	Status	Last Review by Full Council	Website Published	Evidence / Follow-up Actions	Completed
Internal	Organise GDPR training for staff and councillors.	GDPR training for councillors.	26/190	01.10.2026	Completed by 3 councillors.				
Internal	Ensure that both hard copy and electronic data have relevant protections in place. For hard copy records this will be identified by the audit. For electronic data it is recommended that your IT provider outlines what protections are in place, how often data is backed up and how it is stored. Ensure that all computers have some level of virus protection.								
Internal	It has been confirmed that Mudford Parish Council website does not comply with WCAG 2.2 AA. It only achieves 61% in the accessibility test and the minimum is 70% Following the audit the auditor used a different check where the score was considerably higher.	The clerk will follow up with Parish Online.	26/73						

Commented [MPC1]: Agenda item 26/259 Clerk's GDPR training.

Commented [MPC2]: Also has been completed by Cllr Brown. See above a proposal for additional training for the clerk.

Commented [MPC3]: Hard copy records are stored in a lockable cabinet. Electronic data is backed up to OneDrive once a month. The clerk's computer is due to be replaced in the new year. The current PC has virus protection installed.

Commented [MPC4]: Parish Online carries out its own accessibility checks, which are not comparable to the free online checking tools available. The clerk should ensure that as many documents as possible uploaded to the website are accessible; however, this is not always achievable, for example with scanned AGAR forms.

The Clerk/RFO will maintain this action plan and update progress against all recommendations.

All recommendations will be reported to Full Council until completed.

Evidence of completed actions should be retained and referenced in the Evidence / Follow-up Actions column.

Adopted: 24th September 2026 Minute Reference: 26/222 Review Date: annually

Purpose

This procedure ensures that findings and recommendations arising from Internal Audit and External Audit are recorded, monitored, implemented and reported to Full Council in a consistent and transparent manner.

Procedure

1. All audit recommendations will be recorded in an Audit Findings Action Plan maintained by the Clerk/RFO.
2. The Clerk/RFO will be responsible for coordinating, monitoring and evidencing the implementation of agreed actions.
3. The Action Plan will be reviewed by Full Council at least quarterly until all actions have been completed.
4. Progress updates and Council decisions will be recorded in the Council minutes.
5. Completed actions will be supported by appropriate evidence and recorded in the Action Plan.
6. The Action Plan will be published on the Council's website as part of the Council's commitment to transparency and accountability.
7. Where the Council decides not to implement a recommendation, the decision and reasons will be formally recorded in the minutes.

26/265 Act to Adapt
To receive an update on the Act to Adapt Focus Group meeting, review the final draft of the Act to Adapt Plan and consider any proposed amendments, and to consider supporting a recommendation that the Somerset Wildlife Trust funding be allocated to the Three Villages Flood Group (3VFG) rather than the Parish Council.

Report to Mudford Parish Council
Meeting date: 29th October 2026
Act to Adapt
Prepared by: Petra Galloway (Clerk)

Introduction
This report is presented for the council to receive the update on Act to Adapt Climate Adaptation plan, review the final draft and consider recommendation for funding allocation.

Clerk's recommendation
The clerk recommends that the council reviews the final draft and agrees any feedback or recommendations. The clerk also recommends that the £1,000 funding is paid directly to 3VFG rather than to the Parish Council.

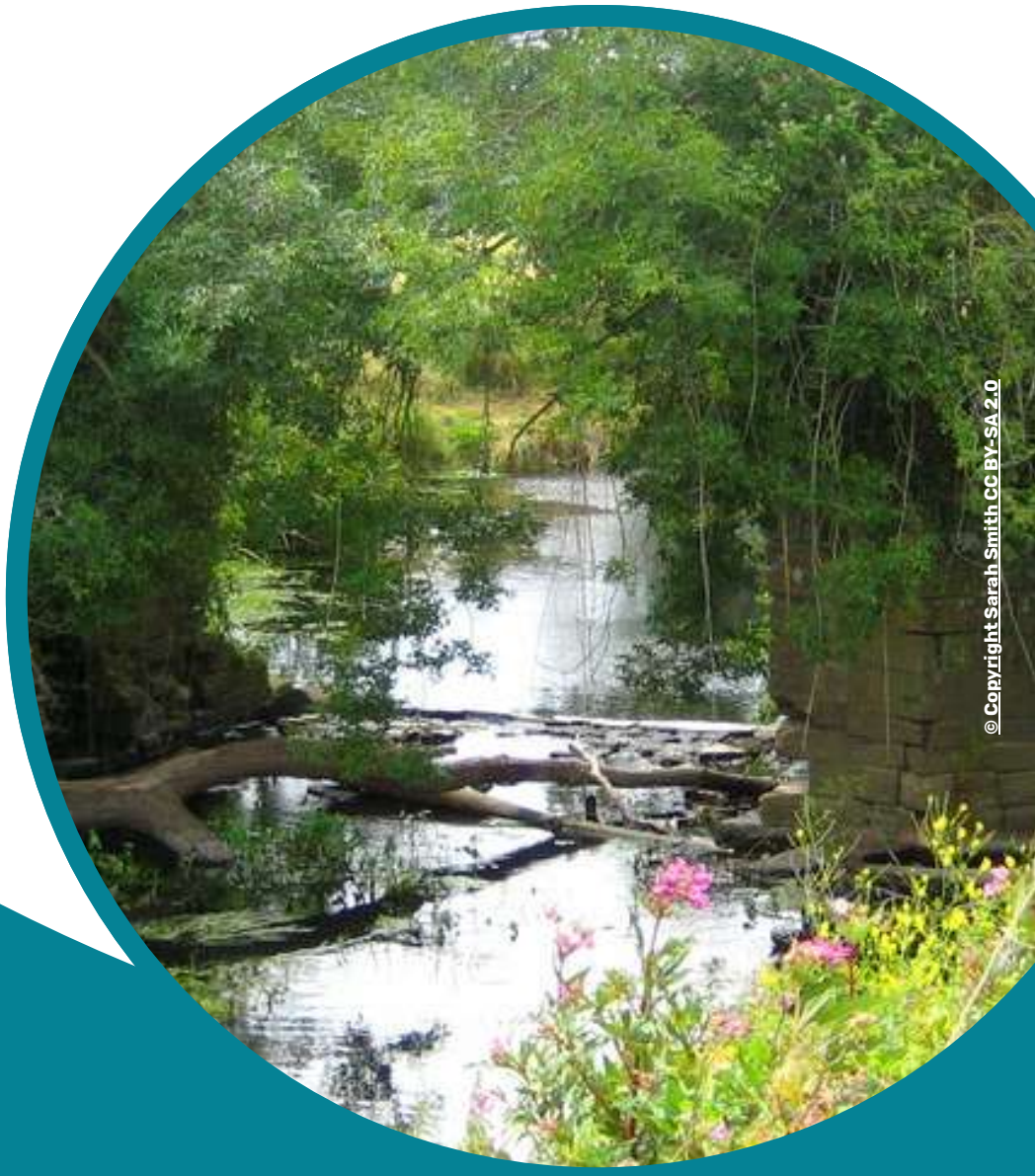
Background
The council agreed to participate in the Act to Adapt programme in cooperation with 3VFG on 27th November 2025 (Minute Reference 25/267).

The clerk and Councillors Dalton-Leggett, Brown and Bowring attended the Act to Adapt focus group alongside representatives from 3VFG on 30th September 2026. The draft Act to Adapt Plan was discussed in detail, and the clerk and 3VFG subsequently received the final draft on 16th October. Feedback and proposed amendments were agreed and submitted to Somerset Wildlife Trust.

The final Act to Adapt Plan is now presented to the council for consideration and any final feedback or recommendations before it is shared with the public by Somerset Wildlife Trust on 14th November at the Christmas Fayre in Mudford Village Hall. The funding cheque from Somerset Wildlife Trust will also be presented to 3VFG at that event.

Somerset Wildlife Trust

Climate Adaptation Plan



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MUDFORD • ASHINGTON • CHILTON CANTELO 2026

Funded by Somerset Rivers Authority

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Acknowledgements

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The climate emergency poses many threats to Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo. Winters are becoming warmer and wetter, increasing flooding risks. Hotter and drier summers are increasing the risk of droughts, heatwaves and wildfires.

Through collaborative events, residents have identified four key themes for how Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo should adapt to the changing climate:

1. **Reducing flooding risks**
2. **Coordinating emergency plans**
3. **Sharing knowledge and raising awareness**
4. **Getting involved with planning and sustainable development**

Adapting to these changes is urgent and essential to reduce the impacts on our buildings, green spaces and the daily life of Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo's residents.

The resulting plan:

- reflects the community's priorities from the workshop and consultations
- outlines adaptation actions under each key theme
- gives guidance on taking action
- highlights the co-benefits of each priority, such as improving water quality or health and wellbeing



The actions listed in this plan are suggestions guided by the feedback received through the consultation process. They are proposed actions and aspirations, with no obligations. The delivery is dependent on the agreement, recourses and the capacity of the organisations concerned.

To find out how you can get involved contact: info@3vfg.org.uk

INTRODUCTION

Since February 2026, local residents, The 3 Villages Flood Group and Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT) have been working together to address the following challenge:

"How can we help Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo adapt to climate change?"

The impacts of the climate emergency are already unfolding. Sea levels are rising and extreme weather events such as flooding, extreme heat, droughts and wildfires are all likely to occur more frequently in Somerset. Thankfully, there are lots of ways that communities can act together to be better prepared for the changes and build a positive future where people and nature can thrive. Climate change is already impacting Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo, and there is an urgent need to adapt.



SWT has been raising awareness of adaptation and encouraging communities across the county to develop plans. In a unique collaboration with The 3 Villages Flood Group, we have developed a locally tailored Climate Adaptation Plan for Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo. The 3 Villages Flood Group will host this community-driven plan, which is a collaboration between organisations and individuals. This plan is a guide of suggested adaptations that would help Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo become more climate resilient.



