

**Minutes of the Sourton Parish Council meeting held at 7:00pm
on 6th July 2026 at Sourton Village Hall.**

Council Members Present:

Cllr Mott (Chair)
Cllr Horn
Cllr Kennedy
Cllr Southcott

In Attendance:

Mrs A Horn (Clerk)

45 Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed the members of the council.

46 Apologies for Absence

On the proposition of Cllr Mott and seconded by Cllr Southcott it was **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies of Cllr Firth (personal) and to note the apologies of Cllr Grainger DCC (personal).

47 Public Forum

None

48.1 Declarations of Interest

None

**48.2 Section 65 of the English
Devolution and Community
Empowerment Act 2026**

It was noted that from 29th June 2026, section 65 of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026 removed the requirement for Members home addresses to be published in registers of interest, unless explicitly requested by a Member. However, the details must still be declared for internal council use.

**49 WDBC, DCC, DNP and
Sourton Hall Reports**

WDBC- Emails circulated

DCC- No report

DNP- Dartmoor Dynamic Landscapes update on current project 5-year project, with a successful festival in Ivybridge and others planned for Okehampton and Princetown.

Sourton Hall- No report

50 ITEMS REQUIRING A DECISION

**50.1 Minutes of the previous
meeting**

On the proposition of Cllr Southcott and seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st June 2026

51 Planning

- 51.1 1523/26/FUL** Spurham Farm Demolition of existing buildings and change of use of part
Thorndon Cross of the land to domestic garden. Construction of a single
EX20 4NQ storey extension to the main building, alongside associated
access improvements and landscaping works.

On the proposition of Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Horn it was **RESOLVED** to support the application as it was a modest development and extension on the existing footprint

51.2 Dartmoor National Park New Local Plan

It was noted that Dartmoor National Park Authority has commenced the preparation of a new combined Local Plan and Minerals and Waste Plan. The plan will be known as the Dartmoor Local Plan 2026 (emerging) and will cover the area of the Dartmoor National Park. The first stage of consultation on the new Local Plan will run this summer, from 13 July to 23 August 2026.

53 Finance

53.1 Finance Report

On the proposition of Cllr Mott and seconded by Cllr Southcott it was **RESOLVED** to accept the Bank Reconciliation report and budget report dated 30th June 2026 which Cllr Firth would sign at a later date.

53.2 Payments

On the proposition of Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Horn it was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment list totalling £1818.28 plus VAT

53.3 Delegated authority

On the proposition of Cllr Horn and seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was **RESOVLED** to give delegated authority to the clerk for payments if no August meeting was required.

54 Policies

54.1 Policy Review

On the proposition of Cllr Mott and seconded by Cllr Horn it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the policies en bloc.

55 Events working group

This item was deferred until the next meeting

56 Co-option

No applications received

57 Closed Churchyard

It had been reported to the Clerk that an area of Churchyard had not been mown on the last cut- the clerk to speak to the contractor to find out why. An owner for one of the gravestones on the maintenance list had come forward to take ownership of the repair. The clerk to commence an application to Faculty for repairs needed to the monuments, as required

58 Drains

No communication had been received from the commoners regarding the drains.

59 Speeding Signs

The information had not been received in time for the meeting.

60 Cluster Group

It was noted the training session available to all councillors is being held on Tuesday 22nd July at the Charter Hall Okehampton.

61 Clerks Holiday

The Clerks holiday dates were noted

62 Items Brought Forward

Speedwatch – new volunteers are needed to ensure the group is able to remain viable.

The road along Catsmoor is in a terrible state but it is noted that repairs are to be carried out once the works at Ebsworthy have been completed.

PART TWO

On the proposition of Cllr Mott seconded by Cllr Southcott it was **RESOLVED** that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items which are CONFIDENTIAL by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council.

63 WDBC Enforcement

An updated was noted

Meeting closed 8:03pm