Blackawton Parish Council minutes 1952-1977

A Parish Council meeting was held in the School on Wednesday 13th February 1952 at 7:30 pm, those present being Cllrs Mitchell (chair), C.Barnett, I Barnett, L.Brice, Carter, Davies and Yabsley and the Clerk Mrs Cole.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and duly signed.

Notice Board

Councillor Yabsley reported that contrary to the information given to the clerk, Mr Chapman now stated he was unwilling to agree to the board being placed outside his premises and after considerable discussion it was finally arranged to have the Village Notice Board put outside Cllr Yabsley's house near the bus stop and Mr Colwell would arrange to accept and display any suitable notices.

Fire Fighting

A reply was read from the Fire Service stating that two hydrants were being fitted in this parish and the clerk was instructed to enquire whether our Fire Fighting Squad would be authorised to use them in an emergency.

It was also stated that permission would almost surely be granted to attach the fire alarm bell to the electricity pole and having it electrically operated

Clerk's Salary

The Chairman stated that the Councillors had had their private meeting on this matter but had decided not to increase the rates by raising the Clerk's salary as requested; they were however prepared to reduce the work by holding six meetings per annum on specified dates instead of the present arrangement of every month. This was not acceptable to the clerk who stated that she would tender her resignation as from the financial year end i.e. 31st March 1952.

Honorary Treasurer

It was unanimously resolved that Mr H.G.Thompson be appointed Honorary Treasurer to the council following the transfer to another branch of the bank of Mr P.G. Jolly.

Church Memorial Service

A letter was read in which the vicar invited the council and clerk to a service to be held in the church on Friday, February15th as a memorial to HM King George VI.

Electricity

Considerable discussion took place concerning the position of the street lights and Mr Dimes was asked to discuss the matter with Mr Harding and this item was left in abeyance until the next meeting.

Telephone kiosk light

The clerk was asked to enquire about this matter as nothing has transpired since last October

Burial-ground

The clerk reported that one funeral has taken place since this last meeting and a cheque was signed to pay the required fees in connection with same. The bad state of the cemetery was again discussed and the clerk was instructed to write to Mr Wallace about this.

Mr Hatfield's accounts

The clerk reported the receipt of correspondence from Barclays Bank who are the executors of the will of the late Mr Hatfield, asking for remittance of certain sums due to the estate in connection with the Village War Memorial and she was authorised to inform the executors that this was not a Parish Council matter but that the council would follow it up and see that the account was settled by the committee for the War Memorial Fund.

Exhibition of Crafts of South Hams

A letter was read from Mr King of Kingsbridge Town Hall asking for cooperation in organising an exhibition to be held at the end of April and the clerk was instructed to suggest that the fire alarm bell might be loaned if such would be of interest.

This concluded the business

Blackawton Parish Council minutes 1952-1977

Signed by Chairman 12.3.52

A Parish Council meeting was held in the Assembly Room on Wednesday 12th March 1952 at 7 pm. Those present being Cllrs Mitchell (chair), Davies, Carter, I.Barnett, L.Brice, Yabsley and the clerk Mrs Cole. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C.Barnett.
Resignation of Clerk
Mr S.Leat, being the only applicant for the office of Clerk to the Council, was interviewed and subsequently appointed although Cllr Davies drew attention to the fact that the meeting was acting incorrectly in view of the fact that Mrs Cole's resignation had not been received in writing; however after discussion Mrs Cole produced a letter and the matter was closed. Mr Leat's appointment takes effect as from 1st April 1952.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and duly signed.
Fire Fighting.
A reply was read from the Fire Service in which it was stated that Blackawton Fire Squad are not permitted to use the hydrants at any time
Electricity
A report by Cllr Barnett was read and the matter was left for full discussion in the Parish Meeting which followed immediately after the council meeting.
Telephone kiosk
The clerk reported a telephone message in which she was informed that the complete kiosk is shortly to be replaced with new apparatus and lighting will then be installed.
Mr Hatfield's account
The chairman read a letter from Mrs Hatfield on the subject in which she cancelled any outstanding sums, saying this was no doubt her husband's wish. The Clerk was asked to acknowledge this and to thank Mrs Hatfield suitably.
Exhibition of crafts
Mrs King replied that the Bell would be gratefully accepted for the exhibition to take place in April.
Burial Ground
Mr Wallace's tender was renewed for a further 12 months.
Accounts
The following accounts were passed for payment and cheques signed
SWEB. £4-8-4
J Colwill £6-4-2
Mrs Cole. £5-2-9
W R Wallace £3-0-0
Millcombe Hill
The Chairman reported that this work was now complete and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr Bastard expressing the Council's thanks
This concluded the business
Signed by Chairman 9.4.52

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms on Wednesday March 12 1952 at 8 pm. Those present included Cllrs F.O.Mitchell (Chairman), Rev W.J. Vernon Davies, Mrs D Yabsley, Mrs R.Barnett, Miss G.Jefferson-Carter, L. Bryce and 26 local government electors. An apology for absence was received from Cllr Barnett.
Election of clerk for the meeting
On the proposition of Cllr Rev Davies seconded by S Leat the Chairman was elected to act as clerk.
The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on March 25 1951 were read and signed.
Matters arising
Matters arising : nil.

Chairman's progress report

This being the third year of the speaker's term as chairman the report was a short historical survey of achievements and disappointments and covered for three years. It is recorded in full on the proposition of Mr CW Dimes.

The death of Cllr JD Hatfield in January was greatly felt for he had been an untiring worker for the Council and the Village and had always been willing to take on extra duties Cllr Admiral BWM Fairbairnhad left the district and Mrs Barnett and L Bryce had been co-opted to fill the two vacant seats.

Electricity

In February 1950 the South Western Electricity Board promised a supply in 12 months and on December 18 the village was "Lit Up". The Lighting and Watching Act Was adopted in November 1950 and in September 1951 five street lamps were in operation. The Board have promised to electrify to outlying districts of the Parish this year (1952) unless the Treasury impose further economy cuts.

Water

Your council have struggled with the RDC for two years 1949 and 50 to hasten the Moorland Water Scheme and to obtain a probable date for the supply but without avail. Today we are informed that water will be flowing through the village pipes in three weeks.

Sewerage

Workmen have been seen in the village for some considerable time but no official news can be obtained of its progress. Local opinion is that the work will be completed by the summer.

Roads

Devon County Council have attended to all complaints and suggestions of the Parish Council, all signposts asked for have been supplied and the roads are in fair condition. Your Council cooperated with Dittisham Parish Council in 1951 as a result of which the dangerous corner at Hembro Post has been made safe. In May 1951 Mr Walter Bastard very generously offered as much of his land as was required to straighten out a dangerous bend on Millcombe Hill, but on representations being made to the Devon County Council they replied that no funds were available for this purpose. Your council refused to accept this and as a result of a meeting between your Chairman and the County's Area Surveyor the work was completed last week and a potential death trap was removed forever.

Housing

No houses have been built during the last three years because of the absence of mains water, but last week the RDC bought 2 acres of land and we are told nine houses are to be erected shortly.

Cemetery

Mr RW Wallace was appointed Caretaker in September 1949 at £12 per annum and carried out his duties efficiently up to last autumn. Since then some criticism of the ground has been made and Mr Wallace has promised to get it into condition shortly.

War Memorial

This was placed into the new position and re-dedicated in July 1949 since when the ground has been given the cement foundation and is in a tidy condition.

Village Hall

Representations were made to the education authorities in August 1949 for taking over the present school buildings as a village hall when the new school was built, and the reply was received that this would not be at the earliest before 1955.

Fire Prevention

Two cottages and the bakery were gutted by fire at Easter 1948 and when the present council were elected in 1949 there was no parish equipment for the fighting of fires. In September 1949 a beginning was made by collecting extinguishers and now (March

1952) the village has an efficient fire squad, five code-acid extinguishers at key points, a hand pump, and a half share of the parochial equipment in the church porch.