Beginning with a Climate Adaptation Workshop event at Mudford Village Hall, the 'Act to Adapt' process has brought together residents, community groups, councillors and Somerset Wildlife Trust's Climate Adaptation team, to:

- Talk about climate change projections for Somerset
- Discuss the need for adaptation in Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo.
- Co-create a bespoke climate adaptation plan, using the Climate Adaptation Toolkit for communities

This plan shares the key themes and priority adaptation actions chosen by residents through workshops and consultations, and offers advice on how to make these actions happen. We have also highlighted the adaptation benefits of each priority and additional 'co-benefits' - such as mitigating climate change or supporting biodiversity – to demonstrate how they will support Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo in becoming better adapted and more resilient to our changing climate.

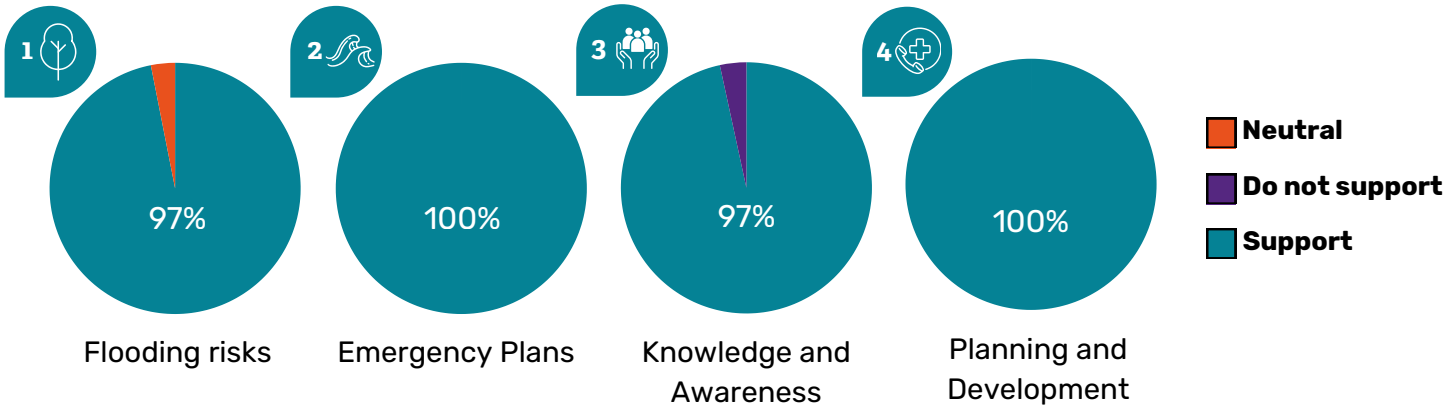
SHAPING THE PLAN

Following our initial events, we compiled the suggested adaptation priorities and actions and turned these into a draft Climate Adaptation Plan for Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo. To ensure that the plan better reflected the needs and priorities of the communities, we organised a consultation period to gain more feedback and suggestions on the existing priorities and adaptation actions.



In spring 2026, we held in-person consultations at community festivals and events, where residents learned more about climate adaptation, read the draft plan, and helped shape the full plan by sharing their ideas. For those unable to attend these events, we also had an online survey and opportunities to provide more detailed feedback by email.

32 respondents also provided feedback on how strongly they **support** each priority:





Survey respondents reported which of the adaptation priority areas they felt were most important for the area. In order from most to least important, these were:

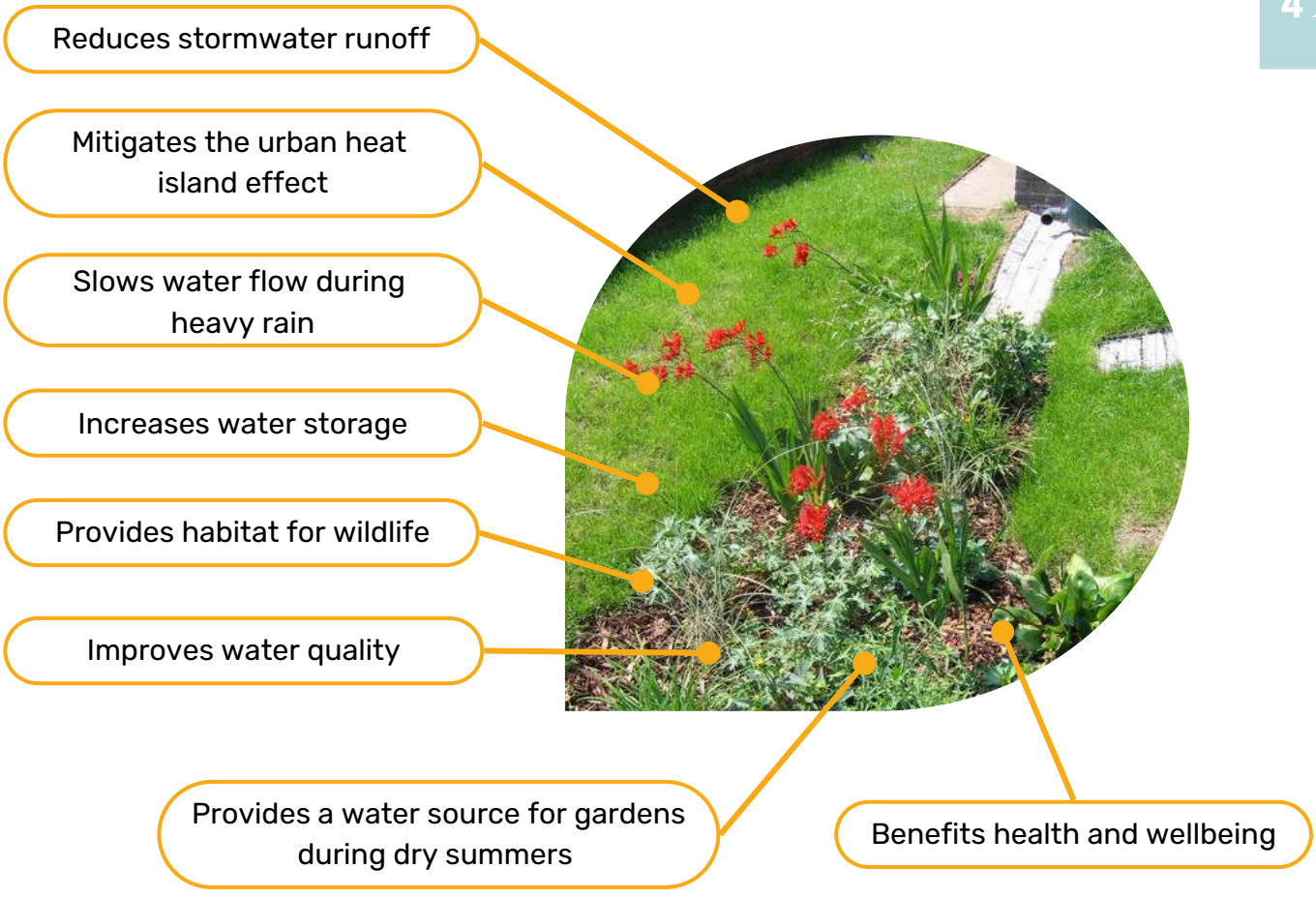
1. Reducing flooding risk (46%)
2. Coordinating emergency plans (17%)
3. Sharing knowledge and raising awareness (15%)
4. Getting involved with planning and sustainable development (23%)

See Appendix I for more information about consultation responses.

However, to ensure this plan stays flexible and best serves Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo, residents should have regular opportunities to suggest additions, changes and improvements. If you have any suggestions for the plan, get in touch at: **info@3vfg.org.uk**

1. REDUCING FLOODING RISKS

Actions to reduce flooding risks in Mudford, Ashington, and Chilton Cantelo could provide the following adaptation benefits and co-benefits to the local community:



1.1 - Improve drainage systems



What and where:	Who:
General reference to better maintenance and clearing of drains was made regularly throughout the consultation process. Particular locations mentioned were • West Mudford Road • Drains surrounding the church and cemetery. Since the project's consultation period, the Seven-Zone Flood Table has been produced by the 3 Villages Flood Group. This provides thorough detail about village features at risk and potential interventions. There is an 'adopt a drain' initiative being developed throughout the area. It is active in all three villages where drains have begun to be mapped and assigned to the 18 people taking part.	• Somerset Drainage Board Consortium • Somerset Council • Somerset Rivers Authority • Somerset Highways - Mudford Parish Council are in contact with Tracy Harris regarding the cemetery drains that were cleared on 15.10.26. 3 Villages Flood Group are also in contact regarding different matters. • 3 Villages Flood Group • Mudford Parish Council • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Yeo Rivers Community Trust • Use the Seven-Zone Flood-Risk Table produced by The 3 Villages Flood Group.

How:

Promote reporting channels: Actively encourage residents to report drain and gully issues through official channels using the Somerset Council reporting system. Create simple guidance on how to effectively report problems, including what information is most useful to include.

Continue to support Drain Warden scheme: Expand the current 'adopt a drain scheme' and create a network of community volunteers who are trained to identify and report drainage issues throughout the three villages. Equip these Drain Wardens with basic knowledge to spot potential problems before they cause flooding and create a clear pathway for them to report concerns to the relevant authorities.

Establish a regular clearing schedule: Implement a routine maintenance schedule for clearing blocked drains, with increased frequency for high-risk areas. Coordinate with local council services or contractors to ensure consistent execution.

Engage with the community: Organise awareness campaigns to educate residents about the importance of keeping drains clear. Encourage community involvement in reporting issues and, where appropriate, in maintenance activities.

Coordinate with flood risk management: Ensure that drainage maintenance efforts are aligned with broader flood risk management strategies. Liaise regularly with the Environment Agency and other relevant bodies.

Consult with riparian landowners on their responsibilities: Distribute clear guidance on waterway maintenance responsibilities to adjacent landowners. Include information on debris clearance, vegetation management and maintaining water flow. Host targeted sessions to build understanding and create a simple system for landowners to report completed maintenance or issues requiring assistance.

Monitor and evaluate effectiveness: Implement a system to track the frequency and effectiveness of maintenance activities. Use this data to refine the maintenance schedule and identify areas requiring more attention.

Review and update regularly: Conduct annual reviews of the drainage maintenance plan, incorporating lessons learned and adapting to any changes in local conditions or best practices.





