

Fonthill Gifford Parish Council Minutes of the 6th July 2026 Meeting

There were present Cllr James Hill, Chair, and Cllrs Cheryl Bell, Caroline Marking and Mary Scott-Gall.

Cllr Gerry Murray was also in attendance

Apologies were received from Cllrs Paul Gorford and James Evans

1. There were no Declarations
2. The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and signed
3. Matters arising: Work on the damaged wall is expected to be undertaken shortly. The party held on 5 June was a great success with around forty attending.
4. Financial statement: The Treasurer advised that at 6 July the balance on the Current Account is £3481 and on the Deposit Account it is £2106, making a total of £5587. He confirmed that the PC's accounts 2025/2026 have been published on the fonthillgifford.org.uk website.
5. Any other business: Following the sad passing away of William Chatterton Dickson, the former church account treasurer, Cllr Gorford has taken full responsibility for the Church accounts. He also remains the sole churchwarden and in view of these responsibilities he cannot remain Financial Officer for the PC. He is prepared to retain responsibility for the PC/ village website. He will also be able to help the new PC Finance Officer once they are appointed.
6. Cllr Murray reported that discussions are ongoing concerning the use of the Shaftesbury Recycling Centre with a view to local Wiltshire residents use of the facility being maintained, particularly in view of the extreme reluctance to using the Warminster facility. The Community Action Fund has opened offering funding for parish councils, community groups and voluntary associations to improve community safety and reduce crime and antisocial behaviour. Wiltshire Council has issued updated guidance on the use of road signage for local events and community notices. All eight local Fire Stations will remain open and fully operational for the next 12 months. But they will then be closed if the requisite funding is not forthcoming from the Government. The situation will be reviewed in February. The Council's Local Plan has failed, requiring development of a new Plan. Government policy means planning for around 3500 homes a year. It will hopefully prove possible to develop the site opposite the station as negotiations and plans for a new bridge over the railway lines are well advanced.

There being no further business, the Meeting was declared closed.

Date of next Meeting: Monday 3 August 2026 at 7.00 pm