Bus shelter

Valiant attempts were made last year to obtain permission (and donations) for a Festival of Britain Bus Shelter, but opposition was met from all quarters and the plan has had to be abandoned.

Footpaths

In June 1950 Mr CW Dimes and a band of volunteers walked the many miles of Blackawton's 38 footpaths and represented a detailed report of each one.

Adult education

Classes were started in the autumn of 1949 and have been going on for three winters. Attendances have varied from fair to poor and it is now considered that the village does not want this form of educative entertainment.

Carnival

In March 1950 at the Annual Parish Meeting it was agreed to cooperate with Dartmouth in staging a carnival. Great success prompted Blackawton Carnival Committee to run a 1951 Carnival unaided, but the lack of response from the village and the poor financial result (a profit of only £4) has damped the spirits. It is probable the Carnival will be dropped for some time.

Post office

This was moved in 1949 to the lower end of the village and your Council made the request to the Totnes postmaster in December for an additional posting box near the Commercial Inn. This was refused, but a persistent follow up resulted in a post box being fitted a few months later.

Meeting Place

Your Council decided in May 1951 to change its venue from the Assembly Rooms to the school. This was decided on financial reasons the charges being assembly rooms 5/- summer and 7/6 winter whilst the school was 2/6 per meeting all the year round. This concluded the report, the adoption being moved by Mr CW Dimes.

Electricity

Cr CJ Barnett (absent through illness) submitted a written report in which he stated that the street light at Cross was needing a concrete standard and the light on Town Farm should be moved to the corner of the building. Information had been given to Mr G Priday relative to an electric clapper for the Blackawton Bell and a survey was to be made in the early spring by the South Western Electricity Board to discover which areas outside the village would be most lucrative to electrify. Mr C Oldrieve move the adoption of the report and expressed the thanks of the village to Cllr Barnett for his untiring zeal and great technical knowledge which has led to such a successful and happy result. Cllr Mrs Barnett's name was associated with this vote of thanks for her painstaking and thorough canvassing of the whole village. Cllr WJ Bernan-Davies was also included in the vote for his early work on behalf of electricity for the village which has led to such a successful and happy result.

Cr Mrs R Barnett's name was associated with this vote of thanks for her painstaking and thorough canvassing of the whole village. Cllr Rev WJ Bernan-Davies was also included in the vote for his early work on behalf of electricity for the village.

Cemetery

Cr Rev Bernan-Davies explained the financial implications of the burial ground telling how £400 was asked for in 1945 and how this was increased a year later to £458. It will take 30 years to repay the sum at £23 per year. A hut had been erected during the year and a full supply of tools purchased he made a vigorous defence of his part in positioning the hut (a position which had been seriously criticised by the council in his absence in January) stating that the council had agreed this position previously and your Chairman

made a public apology on behalf of the Council for the unfair criticism. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr S Leat and carried with thanks.

Fire Fighting

Mr G Priday reported that no fires had occurred during the year and that the first-aid squad of five volunteers were ready to tackle any outbreak. The position was much more hopeful now that the Moorland Water was almost ready for use. The Blackawton Bell was to be hung as soon as possible and it was hoped to activate this by an electric clapper. The adoption of the report was moved by Cllr Mrs D Yabsley.

Adult Education

Mr AH Kingwell hon sec of the Blackawton branch of the WEA told of two courses held during the winter months, the first being on current affairs and the second one home affairs. Attendances had been poor and he doubted whether it was worthwhile continuing. It was decided to leave it until August when the village would be consulted before asking for a further course. Adoption of the report was moved by Cllr Rev Bernal-Davies.

Youth Club

Cr L Brice reported on the youth club which had been reformed early last year with an adult committee. Meetings were held every Monday and Thursday in the school and considerable progress has been made. A radiogram and amplifier had been constructed, a sewing machine and treadle mill fretsaw had been purchased and the club had £6-10/- in hand. It has been affiliated to the Devon Association of Girls Clubs and Mixed Clubs and they had had a film show, made lampshades and other useful objects and obtained a catering license for refreshments the average attendance of youths was 25. Mr Ruffle moved the adoption of the report amid acclamation.

Carnival

Mr J Colwill produced a balance sheet and spoke of the hard work of the committee and of the poor results. Special thanks were given to Mrs C Oldrieve for making the dresses of the Queen and her two attendants and to Mr Barlow for the excellent job he had made of decorating the Queen's Coach with real flowers. A vote was taken and it was decided to drop the carnival for 1952

Other business

Arising from the correspondence on civil defence Mr S Leat volunteered to act as liaison officer for the village.

Mr Barlow queried the long-standing appointment of the School Managers, giving as his opinion that a change was overdue. He said he would like to see more parents on the Board. It was explained that the Managers were appointed for three years and automatically continued for a further period of three years unless they were unwilling to stand. The feeling of the meeting was obviously with Mr Barlow.

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the retirement of the present Council and of the election which was due to take place in April or May. He that the election would cost from £20 to £30 and in order to save the expense from falling on the rates he and some others of the present Council had agreed to retire from the election if the number of nominations exceeded the number of vacancies.

Correspondence

Letters from the RDC regarding Civil Defence were read and self measurement forms for uniforms were given out for Mrs A Beer and Mr G Crocombe.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 10:05 pm

Signed by Chairman 8.4.53

A Parish Council Meeting was held in the School Room on Wednesday April 7th 1952.

Councillors present were Cllr Mitchell (chair), Cllr Mrs Barnett Mrs Yabsley Cllr Mr J Barnett and Mr L Brice and the clerk S Leat.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as being a true record
Correspondence
The Clerk reported having received a letter from the County Education Committee regarding the appointment of two school managers. This was discussed and decided that it should be carried forward to the next council meeting when the newly elected council should deal with the matter.
The subject of Blackawton's Bell was again discussed the Chairman consented to deliver it to Kingsbridge in good time for the Art and Crafts Exhibition to be held on April 23rd 1952.
Electricity
Cr J Barnett read a letter he had received from the SWEB regarding the electrifying of rural areas in this parish in which he was assured of full cooperation by the SWEB and that as soon as the survey as to the most economical route was completed he would only be too glad to acquaint the council with the fullest information possible. Cllr Barnett also offered to canvas the various farms and houses to test whatever reaction there may be. He also suggested writing to our MP Brig. Rayner and also the Minister of Agriculture. Moved by Cllr Mrs Yabsley and seconded by Cllr Brice Councillor Barnett's report was adopted.
Fire Service
Mr G Priday attended the meeting to report a conversation he had had with any official of the water board. He was informed that there are two hydrants in the village that can be used for firefighting purposes as they are the sole property of the Water Board and nothing to do with the Fire Service. Mr Priday was complimented on his prompt action in putting out a chimney fire which had occurred and also assured of the Council's full support for the Fire Service activities.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.
Signed by Chairman 21.5.52

Swearing in of new Parish Councillors for the period commencing May 21st 1952.
I, Frank Leslie Mitchell, having been elected to the office of Chairman of Blackawton Parish Council hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability.
Dated the 21st day of May 1952
Signed FL Mitchell

This declaration was made and subscribed before me a member of Blackawton Parish Council
Signed C Barnett

21st of May 1952
We the undersigned having been duly elected councillors to hereby declare that we take the said office upon ourselves and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of our judgement and ability

Signatures.	Witnesses
FL Mitchell.	C Barnett
C Barnett.	L Brice
L Brice.	DM Yabsley
DM Yabsley.	G Jefferson Carter
G Jefferson Carter.	FL Barnett
FL Barnett.	F Mitchell