Useful links:

1. Drainage and wastewater management plan | Wessex Water
2. Drains and gullies | Somerset Council
3. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) | Susdrain

1.2 - Implement wider natural flood management techniques



What and where:	Who:
• The 3 villages have been included in Somerset Council's flood-resilience programme Phase 1. The assessment work is being undertaken by WSP. • Maps of the 7 zones are being submitted for a DEFRA funding bid for Natural Flood Management (NFM). • These NFM measures have been stated in the Seven-Zone Flood Risk Table but remain subject to technical assessment, landowner agreement and funding. • Encourage more community engagement regarding NFM.	• Somerset Council • Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) • Somerset Prepared • Somerset Highways • National Farmers Union (NFU) • Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) • Environment Agency (EA) • Yeo Rivers Community Trust • Somerset Wildlife Trust • WSP • 3 Villages Flood Group • Mudford Parish Council

How:

Implement the measures stated in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table: Work with hydrologists, ecologists and local environmental agencies to implement the suggested interventions using NFM techniques across the Parishes and its surrounding areas. Encourage community engagement around these plans through talks, presentations, roadshows, social media and website links.

'Slow the Flow' measures: Locations have been identified in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table that are suitable for 'slow the flow' measures. Leaky damns have been suggested for Cold Brook, Bearley Brook and the Ashington Lane Tributary. Installing shallow scrapes on principle flow paths has also been suggested for the runoff from Rimpton and Adber. See the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table for more examples and details.

River and stream restoration: Suggestions have been made in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table to identify sections of streams and the river that could be restored to more natural, meandering courses. Develop plans for re-naturalising these watercourses to slow water flow.

Establish area for controlled flooding through the development of flood plains and water storage: Areas have been identified in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table for controlled flooding. Locations to reconnect flood plains have been suggested as well as sites for pond creation. Engage with local communities to explain the purpose and benefits of these measures. Work with landowners to implement sensitive farming practices in flood-prone areas, such as cultivating flood-tolerant crops. Collaborate with organisations to ensure these new habitats support key species.

Promote soil decompaction: Develop an awareness campaign about the importance of soil health for natural drainage. Provide guidance to landowners, farmers and gardeners on methods to improve soil structure and reduce compaction.

Monitor and evaluate effectiveness: Implement a robust monitoring system to assess the impact of NFM measures on local flood risk and water quality. Use this data to refine and improve the NFM strategy over time.

Identify suitable planting locations: Work with Somerset Council, local landowners and community groups to identify streets suitable for tree planting. Conduct soil and drainage surveys to ensure chosen locations are appropriate for long-term tree growth.





Useful links:

1. Help us create more river woodland | Woodland Trust
2. Slow the flow | Shropshire Wildlife Trust case study
3. How nature can help prevent flooding | The Wildlife Trusts
4. More trees | BANES case study

1.3 - Maintain local rivers



What and where:	When:	Who:
• Mudford Bridge in need of repair - In contact with Environment Agency. Could potentially use DEFRA funding. • Deliver the measures suggested in the Seven-Zone Flood Risk Table. • Organise another riparian management workshop with Paul Elliston from the SRA.		• Somerset Drainage Board Consortium • Somerset Council • Somerset Rivers Authority • Somerset Wildlife Trust • Yeo Rivers Community Trust • Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) • Environment Agency (EA) • Friends of Mudford Action Group • 3 Villages Flood Group • Mudford Parish Council

How:

Clear and maintain culverts: As suggested in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table, carry out regular inspections and clearance of culverts and ditches to prevent blockages that contribute to flooding and restrict road access. Work with local landowners, Mudford Parish Council and highways teams to identify priority sites and establish a routine maintenance schedule.

Improve sewage management and reduce river pollution: Work with water companies and local authorities to improve sewage infrastructure and reduce the release of untreated wastewater into rivers. Sewage/water pollution was a key priority to local residents in the parish community survey.

Monitor sewage spills and pollution incidents: Establish local monitoring programmes to record sewage spillages and pollution events. Encourage citizen science initiatives where volunteers can help report issues, gather data and support organisations that monitor water quality.

Undertake targeted river dredging where necessary: Assess areas where sediment build-up is reducing water flow, such as around bridges or crossings (for example near Mudford). Where appropriate, carry out dredging to restore flow while minimising ecological disturbance. See the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table for more information.

Continue to organise educational and awareness raising events: One of these events could include a riparian management workshop with Paul Elliston from the SRA, as well as a water in your garden workshop with Somerset Wildlife Trust.

Support and promote the work of the 3 Villages Flood Group: Continue to support and raise awareness of the work being done by The 3 Villages Flood Group.







Useful links:

1. How to build a pond | The Wildlife Trusts
2. How to build a pond | Water-Garden
3. Pond creation toolkit | Freshwater Habitats Trust

1.4 - Install water butts



What and where:	When:	Who:
• Parish council properties where appropriate. • Households. • Community buildings. • Events to raise awareness of storing water at home. • Research potential bulk buy deals at local hardware shops.	By 2030	• Mudford Parish Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Somerset Wildlife Trust

Why:

Water butts lower risks of flooding by collecting rainwater from roofs so that less water flows into the drainage system during weather events. With many public buildings using water butts, large volumes of water can be stored.

How:

Contact potential funders/suppliers of water butts: Examples include Wessex Water, B&Q or Proper Job.

Discuss offering free or subsidised water butts: These could be bought by Parishes or community groups in a bulk purchase and distributed in the identified areas, with delivery and installation support for those that need it. Consider if additional funding is needed to buy water butts. Look to buy water butts made from recycled or sustainable materials to reduce their environmental impact.

Install leaky water butts: Consider opportunities to make 'leaky' water butts, which slowly release excess water and help to maintain some storage capacity during dry periods. Leaky water butts could be linked to ponds and rain gardens.

Support Volunteers in installation: Recruit and train volunteers to form a water butt installation team. Provide workshops on proper installation techniques, including downpipe connection and overflow management. Create a scheduling system for coordinated installation days, with experienced volunteers mentoring newcomers.







Useful links:

1. How to install a water butt | B&Q outdoor & garden
2. Retrofitting a water butt for storm water attenuation | Slow the Flow
3. Useful information about Somerset flooding | Somerset Rivers Authority

2. COORDINATING EMERGENCY PLANS

Co-ordinating emergency plans could provide the following adaptation benefits and co-benefits to the local community:

- Flood preparedness
- Risk reduction
- Resource sharing
- Involves the community
- Improves public awareness
- Improves community resilience
- Reduced disruption
- Supports vulnerable people



2.1 - Review, update and communicate the current Community Flood Plan



What and where:	When:	Who:
• Raise awareness that Mudford Village Hall is designated as a safe haven and should be used as temporary shelter during emergencies. • Communicate the existing Community Flood Plan and review and update when needed. • Create public facing version of the Community Flood Plan for the 3 Villages Flood Group website.	By 2027	• Mudford Parish Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Somerset Prepared • Mudford Village Hall Committee

How:

Community emergency working group: Through a community emergency working group, develop preventive and responsive measures for both flood and drought events.

Map vulnerability zones: Identify high-risk areas for both flooding and drought/wildfire. Have simple maps showing vulnerable areas, drainage points, water sources and access routes. Share this information across partner organisations to build a complete picture of local risks.

Develop emergency response protocols: Have clear guidelines for immediate community response during extreme weather events. Establish communication chains between partner organisations and identify key volunteer roles for different scenarios. Use existing community networks to disseminate emergency information effectively.

Build a community resource database: Compile a list of available local resources including equipment, water storage, safe spaces and skilled volunteers. Create a shared document accessible to all partner organisations listing emergency contact numbers and designated wardens for both flood and drought events.

Use monitoring systems: Use volunteer monitoring of known risk areas during extreme weather conditions. Have a simple reporting system using existing communication channels to alert relevant authorities and local residents of developing situations, whether flooding or water scarcity.

Coordinate with authorities: Maintain regular contact with the Environment Agency, Fire Service, emergency services, water companies and local authorities. Share the community resilience plan through established channels and integrate it with wider emergency planning at county level.

Raise awareness of current action: 51% of those taking part in the community survey didn't know that Mudford Village Hall is a designated emergency safe haven. Therefore, more awareness should be raised of the important work that is already taking place in the area.







Useful links:

1. Flood risk maps | Government website
2. Preparing for flooding | Somerset County Council
3. Flood resilience measures | Somerset Rivers Authority
4. Flood planning template | Government website
5. Wildfire risk and management | Government website
6. Drought and water scarcity | Environment Agency

2.2 - Co-ordinate with surrounding parishes in flood planning



When:	Who:
By 2027	• Mudford Village Hall Committee • 3 Villages Flood Group • Mudford Parish Council • Somerset Rivers Authority catchment meetings

How:

Utilise parish networks: Use a coordinated support team across Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo. Share flood solution ideas and have coordinated planning. This centralised approach ensures consistent guidance and efficient resource sharing.

Continue to support Drain Warden scheme: Expand the current 'adopt a drain scheme' and create a network of community volunteers who are trained to identify and report drainage issues throughout the three villages. Equip these Drain Wardens with basic knowledge to spot potential problems before they cause flooding and create a clear pathway for them to report concerns to the relevant authorities.

Maintain, review and communicate existing Community Flood Plan: Continue to review and update the Community Flood Plan created by the 3VFG. Communicate the existing plan throughout the villages and create a version that is public facing for the website.

Develop mentoring relationships: Connect experienced flood wardens and volunteers with neighbouring parish representatives. Organise informal knowledge-sharing sessions using existing meeting spaces and share practical lessons.

Create resource-sharing systems: Establish protocols for sharing equipment and volunteers during flood events. Develop simple agreements between parishes for mutual aid. Use existing communication channels to coordinate cross-parish support when needed.

Build inter-parish communication: Set up basic alert systems between parishes along shared waterways. Create contact lists of key personnel in each parish. Use existing social media and messaging platforms to maintain regular communication.

Coordinate training opportunities: Organise joint flood response training sessions for multiple parishes. Share costs and resources for essential training. Use local expertise to deliver practical workshops on flood preparedness.

Facilitate authority engagement: Help neighbouring parishes establish relationships with relevant authorities and agencies. Share contact lists and successful communication strategies.