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A meeting of the newly elected Parish Council was held in the School Room on Wednesday 21st May.
Before normal business began Cllr F Mitchell was re-elected Chairman and took the oath accordingly. Cllr CJ Barnett was elected Vice Chairman in succession to the Rev WJ Bernan-Davies who resigned verbally from the council.The rest of the council having been duly sworn and witnessed the normal agenda was proceeded with. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and duly signed as being a true record.
Correspondence
The clerk read the letter from D.C.E.C. regarding the appointment of two persons to act as school managers. Mrs D Yabsley and Mr G Priday were re-elected representative managers.
A reply was read from the water board explaining how the charges were made up for short service pipes from the mains to consumers premises, but dissatisfaction was still expressed by the council in as much as it seemed to work out at £1 per foot regardless of distance covered with the same amount of tapping, stop cocks, etc., plus the extra amount of copper piping and the clerk was instructed to write to the Water Board pointing this out.
A letter from Mr A Pengelly was read regarding the iron railings etc laying in the front garden of his house and requested its removal as soon as possible. After discussion it was decided to invite tenders for the purchase and removal and the clerk was instructed to post tenders in the usual places forthwith.
Cr Barnett reported correspondence he has had from the South Western Electricity Board in connection with the linking of outlying farms etc to the mains supply and it was decided to ask Cllr Barnett to carry on as chairman of the Electricity Committee with power to co-opt other members. Proposed by Mrs Yabsley and seconded by Miss Carter. Councillor Mrs Barnett was asked to join her husband on this committee. This she kindly consented to do.
Cemetery
Cr Mitchell was elected chairman with Councillor Brice as the Burial Ground Committee. Councillor Mrs Yabsley reported that as a member of the previous committee she had visited the cemetery that evening, and complained that the grass badly needed cutting and that the entrance needed weeding very badly. After the council had discussed it, the clerk was instructed to write to Mr Wallace pointing this out and request that he give the complaints his early attention.
Cr Mitchell reported that Mrs Cole, the previous clerk, had said that every grave was out of place. Stakes put down to denote the centre of graves had, by lack of instruction, been mistaken by the grave digger to mean the head. Cllrs Mitchell and Brice assisted by the clerk S Leat promised to look into the matter and try and work out a solution at an early date.
Spark's Charity
Two new trustees were required for Sparke's Charity. Proposed by Cllr Barnett and seconded by Cllr Mrs Yabsley Cllr Miss Carter and the clerk S Leat were appointed to fill the vacancies.
This minute is now rescinded (see page 29).
Treasurership of Council
Cr Mitchell explained that when the new clerk took office he was dissatisfied with the way in which the council had been allowed to overspend the money precepted for without being informed, and suggested that another member of the council be appointed treasurer so as to avoid a repetition of this. After discussion Cllr Mitchell was appointed in conjunction with the clerk, it being pointed out that in this way the council's finances would always be in order. This was proposed by Cllr Mrs Yabsley and seconded by Cllr Miss Carter.

Council Meetings

This was again brought up and after discussion as to the advisability of bimonthly meetings or otherwise it was proposed by Cllr Barnett and seconded by Cllr Mitchell that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting. This was to agree to and carried. Cllr Mitchell as chairman proposed that at all further council meetings the public be allowed to partake in all discussions with the stipulation that each member of the public be given a limited amount of time to speak and that the council reserve the right to act on proposals or not. Cllr Brice thought this be a good thing pointing out that brains were not exclusive to members of the council. Cllr Mitchell said his sole object in doing this was to try and make the council 100% a democratic servant of the public, and avoid setting themselves up as little dictators as appeared to be the case with other councils. After questioning the legality of this procedure Cllr Mrs Yabsley disassociated herself from any part of the proposal.

Parish Councillor's Rules

The clerk pointed out that the present parish Councillor's guide, containing rules of procedures for parish councils, was hopelessly out of date and if any member queried any point he was unable to give a ruling. It was proposed by Cllr Mitchell and carried that the clerk be authorised to obtain an updated an up-to-date copy.

Roads

Cr Brice complained about the state of the roads through and around the village as they were left by the two contractors who carried out sewage and water mains work. The clerk was instructed to write to the county surveyor pointing out that many places were dangerous to traffic as well as pedestrians and requesting that he give the matter his attention at an early date.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:40 pm.

Signed by chairman 11.6.52

Co-option of new Councillor

I George Leonard Priday having been duly elected Councillor of Blackawton Parish Council do hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will truly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability

Signed GL Priday

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the Schoolroom on Wednesday June 11th 1952.

Those present were the Chairman Cllr Mitchell, Vice chairman Cllr CJ Barnett, Cllrs Mrs J Barnett, Mrs D Yabsley, Miss CJ Carter L Brice.

The minutes of the last meeting read and Duly signed as being a true record.

Correspondence

A letter was read by the clerk from the County Surveyor in answer to the council's complaint regarding the state of the roads as left by the South Devon Water Board. This stated that he understood the RDC was laying a new sewer in the near future and when this was completed full reinstatement of the road would be carried out. The council were still dissatisfied however and the clerk was instructed to write pointing this out and asking for his earlier attention to this matter

Co-option of Councillor

Mrs Yabsley nominated Mr GL Priday to fill the vacant seat and Cllr Miss Carter seconded the nomination. There being no other nominations the clerk was instructed to ask Mr Priday to attend the next council meeting as he had already expressed his willingness to serve

Accounts

The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.

South Western Electricity Board £4-9-8
Public Works Loan Board, per Bank of England £11-12-7 Mr C Bray Fees for uncontested election £2-2-0
WR Wallace Burial ground caretaker £3-0-0
S Leat Clerk's salary and petty cash £3-15-11
Electricity
Cr Barnett reported a very successful meeting held in the village with representatives of the DAEC. The farmers attended in good numbers and were very enthusiastic about the probability of being connected to the mains and were also unanimous in the following resolution being sent to the Devon Agriculture Executive,Mr Sidelman, SWEB, Mr Stewart, the Devon branch of the NFU, Mr Porter.
Resolution: That this meeting of farmers welcome the attendance of the representatives of the Devon Agriculture Executive and are encouraged by the hope that their plea for release from the primitive conditions in which they live and work will be rectified in the immediate future by the electrification of this rural area.
Cemetery
Cr Mitchell as chairman of the burial committee reported that he had measured up the plot which contains the graves and contrary to reports of all graves being out of position he found them to be very accurate. It was decided to hold over until the next meeting, advertising for and appointment of a new gravedigger as Cllr Mitchell was still awaiting a reply to a letter he wrote to Mr P Joint apologising for the inaccurate report in the local press and asking him to reconsider the position of gravedigger.
Council meetings
This was again discussed and it was decided to have all council meetings thrown open to the general public, the chairman exercising his right to limit any member of the public from taking up too much time
War Memorial
Only two tenders were received for the iron railings belonging to the old site, one from Mr C Dimes for £1-1-0 and one from Mr J Hurrell for £2-0-0. Mr Hurrell's tender was accepted and the clerk was instructed to inform Mr Carol of this and request him to remove the railings as soon as possible.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:50 pm
Signed Chairman 9.7.1952
A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, July 9, 1952. Those present were Chairman Cllr FL Mitchell, vice-chairman Cllr CJ Barnett Cllrs Mrs JL Barnett, Mrs DM Yabsley, Miss GJ Carter, Mr GL Priday and Mr L Brice.
Before commencing business the chairman on behalf of the council welcomed Mr Priday to the council. In reply Mr Priday thanked the chairman and expressed the hope that he would serve the council and parishioners to the best of his ability.
Roads
The clerk read a letter from the surveyor Mr Gay in answer to the council's complaint about the dangerous spots as left by the SDWB and the sewage contractors which stated that he would meet the clerk who offered to point out these places. The clerk reported that he had done so and next day a lorry was sent with tarmac and filled in the most dangerous spots. Mr Gay also informed the clerk that he hoped to be resurfacing the village and adjacent roads in September, also that the sewage contractors had asked for and been granted permission to open the part of the road in which a new sewer was to be laid. The clerk was instructed to write to Mr Bray pointing out that the roads were to be resurfaced in September and could he give the council any information as to when the sewage work would be commenced.