Useful links:

1. Somerset emergency community contacts | Somerset Prepared
2. Rural flood resilience partnership | Government website
3. Improving flood resilience through community action | Scottish Flood Forum
4. Online community resilience hub | Communities Prepared

2.3 - Support residents to create home emergency plans



What and where:	When:	Who:

• In-Person Communication
  ◦ Local libraries
  ◦ Markets
  ◦ Local events
  ◦ Local newspapers
 	
• Online Communication
  ◦ Community Websites
  ◦ Social Media Platforms
  ◦ Email Newsletters
  ◦ Online Forums and Groups
  ◦ Local News Websites
  ◦ WhatsApp
	By 2028	• 3 Villages Flood Group
		• Somerset Council
		• Somerset River Authority (SRA)
		• Somerset Prepared
		• Friends of Mudford Action Group
		• Chilton Bridge School
		• Mudford Parish Council
		• The Mudford Village Hall Committee

How:

Create a flood resilience demonstration area: Set up a public space showcasing various flood resilience measures, such as permeable paving, rain gardens and property-level protection. Use this as an educational tool for the community. The courtyard of Mudford village Hall could be a role model for flood resilience measures and would be a useful location for workshops (with the permission of the Mudford Village Hall Committee).

Encourage property-level resilience measures: Provide guidance and potentially financial incentives for residents and businesses to implement property-level flood protection measures, such as flood barriers, non-return valves and waterproof wall treatments.

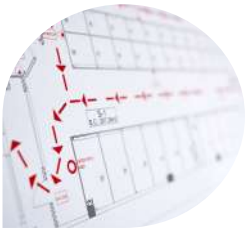
Create guidance materials: Design straightforward guides for simple, practical advice for before, during and after emergency events for different household types (families, elderly residents, those with mobility needs). Use existing communication channels to distribute practical advice about emergency preparations and response actions. Share preparation checklists and emergency contact information through existing newsletters and websites. Focus on actionable steps that residents can take to protect their properties.

Build neighbourhood support: Encourage street-level emergency planning using existing community networks. Create simple systems for neighbours to share resources and check on vulnerable residents. Use current street representatives to coordinate local response.

Organise community workshops: Hold informal sessions in existing community spaces to help residents complete their emergency plans. Rotate responsibility for running sessions between partner organisations. Keep sessions practical and focused on immediate actions.

Establish resource sharing: Create a list of shared community resources that residents can access during emergencies. Use existing buildings as information points. Share details of emergency equipment locations through regular communications.

Coordinate with authorities: Link household plans with wider community emergency response. Share relevant contact numbers and procedures from emergency services. Use existing relationships with authorities to ensure plans align with official guidance.







Useful links:

1. Home emergency plan | Somerset Prepared
2. Flood resilience measures | Somerset Rivers Authority
3. Emergency planning | Somerset County Council
4. Property flood resilience | Environment Agency

2.4 - Communicate emergency plans



Where:	When:	Who:

• In-Person Communication
  ◦ Local libraries
  ◦ Markets
  ◦ Local events
  ◦ Local publications
 	
• Online communication
  ◦ Community websites
  ◦ Social media platforms
  ◦ Email newsletters
  ◦ Online forums and groups
  ◦ Local news websites
  ◦ WhatsApp
  ◦ Communicate in local plans
	By 2027	• 3 Villages Flood Group
		• Mudford Parish Council
		• Mudford Village Hall Committee
		• Friends of Mudford Action Group
		• Somerset Prepared
		• Somerset Rivers Authority

How:

Establish a communications team: Form a coordinated group across Mudford, Ashington, and Chilton Cantelo to manage emergency communications. This centralised approach ensures clear, consistent messaging and prevents confusion.

Develop multi-channel alerts: Create simple emergency notification templates for different platforms. Use existing email lists, social media accounts and WhatsApp groups to reach different community segments. Establish clear protocols for when and how to use each channel.

Create accessible materials: Design clear, visual emergency guidance using simple language and universal symbols. Share through existing noticeboards, newsletters and community hubs. Ensure information is available in large print and digital formats.

Distribute household emergency information leaflets: Create and distribute physical emergency information leaflets to all households, similar to recycling guides, ensuring every resident knows what actions to take during flooding or other climate emergencies.

Build communication chains: Establish neighbourhood messaging systems using existing street representatives and community networks. Create simple protocols for passing information through these chains. Use current volunteer networks to identify and reach vulnerable residents.

Organise information points: Designate existing community spaces as emergency information hubs. Create basic information packs that can be quickly distributed. Use familiar locations where residents regularly gather.

Test alert systems: Run simple communication exercises using existing community events. Practice information sharing between partner organisations. Use feedback to refine and improve emergency messaging.

Coordinate with authorities: Align local communication plans with official emergency alerts. Share contact lists with relevant authorities. Use established relationships to ensure consistent messaging during emergencies.

Organise community workshops: Host regular workshops and information sessions to educate residents and business owners about flood risks and resilience measures. Invite experts to share knowledge and demonstrate practical flood protection techniques.





Useful links:

1. Emergency planning framework | GCS Civil Service
2. Resilient communications | Government website
3. Community resilience: Resources and Tools | Government website
4. Crisis communications: operating model | GCS Civil Service
5. Testing the emergency alerts service | Government website

3. SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND RAISING AWARENESS

Sharing knowledge and raising awareness across Mudford, Ashington, and Chilton Cantelo could provide the following adaptation benefits and co-benefits to the local community:

- Raises climate awareness
- Motivates sustainable actions
- Supports green economy
- Enables youth leadership
- Builds community collaboration
- Enables informed choices
- Supports sustainable living
- Facilitates open dialogues



3.1 - Set up a climate action community group



What and where:	Who:
• Environment, nature conservation and climate adaptation were rated as highly important in the community survey. These are also areas where the community has direct agency. • Yeo Rivers Community Trust (YRCT) are already working alongside Chilton Bridge Schools. YRCT will also be included in the future Withy Bed conservation project.	• Mudford Parish Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Yeo Rivers CommunityTrust • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Chilton Bridge School

How:

Form climate adaptation working groups: Establish dedicated working groups focusing on key topic areas such as food security, planning responses, emergency preparedness and nature recovery. Recruit members with relevant skills and interests and provide each group with clear objectives and regular meeting schedules to maintain momentum.

Build on existing neighbourhood networks: Strengthen current community connections by adding climate adaptation focus to established groups. Use successful models like Transition Streets Frome as inspiration to create neighbourhood-level climate action, where residents work together on practical solutions within their immediate area.

Improve coordination between community groups: Create regular communication channels between different local organisations to share resources, avoid duplication and amplify collective impact. Establish quarterly coordination meetings and shared online platforms where groups can update each other on activities and collaborate on joint initiatives.

Develop neighbourhood climate advocates: Recruit and train volunteer 'Climate Advocates' for each street or neighbourhood area to serve as local points of contact and coordination. These advocates can facilitate peer-to-peer conversations, organise small-scale local projects and connect residents with wider community initiatives.

Create storytelling and communication networks: Establish regular storytelling events and communication channels to share successes and inspire action across the community. Use local media such as community newspapers, radio stations and social media to amplify positive stories and practical advice from neighbourhood-level climate action.

Organise regular community gatherings: Schedule frequent informal meetings, creative workshops and social events that bring different groups together around climate themes. Include artistic and creative elements to make sessions engaging and accessible, building social connections that strengthen the community's capacity for collective action.







Useful links:

1. Community group resources | Somerset Community Action Groups
2. Somerset Climate Action Network
3. 8 strategies for connecting communities | Community Circles
4. Connect Somerset

3.2 - Encourage biodiversity through community planting and engagement

What and where:	When:	Who:
• Use the Biodiversity Action Plan 2025 - 2030 produced by Mudford Parish Council for more details. • Details can also be found in the Arboricultural Report from May 2025. Actions Include • Raising awareness of biodiversity. • Tree and hedge planting in cemetery once land extension has been confirmed. The addition of bird and bat boxes, as well as wildflowers can be done sooner. • Plant wet woodland trees at Withy Bed. • Increase canopy cover at recreation ground. The Yeo Valley Community Trust are working with Chilton Bridge Schools	By 2030	• Somerset Wildlife Trust through 1. The work of the area's Wilder Community Officer. 2. Wilder Church Award. 3. Wilder Gardens Award. 4. Training and workshops • Mudford Parish Council • Friends of Mudford Action Group • 3 Villages Flood Group • Yeo Rivers Community Trust

How:

Use the details provided in the Biodiversity Action Plan and Arboricultural Report: Work through the suggested actions in both these reports. Look to see if they have involved the actions listed below and if not potentially include them.

Map existing green spaces and corridors: Conduct a comprehensive mapping exercise to identify all green spaces, hedgerows, and potential wildlife corridors across the area. This will provide a baseline for planning and help identify key areas for connectivity improvements.

Utilise Parish Council land: Identify suitable parcels of Parish Council-owned land that could be dedicated to wildlife habitat creation. Develop management plans that prioritise native species and natural processes.

Enhance field boundaries: Work with local landowners to add hedgerows to existing field boundaries and create buffer strips around field edges. Promote the use of green finance options to support farmers in implementing these wildlife-friendly measures.

Create micro-habitats throughout villages: Identify suitable locations for a variety of micro-habitats such as:

- Wildflower borders in parks and community spaces
- Beetle banks to support beneficial insects and provide natural drainage
- Log piles and bug hotels in suitable corners of public and private gardens
- Bird and bat boxes on buildings and mature trees

Develop key sites as wildlife hubs: Work with landowners and managers of significant local sites to enhance their wildlife value. This could include reducing intensive management of grassy areas, creating more wild zones, and planting native species.

Develop a community tree planting strategy: Work with residents, landowners and local experts to create a comprehensive plan that identifies suitable locations for tree planting. Consider soil types, drainage, and potential future climate conditions when selecting sites and tree species.





Useful links:

1. Why are wildlife corridors important? | Heart of England Forest
2. Create wildlife corridors | RSPB
3. How to create microhabitats | LivetoPlant
4. Drought-resistant plants | RHS Gardening
5. The Wildlife Trusts and RHS call on gardeners to bring their lawns to life | The Wildlife Trusts

3.3 - Engage farmers and landowners



What and where:	When:	Who:
As mentioned in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table • Potentially install targeted scrapes and swales subject to farming compatibilaty. Yeo Rivers Community Trust are already in conversation with local farmers and are working in this area.	By 2027	• Yeo Rivers Community Trust • 3 Villages Flood Group • Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group South West (FWAG SW) • National Farmers Union (NFU) • Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT) • Mudford Parish Council

How:

Work through the initiatives highlighted in the Seven Zone Flood Risk Table as well as the Biodiversity Action Plan: Work alongside farmers and landowners to implement these actions. Look into the suggestions listed below if not included.

Implement soil health initiatives: Work with local farmers to encourage cover crops between main crop rotations. Demonstrate how cover crops reduce surface water runoff, improve soil structure and enhance soil health, which helps land adapt to both drought and heavy rainfall conditions. Organise workshops on sustainable soil management practices that support climate resilience.

Develop appropriate land use guidance: Create locally relevant guides for crop selection that consider changing climate conditions. Focus on crops that are well-suited to local soil types and projected weather patterns. Provide information on rotation practices that benefit both farm productivity and ecosystem health while reducing flood risk.

Support natural water management: Offer guidance and identify potential funding sources for farmers interested in creating ponds and small wetland areas on their land. Highlight the multiple benefits these features provide: water storage during heavy rainfall, wildlife habitat, and water reserves during dry periods. Share successful local examples that demonstrate these benefits.

Enhance hedgerow networks: Organise knowledge-sharing sessions on hedgerow maintenance and restoration techniques that benefit wildlife while helping manage water flow across the landscape. Connect farmers with resources for appropriate native hedgerow species selection which can withstand changing climate conditions while supporting local biodiversity.

Facilitate farmer-to-farmer learning: Create opportunities for farmers to share experiences and successful adaptation techniques with each other. Establish a local farmer network focused on climate adaptation and resilience, perhaps through regular informal meetings or farm visits to showcase successful practices. Help identify appropriate support organisations and funding opportunities for farmers wanting to implement changes.

Recognise and celebrate progress: Create a simple recognition scheme that acknowledges farmers making positive changes toward more wildlife-friendly, climate-adaptive practices. Share these success stories through local communication channels to inspire wider adoption.





Useful links:

1. Soil health initiatives | UK Soil Health Initiative
2. Land use guidance | UK Government Land Use Programme
3. Natural water management | Environment Agency Natural Flood Management Programme
4. Hedgerow networks | Hedgelink

3.4 – Partner with educational institutions



Who:
• Mudford Village Hall • Chilton Bridge School • Local Youth Groups

How:

Establish an education-climate Partnership Group: Form a dedicated group comprising representatives from local schools, Mudford Parish Council and environmental experts to oversee educational climate initiatives. Develop educational programmes and resources for local schools and youth organisations to engage young people in climate issues and solutions.

Implement climate adaptation projects in schools: Work with schools to create climate-resilient gardens or outdoor learning spaces. Support the installation of water butts, rain gardens or other sustainable drainage features on school grounds. Research existing citizen science projects relevant to climate change and local environmental issues.

Design inspiring nature education programmes: Develop curriculum content that helps children and young people fall in love with the natural world, creating emotional connections that motivate long-term environmental stewardship. Use local wildlife sites, seasonal changes and hands-on nature experiences to build understanding and appreciation.

Organise family engagement events: Create activities that bring children and parents together around climate themes, such as second-hand fashion events, repair cafes and local environmental celebrations. Use these events to extend climate education beyond the classroom and into family life.

Develop climate champions programme: Establish a programme where students can become 'Climate Champions' in their schools. Provide training and resources for these champions to lead climate initiatives and educate their peers across different age groups.

Advocate for curriculum reform: Work with schools and education authorities to integrate climate adaptation and nature recovery education into mainstream teaching. Focus on making environmental education accessible through plain English communication and practical, locally-relevant examples.







Useful links:

1. Education is key to addressing climate change | United Nations
2. Organisations that can help you take action | Let's Go Zero
3. Schools climate action planner | Transform Our World
4. Developing classroom-ready resources | British Council
5. Supporting student projects | WWF

4 - GET INVOLVED WITH PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Promoting sustainable development in Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo could provide the following adaptation benefits and co-benefits to the local community:

- Enhances climate resilience
- Fosters collaboration
- Facilitates communication
- Involves the community
- Supports sustainable living
- Reduces heatwave impacts
- Reduces flooding risks
- Promotes environmental stewardship



4.1 - Assess new developments for flood risk

What and where	Who:
Concern regarding 1,000 new homes being built over two developments, with springs from the limestone being potentially released. 3VFG giving technical scrutiny. • Create evidence trail to show proof of potential risk. • Input on SRA board meeting for public questions. • Technical support needed to help with capacity in responding to planning applications. • Share feedback regarding the planning portal being very difficult to use. • Share feedback regarding the development only being considered individually and not holistically. There is frustration that developments are often considered individually rather than in terms of their cumulative effects. There is a need to consider how drainage from new developments interacts with wider catchment flood-management objectives, including proposed natural flood management interventions	• Friends of Mudford Action Group • Somerset Council • SRA working group for issues on planning and flooding. • Mudford Parish Council • 3 Villages Flood Group

How:

Investigate funding through Somerset Rivers Authority: Connect with SRA representatives to understand their funding criteria and application processes. Identify potential projects that align with SRA priorities for flood risk reduction. Consider how to demonstrate community support and match-funding to strengthen applications. Coordinate with neighbouring parishes on larger-scale projects that might attract SRA interest.

Strengthen flood risk planning requirements: Work with the local planning authority to ensure that all new developments are subject to robust flood risk assessments in line with national and local planning policy. Encourage early consultation with the Environment Agency and local flood authorities to identify risks and mitigation options before plans are finalised. Establish a flood risk review process: Create a structured review process for proposed developments that considers surface water flooding, river flooding and groundwater risks. Include input from local flood groups, drainage experts and environmental organisations to ensure that flood resilience is adequately addressed.

Promote sustainable drainage systems (SuDS): Encourage the integration of sustainable drainage features such as permeable surfaces, rain gardens and retention ponds in new developments. Develop guidance outlining suitable SuDS approaches for local conditions and typical site constraints.

Develop a flood-resilient building guide: Produce guidance for developers on flood-resilient construction techniques, such as raised floor levels, water-resistant materials, and strategic placement of utilities. Include case studies of successful flood-resilient developments.

Strengthen monitoring and enforcement: Work with planning authorities to ensure that agreed flood mitigation measures are implemented and maintained after construction. Encourage clear management plans for drainage infrastructure and green spaces within new developments.







Useful links:

1. Preparing for flooding | Age UK
2. Community flood action fund | Somerset Rivers Authority
3. Improving flood resilience through community action | Scottish Flood Forum
4. Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) | Susdrain
5. Permeable paving | PavingExpert

4.2 - Lobby MP and Councillors for action on climate & planning



What and where:	When:	Who:
Local elections are taking place in May 2027. The number of Somerset Councillors will reduce and the Somerset Council division boundaries will be altered. Mudford will be affected by these changes and will become part of the Yeovil North East division.	By 2027:	• Sarah Dyke MP • Flooding Minister Emma Hardy MP • Somerset Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Mudford Parish Council

How:

Develop a local green homes grant scheme: Work with the Council to establish a small grants programme for home sustainability improvements. Create a simple application process and clear criteria for eligible improvements. Showcase successful projects to encourage wider participation.

Lobby government to change agricultural policies that contribute to flooding: Identify specific policies that encourage practices like intensive cultivation on steep slopes or removal of natural vegetation. Collect evidence of how these policies impact local flooding risks. Prepare concise briefing documents highlighting problems and potential solutions. Engage with local MPs, councillors, and relevant government departments through meetings, letters, and consultation responses.

Campaign for stronger protection of natural flood management assets: Map existing natural flood management features like woodlands, wetlands, and river meanders. Document their condition and any threats they face. Develop targeted campaigns focused on protecting specific at-risk assets. Build public understanding of how these natural features help reduce flood risks to communities.

Form alliances with other communities facing similar challenges: Identify other parishes and towns experiencing comparable land management & climate issues. Establish regular communication channels to share experiences and coordinate advocacy efforts. Present a unified voice when engaging with higher-level authorities. Pool resources to commission research or expert reports that support policy recommendations.

Engage with farming organisations on climate adaptation: Build relationships with local farming groups and representatives. Organise joint events that bring together farmers, community members, and the local MP to discuss shared climate challenges. Focus on finding common ground and mutual benefits rather than creating adversarial relationships. Explore opportunities for community support of climate-friendly farming initiatives.





Useful links:

1. How to build and maintain a relationship with your local authority | Advice Services Alliance
2. Lobbying Parliament | Government website
3. Contact your MP | Government website
4. Write to your politicians | WriteToThem

4.3 – Encourage sustainable development



What and where:	When:	Who:
Sense of frustration at not having concerns heard by Somerset Council. Parish Community Survey shows residents think new housing is needed but not on a large development scale.		• Somerset Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Mudford Parish Council • Henry Hobhouse Councillor • Kevin Messenger Councillor • Sarah Dyke MP

How:

Promote the benefits of retrofitting to create a more sustainable home: Make residents of the villages more aware of the actions that can be taken to make a house more sustainable, including those regarding energy efficiency and water conservation.

Promote water conservation measures: Partner with local suppliers to offer discounted water butts to residents. Develop a guide on installing and maintaining rainwater harvesting systems, tailored to local housing types. Create an information leaflet on simple greywater reuse systems that homeowners can implement.

Implement a community bulk-buying scheme: Organise group-buying initiatives for common retrofitting materials or technologies to reduce costs for residents. Negotiate with suppliers for discounts on sustainable home improvement products.

Implement planning application review process: Establish robust evaluation of environmental impact, climate resilience and transport accessibility. Focus on flood risk mitigation through features like underground rainwater collection tanks and greywater recycling.

Create a sustainable building guide: Develop a practical guide featuring local case studies and international best practices. Include specific guidance on implementing green and blue infrastructure like rain gardens, water harvesting systems, and green roofs.

Create a business climate charter: Launch a voluntary programme encouraging local businesses to commit to sustainable practices, particularly supporting sustainable transport options.