The clerk was also instructed to write to the SDWB suggesting that they contact farmers and others in the area between Blackawton and Sewardstone with regard to connecting them to the mains before the roads were resurfaced.

Precepts

The Chairman reported that since he had been appointed treasurer he had spent several hours going through the accounts and realised that we had been overfunding our precept for the past three years and that we were now £69-3-0 overdrawn. He gave details of money of money required for the ensuing year and it was unanimously agreed that the following sums be precepted for. Burial-ground £70, General Fund £35, Lighting and Watching £5, Making a total of £110.

Treasurership

Cr Mitchell vacated the chair whilst the vice-chairman occupied it and proposed Cllr Mitchell as Treasurer. Cllr Miss Carter seconded and it was carried unanimously. The clerk was instructed to send a copy of this minute to the NP Bank.

Cemetery

This was again discussed and Cllr Mrs Yabsley proposed that subject to approaching Mr Wallace first, the post of gravedigger or alternatively gravedigger and caretaker combined be advertised for. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Barnett and carried. Cllr Mr G Priday proposed that the unused part of the cemetery be fenced off and grazed the conditions being that the successful applicant would be required to fill the following conditions. 1) That the tenderer supply adequate fencing at his own expense. 2) That on no account must be use the main entrance for the entrance or exit of cattle, that he keeps keep the grass reasonably short and cut once a year. Cllr Mr L Brice seconded this and it was carried unanimously. The clerk was instructed to inform intending tenderers of these conditions. the clerk pointed out that seeing the council were going into recess until September 10 and that it was necessary to get this matter settled at an early date, it would mean a wait of two months. Cllr L Brice then proposed that Cllr F Mitchell as chairman be empowered to accept and decide the successful tender, also engage the gravedigger or gravedigger and caretaker combined combined which ever the case may be. Cllr Miss Carter seconded this and it was unanimously agreed to.

Electricity

Cr Mr Barnett once again reported very successful interviews with members of the SWEB and that although nothing definite had been officially communicated as yet, there was every reason to believe that the electrification of the rural part of the parish in at least two directions would in the near future be an accomplished fact.

Blackawton Bell

The clerk reported that he had collected the Bell from Kingsbridge. After discussion and various comments on where this much discussed relic would find a permanent home Cllr Priday offered to be responsible for it with the idea of trying to electrify it for use as an alarm by the Fire Squad. This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:20 pm
Signed Chairman 10.9.52

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the School room on Wednesday, September 10th 1952. Those present were Cllr Mitchell chairman, Cllr Barnett vice chairman, Cllr Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Miss Carter, Mr Priday and Mr Brice. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as being a true record.

Correspondence

The clerk received a letter from the RDC asking for particulars of vacant sites in the village that could be used for the erection of houses. After discussion the clerk was instructed to write to the RDC referring them to the meeting held in the village in the autumn of 1950 when all vacant sites were inspected by members of the RDC.

Electricity

Cr Barnett reported further correspondence with the SWEB and it was unanimously agreed that things were progressing in a satisfactory manner. The lamp fixed on the wall of Town Farm house was again discussed and the clerk was instructed to write to Mr Harding asking his permission to have it moved to a more suitable position, pointing out that whatever damage was caused in so doing would be repaired at no cost to himself.
Burial Ground
The clerk reported that only one applicant Mr A Prince had tendered for the position of gravedigger and that with the request that the job of gravedigger and caretaker could be combined with this application for £16 per annum. After discussion it was decided to appoint Mr Prince to the combined post to take effect from 1st October 1952 subject to Mr Wallace giving up the post of caretaker which he had previously agreed to do.
The subject of the gravedigger's fees was brought up, the clerk reporting that no one would dig a grave for less than £3-0-0, the chairman pointing out that the Parish Council could not increase the present fee of £2-0-0 without submitting it to the Home Office for approval. It was proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Barnett that this be done and the new Table of Fees and Payments to be submitted for approval at the next council meeting.
Sparks Charity
Owing to it being reported that Miss Carter and Mr S Leat had been wrongly appointed trustees, it was decided to go into the matter more fully at the next meeting at which the Rev WJ Bernan Davies was invited to produce a letter from the charity commissioners stating that the appointment was for four years instead of three. The chairman pointed out that until this evidence was produced the minute appointing Mr Carter and Mr Leat could not be rescinded.
Coronation
Cr Priday moved that something should be done very soon in regards to forming a Coronation committee so as to have time to organise various functions to raise funds. After discussion the Chairman decided to call a Parish Meeting on Wednesday, September 24th, 1952 for the purpose of forming a committee. The Chairman also agreed to draft out the appropriate seven days notice relating to same.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:35 pm
Signed Chairman 8.10.52

A special meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the Schoolroom on Wednesday, September 24, 1952.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell, Chairman, Cllrs Mrs Yabsley, Mr G Priday, Mr L Brice and the clerk Mr S Leat. Opening the meeting the chairman stated that the meeting was called with the sole purpose of route of selecting a committee to organise social functions to raise funds for the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth ll on June 2, 1953. In declining any position on the committee Councillor Mitchell explained that May and June would be very busy months connected with his business and that he would be unable to give the requisite amount of attention to the work involved. He therefore vacated the chair and Mr S Leat was elected chairman of the Coronation committee. The following were elected members, vice-chairman Mr G Priday, hon. sec. Mr L Brice, hon. treasurer Mr J Colwill, Reverend WJ Bernan-Davies, Mrs Davies, Mrs Yabsley, Mrs Brown, Mrs Beer and Mrs Goble
This concluded the business of the Parish Council and the meeting was closed, the Coronation committee being left to carry on as they saw fit.
Signed Chairman 24.9.52

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the Schoolroom on Wednesday, October 5th 1952. Those present were Cllr Barnett vice-chairman, Cllr Mrs Barnett, Mrs

Yabsley Mrs Carter Mr G Priday Mr L Brice and the clerk S Leat. In the absence of the chairman Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Barnett occupied the chair.

Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence

The clerk read the letter from the Parish Councils Association inviting members to a conference to be held at the Rougemont Hotel Exeter on Saturday, October 15 at 2:30 pm. The chairman invited any or all members to attend pointing out that it would be at the own expense.

Accounts.

The following accounts were presented and passed for payment;

South Western Electricity Board. £4-9-8

Clerk's salary, audit stamp and petty cash £7-3-6. Cemetery.

In his absence Cllr Mitchell submitted his report on the state of the Burial Ground. In it he stated that the Burial Ground generally was unkempt and uncared-for, the mounds of earth overgrown over graves was still untouched although the Tender of Agreement of 9 August 1949 expressly stated that they were to be removed and the graves turfed over.

The gravelled turnabout both inside and outside the cemetery gates was heavy with weeds whilst the gravel paths have almost completely disappeared. Finally he recommended that no wages be paid until the Burial Ground had been put in order.

The clerk reported that on the morning of October 8 he had received a verbal message via the phone from the caretaker Mr Wallace, saying that he wished to give up his appointment as from 30th of September 1952. The clerk was instructed to write to Mr Wallace and point out that the council must have this in writing, and in view of the adverse report on the state of the Burial Ground the council were withholding payment of his wages until such time as A) The burial ground was put in order, or B), the council received his resignation in writing. The clerk was further instructed that as soon as this was completed with, he was to pay Mr Wallace the wages due, £3-0-0, for the quarter ending 30th September 1952, and also to notify Mr A Prince that he had been appointed to the post of Caretaker and Gravedigger combined at a salary of £16-0-0 per annum, his duties to commence as from 1st October 1952.

During the discussion that followed Cllr Barnett reported that as the stone fork purchased for the burial ground was unsuitable he was prepared to purchase it for the sum of £1-15-9. It was proposed by Mrs Yabsley and seconded by Mr Carter that this be agreed to and it was passed unanimously. Cllr Barnett produced an agreement drawn up by Cllr Mitchell relating to the grazing rights of the unused part of the cemetery, following is a copy of the said tender;

Agreement

Between Mr LJ Foale of Dartmouth House Blackawton in the county of Devon on the one hand and the Blackawton Parish Council on the other hand. Mr Foale agrees to rent that parcel of ground marked red on the accompanying sketch for the period of one year from September 29, 1952 and to pay to the Blackawton Parish Council the sum of £1-0-0 such renting to be renewed annually and terminated by one or the other giving three calendar months notice in writing

Mr Foale agrees to use for the purpose of grazing, only small bullocks or sheep, and at all times to be responsible for the cattle or sheep not straying onto the remaining portions of the ground.

Mr Foale agrees that the main gates shall not be used for the bringing in or taking out of any vehicles or equipment without prior permission from the Blackawton Parish Council or their agent.

Blackawton Parish Council agree to keep all hedges in reasonable condition and to allow Mr Foale peaceful tenure of the land, but the council cannot hold themselves responsible for any damage from whatever cause to any cattle or sheep.
The charge for internments was again discussed and it was proposed by Cllr Brice and seconded by Cllr Yabsley that the Ministry of Health be approached with a view to revising the charges. This was agreed to and the clerk was instructed to write to the Ministry enclosing a copy of the present Table of Fees with suggested amendments.
Spark's Charity
On a submission at the last council meeting by the Rev WJ Bernan-Davies that the two trustees Miss Carter and S Leat were wrongly appointed this method was again brought up for discussion, and the clerk reported that he had received an apology from the vicar for non-attendance, and also a copy of a letter he had received from the Charity Commisioners stating that although nothing was stated about having to be a ratepayer, the council nevertheless were at fault, in appointing two trustees in March 1952, as they cannot be appointed for any other period other than four years. It was pointed out that as far as those present could remember these two trustees had always been appointed every three years and it seems peculiar, to say the least, to decide after a period of years to query this practice. This minute hereby rescinds the minute under the heading Sparks Charity dated 21st May 1952 page 16.
Electricity. Cllr Barnett reported that two meetings of the Electricity committee were held on September 18 and October 6 respectively at which were present Cllrs Barnett and Mitchell, farmers, Messrs Hancock, James, Whittingham, Tucker and Waycott and members of the SWEB, Messrs Brady, Mulroney and Tildsley. Mr C Dimes was also present. At these meetings details of the proposed charges and other matters relating to electrification of farms was discussed fully and it was arranged that, as far as possible, those farmers present would pass on to their neighbours such information as would enable them to decide for themselves regarding their own action relating to electricity. Reference was made by Cllr Barnett to the importance of electricity to farmers to offset the shortage of labour and to relieve the farmer's wives of antiquated methods thereby enabling her to be of more practicable help to her husband on the farm. Reference was also made to the working loss of the SWEB and an overall surplus by the National undertaking, which, it was suggested, might be used instead of placing the exorbitant line rental charges on individual farmers and let them enjoy the same facilities as the town dweller at the same cost.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:25 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.11.52

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the School room on Wednesday, November 12 at 7:30 pm. Councillors present were Cllr Barnett (chairman), Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Mr G Priday, Mr L Brice and the clerk S Leat.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as being a true record.
Correspondence.
Cr Barnett read a letter from Cllr Mitchell apologising for his absence explaining that he could not get back in time to attend. The clerk presented a bill from the SWEB for £83-7-8 as the cost of installing the public lighting. This was discussed and left on the table until the next meeting. Burial Ground.
The clerk produced a copy of the revised Tables of Fees Payments etc which he had received from the Ministry of Health, also a letter stating that providing no other amendments were contemplated the Minister would grant his approval providing the council would sign the accompanying certificate. This was discussed and Cllr Barnett proposed that it be deferred until Cllr Mitchell return as he is the chairman of the Burial subcommittee. This was agreed to.

Fire Squad.
Cr Priday reported that he had attended another chimney fire and was successful in stopping what easily may have been a serious outbreak. He also stated that it meant considerable expense to refill the extinguishers, spending money that had been raised by social functions with the primary purpose of buying other firefighting equipment. He further suggested that with the approval of the Council, any further fires his squad attended, that the occupiers of the premises concerned should be asked to pay for the refilling of any extinguishers used, pointing out that in towns people were always charged for fireman's services and invariably fined 10/- whereas in Blackawton all fire services were voluntary and free of cost. This was unanimously agreed to, the press promising to give it mention in the South Devon Chronicle.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett reported that he had been in constant touch with the problem of getting electricity to the rural areas with the result that forms of agreement had been sent to farmers and other prospective consumers in the Bow, Milcombe and Clyston areas. On October 29 at a meeting of farmers called by DAEC for the purpose of discussing the possibility of producing more food, a protest was made in regard to the scarcity of labour and the lack of laboursaving devices due to the absence of electricity. Messrs Molvaney, Blaiby and Tildely of the SWEB were present and gave willing help and good advice to all interested. Councillor Barnett commented on the way in which these officials cheerfully gave up their private time for the benefit of the community and to make it clear that the delay in rural electrification is no fault of theirs. This contrasts favourably with the complete lack of interest displayed by the DCEC and the NFU who didn't bother to come at all. A panel has been set up of the Consultative Council to consider the ways and means to deal with the matter and Cllr Barnett had written to the secretary of the SWEB to notify them of our interest in the matter. Regarding the street light at Town Farm Cllr Barnett reported that he had contacted Mr Jagg of SWEB Kingsbridge and he had quoted unofficially the sum of £5-10-0 as the cost of removing the lamp from its present position to the adjacent transmission pole.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:35 pm.
Signed Chairmam 15.12.52

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the School room on Wednesday, December 15, 1952 at 7:30 pm.
Councillors present were Cllr Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Miss Carter, Mr CJ Barnett, Mr L Brice and the clerk S Leat.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the RDC informing the council that Col. GR Woodham of Neadon Cottage, Manaton Newton Abbot was the Devon representative of the National Playing Fields Association, and that he could give expert advice in connection with proposals for establishing a playing field in the parish, if at any time the council desired so to do.
Burial ground.
The chairman and vice chairman signed the necessary certificates to be attached to Amendment Table of Fees Payments etc and the clerk was instructed to return these to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for his final approval. The clerk was also instructed to write to Mr W Bastard regarding the rabbits in the hedge between the burial-ground and his field.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett reported that he had had a verbal estimate from the SWEB for the removal of the lamp on Town Farmhouse to the transmission pole in the garden. As the sum of