Useful links:

1. A practical guide to climate-resilient buildings & communities | UN
2. Technical guidance and best practice guidance for adapting buildings to climate change | EU
3. Create a more sustainable home | Eon
4. Sustainable homes - the financial and environmental benefits | Environment Agency

4.4 - Engage with local planning & policy



When:	Who:
	• Somerset Council • 3 Villages Flood Group • Friends of Mudford Action Group • Mudford Parish Council • Henry Hobhouse Councillor • Kevin Messenger Councillor • Sarah Dyke MP

How:

Create an online information hub: Develop a dedicated section on the Parishes' websites or local climate action platform for housing improvement resources. Include easy-to-understand guides on different retrofitting options, their benefits and approximate costs. Provide case studies of local homes that have successfully implemented improvements, including details on energy and cost savings.

Organise regular information-sharing events: Host monthly or quarterly talks on various aspects of sustainable home improvements, inviting local and national experts to present. Arrange 'open home' events where residents who have implemented sustainable measures can showcase their improvements to neighbours. Organise practical workshops on topics such as draught-proofing, insulation installation, or setting up water conservation systems.

Ensure community engagement: Facilitate regular consultations on planning policy changes. Learn from SCLT's model of community involvement to facilitate regular consultations on planning policy changes. Establish accessible feedback channels and incorporate residents' views into development decisions, ensuring that projects reflect the community's aspirations.

Explore grant funding from environmental organisations: Research grant programmes from organisations like Somerset Wildlife Trust, the National Lottery Climate Action Fund and environmental charities. Create a calendar of application deadlines to ensure timely submissions. Develop a portfolio of shovel-ready projects that can be quickly submitted when funding opportunities arise. Build relationships with grant managers to better understand their priorities.

Organise community fundraising events for specific initiatives: Plan targeted fundraising activities with clear goals connected to visible local projects. Develop a calendar of events that engage different segments of the community. Create opportunities for local businesses to sponsor specific adaptation initiatives. Ensure transparency in how funds raised are allocated and spent.







Useful links:

1. How to respond to planning applications: an 8-step guide | Campaign to Protect Rural England
2. Influencing the planning process (England) | Commons Library
3. Information requirements for planning applications | Somerset Council
4. Policy writing and community engagement for low carbon neighbourhoods | Neighbourhood Planning

CONCLUSION

This plan shares the community's priority actions for helping Mudford, Ashington, and Chilton Cantelo thrive through our changing climate. Some can happen quickly, like installing water butts, to give an instant adaptation boost. Other actions, such as shaping planning policies, are longer-term projects that will significantly enhance the Parishes' adaptation and preparedness. All actions listed however are suggestions with delivery dependent on the agreement, recourses and the capacity of the organisations concerned.



Every action in this plan will also bring many other benefits. These "co-benefits" include:

- improving community health and wellbeing
- making space for wildlife
- mitigating climate change

By working on these actions together, you can also strengthen community links, which is vital for making the Parishes well-adapted and resilient.



The Mudford • Ashington • Chilton Cantelo Climate Adaptation Plan should be seen as a living document at the starting point of a wider process. The plan should:

- be reviewed regularly
- be updated as needed
- reflect the changing climate and the changing priorities and needs of the community

By staying flexible, and continuing to listen to residents, the plan can best guide the community in adapting to climate change.

Now it is time to act!

Everyone can play a role in making these Parishes better adapted. To find out more about how you can get involved in implementing this plan contact Somerset Wildlife Trust.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who shared their ideas to create such a positive and ambitious Climate Adaptation Plan for Mudford, Ashington and Chilton Cantelo. In addition to the many community members who shaped this plan, we would like to thank Petra Galloway, Kay Mackenzie, Lydia Gane, as well as Mudford Parish Council and the 3 Villages Flood Group.

If you are concerned about your individual preparedness to emergency events, check out Somerset Prepared for detailed advice and support.



For future funding the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) partnership is offering grants through the Community Flood Action Fund (CFAF) to reduce the risks and impacts of flooding in Somerset.

Published November 2026, Review Date May 2027

Contact

3 Villages Flood Group

info@3vfg.org.uk

This work is part of the Act to Adapt project, generously funded by the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) as part of the Enhance Programme of Work of 25/26.

Disclaimer

The links provided in this document are intended to serve as information and advice, and do not reflect a recommendation from Somerset Wildlife Trust, or our partners and funders, for particular companies, products or services.

Consultation responses to reducing flooding risks



Respondents expressed strong support for natural flood management techniques. Suggestions included reinstating flood plains and historic ditches, introducing “slow the flow” planting measures, and installing ponds and leaky dams. The continued maintenance of the River Yeo was highlighted as important, with several residents calling for regular dredging as well as improvement of river banks. There was also interest in partnering with the Environment Agency to conduct a hydrological survey of the area, in order to ensure actions are informed on-ground evidence.

Improving drainage systems was another key priority for respondents, With many stressing the importance of regular maintenance and clearing of existing drains, Roadside drains were highlighted as a particular problem area. Concerns were also raised about increased run-off from new developments, with calls for greater use of permeable surfaces and sustainable drainage solutions in future planning.



Consultation responses to coordinating emergency plans



There was broad support for the proposed emergency plan actions. However, respondents raised concerns about the current location of the designated “safe place” in the village hall, noting its vulnerability during flood events. The importance of identifying and supporting vulnerable neighbours was also highlighted, with suggestions to nominate local leaders to coordinate assistance during emergencies. Whilst some respondents raised concerns of prioritising planning over prevention, many emphasised that improved planning remains essential for effective emergency response.

Respondents acknowledged the proactive work already undertaken by the 3 Villages Flood Group, though they felt that greater community involvement and more frequent updates would strengthen local engagement. Strengthening communication channels was seen as vital, with residents recommending the use of emails, WhatsApp groups, door-knocking, and emergency telephone lines. Some also proposed hosting large-scale events, similar to the Somerset Symposium, to improve preparedness and community awareness.



Consultation responses to knowledge sharing and raising awareness



While respondents recognised the importance of raising awareness, many stressed that it must result in tangible action. Several suggested that funding should be given as priority to practical solutions. Community projects such as tree planting, litter picking, and “adopt a drain” initiatives were highlighted as effective ways to combine awareness with practical outcomes.

Respondents praised the 3 Villages Flood Group for its successful awareness-raising efforts through its website and other initiatives. Additional suggestions included regular newsletters, social media updates, local news features, and leafletting, such as through the Anglican Church’s Ark magazine, to ensure information reaches all residents.
Others proposed potential partnerships with organisations such as the Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) and the Environment Agency (EA) to deliver local educational seminars.



Consultation responses to involvement with planning and sustainable development



Residents emphasised the importance of engaging with both local and national authorities, including the local MP, the flooding minister, planners, the Somerset Rivers Authority, and the Environment Agency. They felt that stronger communication with these bodies is essential to highlight concerns about development site selection and its impact on the surrounding landscape and hydrology.

Concerns were raised about the capacity of existing infrastructure, particularly drainage systems and pumping stations, to support additional housing. Respondents suggested that new developments should invest in upgrading existing infrastructure while also incorporating sustainable drainage solutions within development sites.



26/266 Tree (arboriculturist) survey quotes:

i. To note that 3 quotes were requested for the tree (arboriculturist) survey at the Recreation Ground and Cemetery.
ii. To receive 2 quotes.
iii. To agree actions to be taken, including the acceptance of a quote.

Report to Mudford Parish Council
Meeting date: 29th October 2026
Tree survey
Prepared by: Petra Galloway (Clerk)

Introduction

The council is required to consider quotations for a follow-up arboricultural inspection of mature trees at the Recreation Ground and Cemetery, in accordance with the recommendations of the 2025 tree survey.

Clerk's recommendation

The council is recommended to:

1. Note that three quotations were requested for the survey.
2. Receive and consider the two quotations received.
3. Accept Quote 1 as the preferred contractor.
4. Authorise the clerk to arrange the inspection.

Legal power

Open Spaces Act 1906 s9 and s10 and Public Health Act 1875 s164

Budget

Hedges and Trees – Tree survey (1,000 available)

Background

The Parish Council commissioned an arboricultural survey of trees at the Recreation Ground, Cemetery and Withy Bed and this was carried out in May 2025 (see the attached survey).

The survey concluded that the mature trees located within the Cemetery and Recreation Ground are situated in higher-risk areas due to regular public access and recommended that these trees should be re-inspected after 18 months.

The report also recommended installation of support bracing to:

- **Tree T1 (Common Beech)** at the Cemetery; and
- **Tree T9 (Hybrid Poplar)** at the Recreation Ground.

The recommended bracing works were subsequently completed thus the bracing systems should form part of the next inspection.

Three contractors were invited to submit quotations.

At the time of publication of this report, two quotations have been received, details of which are attached for Members' consideration.

Quote no	Price	Qualification	Notes
1	£525 + VAT	MSc., (Urban forestry and arboriculture), C.Env., M.Arbor.A.	2 weeks lead time
2	£600 + VAT	Safe Contractor Approved, City and Guilds Qualified, CHAS Approved	
3	£ quote not received	NPTC qualified (City and Guilds)	

Quotes' details;

Quote 1

Proposed Scope of Works

• Ground-based Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) in accordance with industry best practice (BS 3998:2010 principles and National Tree Safety Group guidance).

• Inspection of all mature trees previously surveyed at the Cemetery (T1–T4) and the mature trees at the Recreation Ground (including the maple and hybrid poplar populations and any other mature specimens of amenity or risk significance).

• Specific review of the braced trees (Cemetery T1 and Recreation Ground T9), including condition of the cable braces and unions.

• Update of tree condition, risk observations, and any recommended works or monitoring actions.

• Brief written report (or schedule update) summarising findings, with recommendations and suggested next inspection intervals. Photographic record of key trees/features will be included.

• The inspection will be undertaken by a competent arboriculturist with knowledge of the sites.

Quotation Fixed fee: £525 + VAT

This covers the site visit, inspection of the mature trees at both sites, and the written report/schedule update.

The fee assumes reasonable access and is based on the known tree population from the 2025 survey.

Any significant additional requirements (for example, aerial inspection of specific trees, decay detection, or an expanded ecological check beyond standard visual observations for protected species) would be quoted separately.

I am available to undertake the inspection from early November 2026 onwards, subject to weather and diary. Please let me know your preferred timescale and I will confirm a date.