£5-10-0 was considered too high it was left over until the next meeting. He also reported on the meeting between interested farmers, himself and Mr Tildesley of the SWEB on the proposed electrification of the Woodford-Clinton area, the outcome of which was far from encouraging. Those present thought the line rental far too high and the meeting terminated without any useful results being achieved. Since then Cllr Barnett has written to the SWEB chairman Mr Stewart and his reply suggested it probable that supplies to rural areas might not be possible without finance from the tariffs to consumers. This was entirely the views of the Parish Council and is also contained in the recommendation of the Consultative Council in its annual report.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 21.1.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, January 21, 1953.
Those present were Cllrs Mitchell, Barnett, Priday, Brice, Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Mrs Carter and Mrs Yabsley. The clerk S Leat was absent through illness.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
It was reported that Mr Bastard had done nothing to stop rabbits from damaging the hedge adjoining his field, and after discussion the chairman undertook to ascertain what compulsory powers the council had to remedy this. Correspondence.
A letter was read from Mr Prince (cemetery attendant) asking for certain tools and the chairman agreed to buy these where possible at farm sales. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government having returned the revised Table of Fees for internments duly approved asked for three copies for reference. The chairman offered to duplicate these to save expense of printing, providing the ministry would accept these.
Precepts
The Rural District Council asked for an estimate of precepts for the year 1953/54. It was agreed that £100 should cover this item, made up as follows: burial-ground £50; general fund £20; electricity £20; contingences £10.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment. South Western Electricity Board £30-18-7, being the capital cost of street lighting. Repayment of loan (burial-ground) £11-12-7. R.D.C. election expenses £1-16-5, clerk £9-16-10, made up of salary £3-0-0, petty cash £2-16-10, cemetery attendant's wages £4-0-0.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett read his report and told of a committee meeting on December 11, at which representatives of the SWEB attended, called to discuss the problem of high line rentals. The SWEB agreed to circularise prospective consumers with a view to finding their approximate consumption. Counsellors Barnett and Mitchell had an interview on January 13 with Mr Allwood (district manager) who agreed to put in hand a canvass of consumers. Cllr Barnett also reported on correspondence with the chairman of the Consultative Council (Lady Carew Pole) who desired to meet the committee and discuss their problems. This was to be fixed for February.
This concluded the business and the council adjourned at 9:15 pm until February 11.
Signed Chairman 11.2.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, February 11, 1953.
Those present were Cllrs Mitchell, Barnett, Brice, and Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley and Miss Carter.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Before the usual council business the council met in committee at 7 pm to discuss and select seven possible tenants for the nine council houses to be built sometime in the near future. The Rural District Council reserving the right to allocate tenants for the other two. After a ballot the clerk took the names of those selected and was instructed to forward them to the RDC in the priority as determined by the aforementioned ballot. At 7:30 pm the meeting was thrown open to the public in the usual way. Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government modifying the Standing Orders Local Government Act 1933, Section 266.
Burial-ground.
It was reported by Cllr Mrs Yabsley that Mr Bastard had, since the last council meeting, taken appropriate action regarding the rabbits, and it was decided that no further action be taken. The question of tools again came up for discussion, the superintendent having requested them for a wheelbarrow as soon as possible, and the clerk was instructed to get a quotation for same.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett had very little to report, saying that he had written to Sir Harold Roper re-his efforts in the House of Commons on behalf of the electrification of rural areas. He also stated that Lady Carew Pole was coming to meet the Electricity committee to discuss the problems of farmers who are desirous of getting a mains supply of electricity. Mr Colwill attended the meeting and reported that he had moved the street lamp from the front of Town Farmhouse to the pole in the adjacent garden and fixed it temporarily to see if it would be an advantage to have it there permanently. After discussion it was decided to move it once more to the corner of Town Farmhouse as the position was deemed best to serve all three roads. Mr C Dimes kindly offered to try and reconcile the tenants to the idea of it being in the interests of the common good to have the lamp moved.
Other business.
Mr C Dimes asked if it were possible to ascertain what the district rate would be for the year 1953. The clerk was instructed to write to Mr Bray for information on this matter. This included the business and the council adjourned until Wednesday, March 11.
Signed Chairman 11.3.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, March 11, 1953.
Councillors present were Cllr Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs Priday, Brice and Miss Carter. Councillors Mr & Mrs Barnett and Mrs Yabsley sent apologies for absence.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the tenants of Town Farm complaining about a press report re-the street light. This was discussed and it was decided to investigate the matter further to ascertain what action, if any, be taken. The clerk also reported an acknowledgement and approval by the Ministry of Local Government for three copies of the revised Table of Fees for the burial-ground.
Spark's Charity.
Mr F Life and Mrs WJ Bernan Davies were appointed trustees of Sparks Charity for a four year period, Mr S Leat withdrawing his nomination in favour of Mrs Bernan Davies.
Electricity.
In the absence of Cllr Barnett, Cllr Mitchell had very little to report. The Electricity committee had met Lady Carew Pole of the SWEB Consultative Council and had complained about the very high line rental the SWEB proposed charging for linking up farms etc in the rural areas. There were still one or two more strings to be pulled and Blackawton intended to continue the fight until rural areas got the same treatment as town dwellers.

Housing.
Great concern was expressed by the council regarding the final allocation of the houses by the RDC. In it's recommendations the council returned seven names as requested and two as alternatives. The RDC deleted the seventh name and substituted a name which had not been put forward as they had stated. The Rev Bernan Davies stated that the system was a very intricate one which he had never been able to fathom and if any applicant was blackballed it was a secret no councillor would divulge.
AOB.
Councillor Priday expressed his wish to resign from the school managers and the clerk was instructed to put it on the agenda for the April meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm
Signed Chairman 8.4.53

A meeting of a Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 8, 1953.
Councillors present were Cllr Mitchell, C Barnett, G Priday, L Brice, Cllrs Mrs Yabsley Mrs Barnett and Miss Carter.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Accounts.
The following are were at work presented and approved for payment.
J Colwill. £4-9-3
SWEB. £4-9-8
Clerk's salary. £3-0-0
Petty cash and tools for burial-ground £6-2-0.
School manager.
Cr G Priday having resigned from the board of managers proposed Mr S Leat to fill the vacancy. This was seconded by Miss Carter and on the vote Mr S Leat was unanimously elected.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett read a summary of his efforts to procure a supply for the rural areas but the argument still centred around the exorbitant and unjust line rental demanded by the SWEB. He decided however to continue the fight until such time as the rural dweller got the same amenities as the townsman at the nearly same cost.
AOB
Mrs Yabsley proposed changing the date of council meetings from Wednesday to Monday to avoid council meetings clashing with mid week social functions. This was seconded by Cllr Priday but on being put to the vote the motion was lost.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:35 pm
Signed chairman 6.5.53

The Annual Parish Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 8, 1953
Those present were Cllrs Mrs D Yabsley, Mrs R Barnett, Miss Y C Jefferson Carter, CJ Barnett, G Priday, L Brice, FL Mitchell, chairman, S Leat, clerk, and two parishioners.
The minutes of the meeting held on March 12, 1952 were read and confirmed.
The meeting was opened by the chairman who apologised for calling it one week later than legally required. The main business was to the discussion of rates, and the two Blackawton Rural District Councillors had been specially asked to attend and provide information. The Rev WJ Bernan Davies in his telephoned apology for absence gave some figures but could not explain to what they referred. Mr WH Quick, the second RDC councillor, did **not** attend and sent **no** apology. The Chairman stated that he had tried to obtain information from the clerk of the RDC but could obtain no explanation of the make-

up of the rate. On the proposition of S Leat, seconded by CJ Barnett and carried unanimously, a protest was sent to the RDC expressing concern at the county's ever increasing demand on the ratepayers.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:15 pm
Signed Chairman 6.5.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish was held in the school room on Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 pm to discuss and pass the precept for the rates for the coming year.
Those present were Cllr Mrs R Barnett, CJ Barnett, Cllr Mrs D Yabsley, Miss GC Jefferson Carter, L Brice and FL Mitchell (chairman) and one government elector. Neither of the Rural District Councillors were present or sent apologies for absence.
The chairman outlined the reasons for the meeting, and proposed that the sum of £100 be precepted for, to be allowed as follows: Burial-ground £50: Electricity £20: General fund £20: Contingencies: £10. This was seconded by Mr Carter and passed unanimously.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8 pm.
The above meeting was followed at 8pm by a meeting of Blackawton Parish Council.
All the above mentioned counsellors were present, the clerk S Leat was unavoidably absent, having been taken to hospital the previous day before.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
There was no correspondence.
Electricity
Cr CJ Barnett presented his monthly electricity report with the impossibility of obtaining a supply for the rural areas under the existing so-called line rental terms. Prices had increased at such an alarming rate in the last few months that the 20% return on capital investment required by the Board was out of all proportion to the value of the supply. Representations on these lines were being made to Lord Citrine, Minister of Fuel and Power
Any other business.
Councillor Mrs Yabsley suggested that something should be done regarding the flooding of the village street during heavy rains, owing to an accumulation of drainpipes at the eastern end of the George Inn. The chairman volunteered to write to the Divisional Surveyor regarding this surplus stock. Village bakery.
Expressions of regret were voiced that the bakery should not now be functioning due to the insolvency of Mr Goddard, and it was hoped that it would not be for long that the bakery would be out of commission. It was agreed that a village bakery was a necessity, especially in days of hard weather when outside supplies may be held up.
This concluded the business in the meeting closed at 9:20 pm
Signed chairman June 3 1953