The report will support the Parish Council's ongoing duty of care under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1957 and provide an updated record for your tree management files.

Quote 2

Tree survey

To inspect trees at the following locations: Mudford Cemetery and Recreation Ground (as shown on maps provided)

Inspections will be carried out at ground level using the VTA method without the use of invasive decay detection equipment.

A PDF report will be emailed which will include observations, recommendations and a tree location plan.

Subtotal £600.00
vat (20.0%) £120.00
Total £720.00

26/267 To discuss concerns regarding vehicles parking on pavements within the parish and to agree any appropriate next steps.

Report to Mudford Parish Council
Meeting date: 29th October 2026
Parking on pavements
Prepared by: Petra Galloway (Clerk)

Introduction

This report is presented for the council to consider the issue of pavement parking and to agree the next steps.

Clerk's recommendation

The clerk recommends that the issue is monitored and that any instances of obstructive parking are reported to the clerk, together with photographs and location, so that they can be referred to the Police where appropriate (please see below information how this can be done). This includes instances when the pedestrians are forced to enter the road.

Police responsibilities information

Available on: https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/parking-issues/

You should report a vehicle to us if it is causing an obstruction or hazard by:

- blocking a road or pavement which causes pedestrians to enter the road
- parking in a dangerous position, such as on zig-zag lines or other pedestrian crossings
- parking over a dropped kerb
- preventing access for emergency vehicles
- preventing you from leaving your driveway

Before you make a report to us

We can only accept reports where a vehicle is causing an obstruction or hazard in Avon and Somerset. If you are unsure which police force covers the location, you can check which force is responsible.

If the vehicle is in Avon and Somerset, make sure you have as many details as possible including its:

- registration number
- make and model
- colour
- location

Information from Somerset Council website:
https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-travel-and-parking/on-street-parking-restrictions/

We are not able to take any action against parked vehicles which are causing an obstruction where no parking restriction applies. These vehicles can only be dealt with by the police, who you should contact using their non-emergency phone number – **101**.

We enforce on-street parking restrictions to improve road safety for all road users, to improve the flow of traffic, and to make sure emergency vehicles and public transport can travel without obstruction or delay.

If you would like to report a vehicle parked in contravention of parking restrictions, please phone our enforcement contractor **NSL** on **01823 219035** or
email **somersetparkingenquiries@nsl.co.uk**
We can only serve Penalty Charge Notices to vehicles parked on pavements if there is a relevant parking restriction on the roadside adjacent to them.

We enforce a number of parking restrictions, including:

- Vehicles parked on yellow lines or where loading restrictions are in place
- Vehicles parked without clearly displaying a valid, or the correct permit, voucher or ticket to allow them to do so
- Vehicles parked for longer than the purchased time or for longer than permitted
- Vehicles parked in a suspended bay
- Vehicles parked in a bus stop
- Vehicles parked outside of bay markings
- Vehicles parked across a dropped kerb or driveway (at the homeowner's request)

Civil Enforcement Officers (traffic wardens) conduct daily patrols on most roads where parking restrictions apply. It is a driver's responsibility to check their parking place for any restrictions and to ensure any ticket or permit is clearly and correctly displayed.

Contact: Somerset Parking Services
Address: Somerset Council, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY
Email: **somersetparkingenquiries@nsl.co.uk**
Phone: 01823 219035
Opening hours (To speak to an advisor about a Penalty Charge Notice or a parking permit) Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm, Saturday and Sunday closed

26/268 To consider arranging a meeting with the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee (Yeovil Without Parish Council) to explore potential opportunities for future burial provision and possible joint working.

Report to Mudford Parish Council
Meeting date: 29th October 2026
Meeting with Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee
Prepared by: Petra Galloway (Clerk)

Introduction

This report seeks the council's consideration of whether to meet with the Yeovil and Cemetery Crematorium Committee to discuss explore potential opportunities for future burial provision and possible joint working.

Clerk's recommendation

The council is recommended to:

- Agree to explore potential opportunities for joint working with the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee.
- Agree the Council representatives who will attend a meeting with the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee to undertake preliminary discussions and report back to the Council with further information, options, costs and implications, prior to any formal commitment being considered.

Background

The council has received correspondence from the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee regarding future burial provision within the Yeovil area. This was discussed on 27th August 2026 under agenda item 26/193 and the resolution was:

The council considered the correspondence received from the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee regarding the exploration of future burial ground provision and agreed that the matter is under consideration. The council further agreed to await the results of the community survey before determining the next steps.

Yeovil Cemetery is approaching capacity and the Committee is exploring options for additional burial land to meet future demand. As part of this work, the Committee has approached Mudford Parish Council to establish whether there may be interest in exploring opportunities for future burial ground provision, including the potential expansion of Mudford Cemetery and the possibility of a joint approach to providing additional burial space.

Members may recall that cemetery expansion was previously discussed under Minute 24/261, when the council noted that land adjacent to the existing cemetery may become

available for purchase and that, should the council wish to pursue an extension, public consultation and consideration of funding options would be required.

At this stage, Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee is seeking only an initial indication as to whether Mudford Parish Council would be willing to explore the concept further. No commitment is being sought at this time.

26/269 Communication and community engagement

i. To review the Parish Council's current communication and community engagement arrangements and consider opportunities for improvement, including the creation of a Parish Council Facebook page, WhatsApp group, and email newsletter, together with the provision of additional noticeboards at Stone Lane, bus shelter, Hundredstone Park and Hinton.
ii. To consider whether any agreed changes to communication and engagement arrangements should be incorporated into a standalone Communication Strategy or integrated within the existing Communication Policy.
iii. To consider arrangements for a community event to discuss the agreed Community Plan with residents.
iv. To provide feedback on the draft Community Plan newsletter.

To note: The newsletter has not yet been finalised despite delegated authority having been granted to the clerk to approve the final version (minute reference 26/247). It has been suggested that the date of the proposed community engagement event should be included within the newsletter. As the council has not yet considered the event, publication of the newsletter has been delayed.

Report to Mudford Parish Council
Meeting date: 29th October 2026
Communication and community engagement
Prepared by: Petra Galloway (Clerk)

Introduction
Following the adoption of the Community Plan on 29th September, the Parish Council is invited to consider a number of actions relating to communication, community engagement and resident involvement that were identified through the Community Plan process.

Clerk's recommendation
The council is recommended to:

1. Agree to create a Parish Council Facebook page named *"Mudford Parish Council"*, administered by the clerk, with comments disabled and used for the publication of council information and notices only.
2. Defer consideration of a WhatsApp group and email newsletter until early 2027.
3. Consider the provision of an additional noticeboard at Stone Lane.
4. Not pursue a noticeboard at the bus shelter at this stage, and instead investigate alternative methods of providing information in that area (e.g. laminated list of meetings). Not to pursue noticeboards at Hundredstone park and Hinton.

5. Agree the clerk should write a community Strategy that could be included within the existing Communications Policy (all in one document) – see attached the existing policy.
6. Hold a community engagement event at a later date in conjunction with another parish event (or PC meeting), such as a future event on flood prevention measures, in order to maximise attendance and allow sufficient time for planning.
7. Provide feedback on the draft Community Plan newsletter.

Background

i. Review of Communication and Community Engagement Arrangements

The Community Plan identified a desire for improved communication and engagement between the Parish Council and residents. Suggestions included the use of additional digital communication channels and extending the availability of Parish Council information throughout the parish.

The Parish Council currently maintains **three noticeboards**:

- Opposite the Village Hall;
- At the entrance to the Recreation Ground (Milton House side); and
- At Primrose Lane.

Members may wish to consider whether additional noticeboards should be provided at Stone Lane, the bus shelter, Hundredstone Park and Hinton.

Should additional noticeboards be pursued, the following factors should be considered:

- **Cost versus reach** - the number of residents who would benefit from each location.
- **Land ownership and permissions** - the Parish Council does not own land in all of the suggested locations. Securing permission for installation may therefore be required. Installation at the bus shelter may prove particularly difficult (lack of space).
- **Noticeboard size** - only the Village Hall noticeboard is currently large enough to display a full council agenda. The remaining noticeboards can accommodate only the notices (and list of meetings, 4xA4 documents). Members may wish to consider whether a smaller noticeboard would provide sufficient benefit to justify the cost.
- **Purchase and installation costs** - a preliminary review of suppliers indicates that a small, ground-mounted noticeboard is likely to cost approximately **£500 plus VAT**, excluding installation costs.
- **Ongoing maintenance** - future upkeep, repairs and replacement costs should also be taken into account.

The clerk's view is that a noticeboard at **Stone Lane** may be achievable if the council wishes to proceed.

With regard to digital communication, members may wish to consider social media and other communication platforms. The clerk recommends the creation of a **Facebook page**

entitled *"Mudford Parish Council"* to provide public information, notices and updates. To minimise administrative burden and manage risk, comments would be disabled and the page would be administered by the clerk.

The clerk does not presently recommend the creation of a Parish Council WhatsApp group or email newsletter subscription service and suggests that these options be reviewed again next year (subject to new PC laptop and phone purchase).

ii. Communication Strategy and Policy

Should the council agree any changes to its communication arrangements, members are invited to consider whether these should:

- be incorporated into the existing Communication Policy; or
- form the basis of a separate Communication Strategy setting out the council's objectives, communication channels and approach to community engagement.

iii. Community Event to Discuss the Community Plan

The Community Plan identified a range of actions and priorities for the parish. Members may wish to consider how these can be communicated to residents and how ongoing feedback can be obtained.

A dedicated community event could be organised to discuss the agreed Community Plan and provide an opportunity for residents to engage directly with the Parish Council.

However, given the limited time available before the end of the year, the clerk recommends that any such event be held either immediately before one of the next Parish Council meetings, such as in January, or in conjunction with another community engagement opportunity, such as a future event relating to flood prevention measures following discussions with James Divall. Combining events may improve attendance, reduce costs, and make more effective use of Council resources.

iv. Community Plan Newsletter

To note: The Community Plan newsletter has not yet been finalised despite delegated authority having been granted to the clerk to approve the final version (Minute 26/247).

It has been suggested that details of the proposed community engagement event should be included within the newsletter. As the council has not yet considered the format or timing of such an event, publication of the newsletter has been delayed pending Members' views.

Members are therefore invited to provide feedback on the draft newsletter and determine whether publication should proceed immediately or await agreement on arrangements for further community engagement.

MUDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Communications Policy

Introduction

Mudford Parish Council (MPC) articulates and represents the views and needs of the local community. It provides information on important parish matters affecting the community and encourages comment from interested individuals and groups. The overall aim is to make council communications a two-way process: to give people the information to understand accurately what MPC does, whilst also enabling MPC to make informed decisions using information received from residents and partners. The principles of these guidelines apply to all parish councillors and the clerk to MPC. It is also intended for guidance for others communicating with the parish council.

The Importance of Good Communication

Good communications will enable MPC to:

• better understand the needs of the community and develop appropriate strategies and priorities;

• raise residents' satisfaction, trust and confidence by communicating about issues, services and opportunities in the parish;

• be an effective voice of the community;

• make best use of technology to innovate and engage with hard-to-reach groups;

• proactively challenge inaccuracies and misrepresentations that might undermine the image or integrity of MPC or the parish.

1. Parish Council Correspondence

(i) All correspondence relating to Mudford Parish Council should be addressed to the clerk (Proper Officer of the council) in the first instance either via email at clerk@mudford-pc.gov.uk or via post. This will ensure that the matter is recorded and passed to the relevant person or organisation as soon as practically possible.

(ii) Although all councillors have their own MPC email addresses name.surname@mudford-pc.gov.uk, the clerk is responsible for dealing with email received and passing on anything relevant to councillors or external agencies for information and/or action. All communications on behalf of the council will usually come from the clerk. In instances where this is not the case, the clerk should be copied in.

2. Agenda Items for Council and Committee meetings

(i) Agenda should be clear and concise. It should contain sufficient information to enable councillors to make an informed decision, and for the public to understand what matters are being considered and what decisions are to be taken at a meeting.

(ii) Items for information should be kept to a minimum on an agenda.

(iii) Where the clerk or a councillor wishes fellow councillors to receive matters for "information only", this information will be circulated via the clerk.

3. Communications with the Press and Public

(i) The clerk will clear all press reports, or comments to the media, with the chairman of the council or the chairman of the relevant committee.

(ii) Press reports from the council, its committees or working parties should be from the clerk or via the reporter's own attendance at a meeting.

(iii) Unless a councillor has been authorised by the council to speak to the media on a particular issue, councillors who are asked for comment by the press should make it clear that it is a personal view and ask that it be clearly reported as their personal view.

(iv) Unless a councillor is reporting the view of the council, they must make it clear to members of the public that they are expressing a personal view.

(v) If councillors receive a complaint from a member of the public, this should be dealt with under the council's adopted complaints procedure.

4. Councillor Correspondence to external parties

(i) As the clerk should be sending most of the council's correspondence from a councillor to other bodies, it needs to be made clear that it is written in their official capacity and has been authorised by the council.

(ii) A copy of all outgoing correspondence relating to the council or a councillor's role within it, should be sent to the clerk, and it be noted on the correspondence, e.g. "copy to the clerk" so that the recipient is aware that the clerk has been advised.

It is important to note that any emails sent to MPC email addresses will be subject to The Freedom of Information Act requirements. The clerk will acknowledge all Freedom of Information requests within seven working days and will reply fully within 20 working days of receipt of the request. If this is not possible, a further holding letter/email will be sent with an expected completion date.

Mudford Parish Council is the Data Controller as defined by GDPR of personal data processed by the Council and Councillors. The Data Protection lead is the clerk.

5. Communications with Parish Council Staff

(i) Councillors must not give instructions to any member of staff, unless authorised to do so (for example, councillors sitting as a committee with appropriate delegated powers from the council).

(ii) No individual councillor, regardless of whether or not they are the chairman of the council, the chairman of a committee or other meeting, may give instructions to the clerk which are inconsistent or conflict with council decisions or arrangements for delegated power.

(iii) Telephone calls should be appropriate to the work of the council.

(iv) Emails:

- Instant replies should not be expected from the clerk and reasons for urgency should be stated.

- The councillors will receive the summons and all other relevant correspondence at their MPC email address: name.surname@mudford-pc.gov.uk unless their agreement is withdrawn.

(vi) Meetings with the clerk:

- Wherever possible an appointment should be made and meetings should be relevant to the work of the clerk.
- Councillors should be clear that the matter is legitimate council business and not matters driven by personal or political agendas.

This policy has been adopted by Mudford Parish Council at the meeting held on 28th May 2026.

Mudford Parish Community Plan (2026-2031)

The Community Plan has been developed from the Community Assembly held in March 2026, and the Community Survey in June/July 2026. It reflects the values, aspirations and goals of the community and Mudford Parish Council (MPC). As a live document it will be regularly reviewed and updated.

Community Plan Mission Statement

Champion the interests of Mudford residents by protecting our rural way of life, tackling pollution, flooding and drainage issues, enabling walking and footpath access, preserving our natural environment, and fostering a strong and connected community. We are committed to listening to local people, acting in the best interests of the parish, and ensuring Mudford remains a resilient and thriving place for future generations.

Top 3 Priorities - Summary of Actions

The Community Plan contains comprehensive coverage of parish life, detailing aims, objectives, actions and timescales for each area. Here we present just 3 of the top priorities (from the survey), the whole document can be accessed here: Tiny URL LINK TO CP and a list of related organisations here: Tiny URL LINK TO ORG

Priority Area	Aims	Most Immediate Action (now to end April 2027)
1a. Pollution: Water quality	Improve and protect environment by supporting community-led action to address water pollution and agricultural run-off.	Work in partnership with Three Villages Flood Group (3VFG) and local volunteers to support community-led monitoring of local watercourses and pollution incidents
1b. Pollution: Fly tipping	Improve and protect the environment by supporting community-led action.	Promote awareness of reporting process e.g. how to promptly report incidents to Somerset Council
2. Flooding	Improve River Management and Infrastructure, actively engage authorities, empower community action.	MPC and the 3VFG to identify required mitigations to the flooding issues, and present to Somerset Council for consideration (and funding).
3a. Road safety: Main road	To improve road safety.	Explore pelican crossing, further visual and physical speed calming measures, and HGV re-routing with Somerset Council.
3b. Road safety: Pavement parking	To support measures that reduce the impact of pavement parking.	Ask residents to report to SC and/or MPC. Raise awareness of impact. Engage Somerset Council.

Learn more about the Community Plan: DAY, MONTH, TIME – VILLAGE HALL

This is another opportunity to discuss the community plan, share your views, hear others', ask questions.

Did you know?

Mudford Village Hall is a designated Safe Haven in the event of an emergency, where residents can go for temporary shelter, information, support, and assistance. A central meeting point during incidents such as severe weather, flooding, power outages, or other emergencies. More info here: TINY URL TO INFO

Mudford Parish Council meets every month (except December), and you can attend any meeting.
Thurs 26th November 2026
Thurs 14th January 2027
Thurs 25th February 2027
Thurs 25th March 2027
All meetings are at the Village Hall and start at 7pm.
Meeting info, inc. agenda, papers: TINY URL LINK MPC Meetings

MPC is responsible for these community assets: •Bus shelter •Cemetery and Chapel •Play equipment, Skatepark, Outdoor gym •Defibrillators x 2 (phone box, Milton Hse entrance) •Speed Activated devices x 2

Contact Somerset Council for: •Roads, Potholes •Buses • Planning •Bins, Recycling •Waste •Fly-tipping

MPC mudford-pc.gov.uk | **Parish Clerk** clerk@mudford-pc.gov.uk Tel 07552 509707 | **3VFG** www.3vfg.org.uk
Friends of Mudford Action Group (FOMAG) www.fomag.co.uk/9-2 | **Village Hall** www.mudfordvillagehall.org.uk

Outcomes from Mudford Community Survey 2026

Our thanks to everyone who took part in the Community Assembly in March and/or the Survey in June/July, and for the volunteers who helped facilitate these activities. They were commissioned by Mudford Parish Council to understand residents' priorities and views, and to inform the Community Plan. The project was funded by a grant from SALC (Somerset Association of Local Councils), and a small grant from Viridor, and conducted by CLOUT LTD, an independent research company.

Survey Participation

127 residents completed surveys from 340 households; 80 on paper, 47 online, very high-quality engagement.

Respondents

58% female, 42% male | 51% aged 65+ | working-age residents (<65 yrs) under-represented by approx.15%.

Key Findings

A summary of the research was presented at the Parish Council meeting on 22nd September, and the Full Report from the survey can be accessed on line. TINY URL LINK. Here we provide some of the key findings.

Majority of resident feel positive about life in our Parish

Mudford as a place to live **80%** said great or good

Love/like: Peace, quiet and rural character

Sense of community **87%** said we look out for one another

Love/like: Community spirit, friendly people

> "Mudford is friendly community, where people try to look after one another, as best they can. A beautiful, quiet, scenic, and peaceful place to live - therapeutic."

Clear concerns about the challenges we face

> "We face pressures that are genuinely wearing: danger and traffic noise on the A359, persistent flood risk, looming threat of large-scale development and losing village identity."

Desire for greater inclusion

> "It's a pity it's a two-tier village with those who have and those who don't. Also, those living at the fringes of the Parish seem to have all the downsides and none of the benefits of living in the Parish."

What matters most to Mudford Parish residents (% saying matters a lot)

77% Pollution	74% Housing development	73% Traffic & road safety	73% Flooding & river mgmt
65% Walking access	60% Policing & community safety	53% Enviro & conservation	44% Climate adaptation
34% *Village Hall	32% **Public transport	30% Playing field & children's amenities	28% Comms & local info
	19% Church	16% Cemetery	

Top Priority 70%+
High Importance 40–69%
Moderate 20–39%
Lower Priority <20%

*Higher amongst 65+ yrs (43% vs 26% <65s)

**Much higher amongst 65+ yrs (44% vs 20% <65s)

Aspirational community-led initiatives should focus on youngsters

83% support more Children's Play Activities; holiday events, parents & kids socials, and nature-based activities most requested.

81% want Spaces for Young People; sports and social spaces are top of wish list (to be designed by them).