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was held on in the school room on Wednesday, June 3, 1953
Councillors present were Cllrs Mrs Yabsley, G Priday and FL Mitchell.
To comply with the law before any business could be conducted the chairman for the year 1953-4 had to be elected. Councillor F Mitchell was re-elected unanimously.
Correspondence.
Cr Mitchell reported that he had received a favourable reply from the divisional surveyor.
Electricity.
In the absence of Cllr Barnett there was no report available, but the chairman assured the council that the idea of Rural Electricity was still being pursued. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell and seconded by Cllr Mrs Yabsley the Electricity committee was re-elected en bloc. It

was also agreed to get an estimate from Mr J Colwill for fixing the street light permanently on Town Farmhouse and this matter to be again discussed at the next meeting.
Council meetings.
Mrs Yabsley proposed and Cllr Priday seconded that Council meetings be held on Monday evenings instead of Wednesdays. This was carried, the chairman remarking that since this matter was first discussed he had given it considerable thought, and had to come to the conclusion that by doing this it would be better for the parish as a whole, and that this was the duty of the Parish Council. Therefore he gave it his full support.
RDC Meetings
Proposed by Cllr Priday and seconded by Mrs Yabsley a strict vote of censure was passed on Cllr WH Quick for proposing at the May meeting of the RDC "That in future the list of applicants for council houses be not sent to Blackawton". The Parish Council place on record that they feel this to be a collective insult and are deeply perturbed that Mr RW Prowse (chairman of the RDC) should lend himself to such disgraceful Action. The council were also unanimous in passing a vote of no confidence in Cllr Quick as Blackawton's representative on the RDC.
Burial-ground
Cr Mrs Yabsley said she had been approached by the gravedigger in respect of the turnaround in the cemetery, and he suggested some weedkiller be purchased, as every time the ground was hoed it only cultivated a weed bed. After discussing it with held over until the next meeting. A.O.B.
Mr Dimes proposed that the SW Gas Board be asked to consider bringing a supply to the village, saying that the mains were passing quite close on the Dartmouth-Totnes road. The clerk was instructed to write and make enquiries. The chairman Mr FL Mitchell, on behalf of the Parish Council, congratulated the coronation committee on the excellent programme for Coronation Day and the way in which it was carried out, saying that everybody was well fed, well entertained, and above all a happy and friendly atmosphere prevailing everywhere.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:35 pm
Signed Chairman

A meeting of a Blackawton Parish Council was held in the School room on Monday, July 13, 1953
Those present were Cllrs FL Mitchell, CJ and Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Mr G Priday and Mr L Brice.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
In answer to the letter from the clerk the S W Gas Board wrote to say that they have the matter of extending their service to Blackawton under consideration. There was also a letter from the SWEB with an estimate for fixing a street lamp on the new building site. The sum of £26 was considered far too high and Cllr Barnett said he would take up the matter with the Board with a view to getting the price reduced. A tender from Mr J: Colwill of £1-5-0 for fixing the street light at Town Farm to the new approved position was accepted.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
South Western Electricity Board £4-9-5
Clerks salary. £3-0-0
Petty Cash £1-8-2
Cemetery superintendant's salary £4-0-0
Council meetings.

The day and date of council meetings was further discussed and the final decision was left over until the next meeting. In the meantime the clerk was instructed to write to the Rev Bernan Davies asking for his views on which would be the most convenient day of the week for him to attend, as he has expressed a wish, by phone to the chairman, of his desire to attend as a Rural District Councillor.
Burial-ground.
The clerk submitted an estimate from Mr Hallett for four wooden bearers at a cost of £3-10-0. This was discussed and Mr FL Mitchell and Cllr Barnett offered to try and find another solution at cheaper rates.
AOB.
In view of the Western National taking off the late bus on Wednesdays it was unanimously agreed that the clerk should write and strongly protest.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm
signed Chairman 9.9.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, September 9, 1953.
Councillors present were Cllr FL Mitchell, CJ Barnett, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Mr G Priday and Mr L Brice.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the RDC Housing Committee asking the Parish Council to suggest a name for the new housing site. After discussion the name " The Grove" was proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Priday, the rest of the council being in complete agreement. Regarding a letter from the town clerk of Dartmouth, the clerk was asked to write and give the council's full support in the fight to get the "Churston" site for the new Grammar School. The clerk was also asked to write to Councillor Miss Carter to enquire about her health and convey the unanimous wishes for a speedy recovery and a quick return to the council.
Burial-ground.
It was decided to accept the tender of Mr Hallett of £3-10-0 for the supply of wooden bearers. Regarding the letting of the unused part of the burial-ground the clerk was authorised to examine and accept the most suitable tender for the 12 months commencing 30th of September 1953. Electricity.
Cr Barnett reported that he had had a further report about the extension of mains supply to the Woodford-Clinton area, but the price was still prohibitive, and he thought it would be a good idea to wait until the reassembly of Parliament and then write to the Minister of Agriculture who is now a member of the cabinet.
AOB.
The question of meetings was again discussed and it was finally decided to keep to the second Wednesday in the month. The chairman pointed out that providing due notice was given the date could be altered to suit whatever circumstances may arise.
This concluded the business the meeting closed at 9:15 pm Signed chairman 14.10.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, October 14, 1953.
Those present were Cllrs CJ and Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Mr L Brice and Mr G Priday. There were also four government electors including the Rev. WJ Bernan Davies, one of the RD counsellors. Cllr Miss Carter was still absent through illness.
The minutes of the last meeting were red and signed as a true record.
The chairman Cllr Mitchell being away on holiday, the vice chairman Cllr CJ Barnett occupied the chair. Correspondence.

The clerk reported that the RDC had accepted the Parish Council‘s suggested name “ The Grove“ for the new housing site. Another letter stated that the RDC‘s housing committee was not prepared to accept a delegation to discuss various criticisms brought up by some of the potential tenants. A letter referring to allotment statistics was also read. The clerk reported that he had replied to the effect that as there were no allotments, no returns could be made. A letter from Mr Hugh Wright (town clerk of Dartmouth) thanking the Parish Council for the support in Dartmouth’s effort to get the Churston site for the proposed new grammar school.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment;
Clerk’s salary £3-0-0
Petty cash 8-6
Hire of school room (for meetings) 10-0
Cemetery attendant’s salary (quarterly) £4-0-0
SW Electricity Board £4-9-8
CG Hallet (timber for burial ground) £2-12-0
JC Colwill for removing streetlamp £1-5-0.
Housing.
Councillor Priday raised a point regarding the toilet and bathroom arrangements in the Willowway type house. He stated that in some of them the bathroom and WC were combined suggesting that this was very bad planning. The Rev Bernan Davies pointed out that the planning of these houses was laid down by Whitehall, but in spite of this the council decided to protest to the RDC.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett reported that he had very little to report regarding progress in the fight to get rural electricity, but he was now taking it up on the highest level to try and persuade the electricity authority to keep to the conditions laid down in the Act (i.e.) that all areas rural and industrial should have the chance of electricity on an equal basis.
AOB.
A complaint was received from Mr L Rendle, a government elector, regarding the state of the footpath connecting Laurel Cottage and the Milcombe-East Allington Road at Milcombe. He stated that the footbridge and path were very much overgrown, and a portion of a wall had fallen out making the path almost impossible. The clerk was instructed to write to the Divisional Surveyor drawing his attention to the matter.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:05 pm
Signed Chairman 11.11.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, November 11, 1953.
Those present were Cllr Barnett in the chair, Cllrs Mrs Barnett ,Mrs Yabsley, Mr L Brice and Mr G Priday.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the Borough Engineer of Dartmouth stating that the public warning sirens would be tested on Friday, November 13, 1953.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett made his report and stated that he had drafted a resolution appertaining to the conditions of the Electricity Act 1947 and suggested sending it to the following; Brigadier Rayner MP, Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Fuel and Power, and Kingsbridge RDC. This was proposed by Councillor Priday, seconded by Councillor Brice and carried unanimously. The clock was instructed to render copies of the resolution to the above mentioned officials.

AOB.
The clerk was instructed to write again to the Surveyor reminding him that nothing had been done regarding the footpath and footbridge at Milcombe. A letter was read from the County Education Committee regarding Blackawton children who passed the Grammar School exams, but discussion on this was left in abeyance until it had been discussed by the school managers. The clerk reported having received the sum of £10 from the Coronation Committee towards the cost of public lighting at the Grove housing site.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.
Signed chairman 9.12.53

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, December 9, 1953.
Those present were Cllr FL Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs CJ Barnett, Mrs Barnett, Mr L Brice, Mr G Priday, and four members of the public including the Rev Bernan Davies, RD Councillor.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence
The clerk reported having received acknowledgement of all the letters sent to the MP, Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Fuel and Power and the secretary of the SWEB Consultative Council. Also a letter from Mr AJ Fardon requesting the council to apply to the housing committee of the RDC to consider erecting a garage for No. 22 The Grove. On the suggestion of the Rev Bernan Davies RD councillor, and approved by the council, the clerk was instructed to contact Mr P Ruffle, the tenant of No. 23 to see if he also wished to apply as this would strengthen the case, the vicar promising to give it his support when it came before the housing committee.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett's reported further negotiations with the SWEB with reference to the extension of the public lighting to the Grove housing site, but the cost of erecting and connecting a light at the entrance to the Grove still stood at £26 and if two were needed it would be £46. This was again considered to be excessive and it was deferred with a view to exploring other possibilities. Arising from the report it was decided that, because providing rural electricity was becoming increasingly more difficult financially, the position has arisen because the authorities had misconstrued the wording of the Act, which, when studied, revealed in the official summary that the Act requires the Central Authority as well as Area Boards to perform their functions and extend supplies to rural areas and cheapen supplies. Proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Mrs Yabsley it was unanimously resolved the representation being made to the Minister of Fuel and Power and other representative bodies with a view to rectifying the aforementioned misapprehension.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
Signed Chairman 13.1.54

A Meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, January 13, 1954.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Mr CJ Barnett and one parishioner. Cllr L Brice sent his apologies for absence.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk reported that he had received acknowledgement from all representative bodies concerned, with one exception i.e. (farmer and stock breeder) regarding the council's resolution in connection with the rural electricity. A letter from the Divisional Surveyor stated that actions were was being taken over the overgrowth at Town Farm. It was

reported that although a month had passed, there were no visible signs of any action having been taken, and the clerk was instructed to write again, also pointing out that surplus drain pipes leaning against the wall of the George Inn were still causing an eyesore, although the council had been requesting their removal since May 1953.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Cemetery attendant £4-0-0
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Petty cash £1-15-9
Public works repayment loan charges £11-22-7
South Western Electricity Board £4-9-8
The clerk reported that the Memorial Hall and Playing Field Fund now amounted to £695-10-7.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett, chairman of the electricity committee, proposed that in view of the authorities, at long last, taking a little notice of persistent protests over high charges for line rental to outlying farms, it would be a good policy to keep reminding them of the necessity of rural electricity, and this to be done at least once a month. The chairman Councillor Mitchell said he fully agreed with this as in fact did everyone present.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed closed at 9 pm
Signed Chairman 18.2.54

I Anthony Stirling Gordon having been duly elected as a Councillor to hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability.
signed AS Gordon.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, February 10, 1954.
Those present were Cllrs Mitchell, CJ Barnett, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley, Mr G Priday and Mr L Brice. There were also three government electors, but neither of the rural district councillors attended.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the divisional surveyor regarding the pipes at the George Inn, as well as the overgrowth at Town Farm was read, and it was stated that the pipes had now been removed and that he had written again to Mr Harding drawing his attention to the matter.
A letter from the Municipal Mutual Insurance was read in reference to the insurance of the public street lighting. After discussion it was decided to leave the matter on the table. The clerk reported that he had received an undated note from the gravedigger tendering his resignation. The clerk was instructed to post up notice inviting applications to fill the vacancy. The clerk also reported that he has received Notice of Audut of the Council's accounts etc to be held at Kingsbridge on Monday, March 1, 1954.
Election of Councillor.
Owing to the resignation of Miss Carter nominations were called for to fill the vacancy. Cllr Priday proposed that Mr AR Gordon be co-opted to the council. Cllr Mrs Yabsley seconded this and Mr Gordon was duly elected.
Electricity.
Council Barnett reported that with Cllr Mitchell he had seen Mr Tilsley of SWEB and that he had quoted the sum of £30 for installing two lights at the Grove. He also promised to let the clerk have this in writing. With reference to an article in the "Daily Express" it was decided to write to them pointing out that this Council had been fighting for rural

electricity for farms for three years, also thanking them for bringing it to the notice of the public.
Annual Parish Meeting.
The chairman reminded members that the Annual Parish Meetin would have to be held in March, and it was decided to hold the Council meeting at 7:30 pm and the Parish meeting at 8 pm.
A.O.B.
Councillor Priday said that he had been asked to raise the dangerous corner at Frenchfurze Hill leading to Quarry Head and Oldstone, and after discussion the clerk was instructed to write to the Divisional Surveyor drawing his attention to it and suggesting that some sort of sign be erected warning motorists etc of a road junction. Cllr Priday also raised the matter of the dangerous state of the footpath at the Grove and the clerk was instructed to write to the RDC and draw their attention to the matter.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
Signed Chairman 28.3.54

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, March 10, 1954.Those present were Cllr Mitchell, chairman, CJ Barnett, AS Gordon, G Priday, L Brice, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley. There were also four parishioners including the Rev WJ Bernan Davies, RD councillor.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Accounts
As this was the last meeting before the end of the financial year the accounts were presented for approval so as to complete the year's books.
The following accounts were approved and passed for payment.
Clerk's salary petty cash and audit stamp £6-2-1.
Lighting and watching £4-9-8.
JC Colwill £3-2-0.
Burial ground
There were only two applicants for the post of caretaker and gravedigger, and on a ballot being taken Mr HJ Lock was appointed, his duties to commence as from April 1, 1954. The chairman reported that the post supporting the noticeboard had broken off and the clerk was asked to get the measurements with a view to renewing it.
Housing.
Cr Priday again raised the problem of danger to pedestrians in hours of darkness at the Grove. The clerk had received an acknowledgement from Mr Bray but no explanation for what the housing committee had decided. The clerk was instructed to write and raise the matter again.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett in his report said that prospects were a lot brighter, but we were still a long way from seeing the poles going up to wherever farmers were needing electricity. It had been a hard task getting the Central Authority to admit their responsibility in providing nationwide rural electrification. He pointed out that this year would bring new regulations in connection with dairying and those farmers without electricity would be at a serious disadvantage in trying to keep within the law. The chairman Cllr F Mitchell commented on the fact that the Electricity Committee consisted mainly of farmers and represented 18 farms in need of electricity, surely he said, enough to warrant spending money on the supply of mains when one considered the amount spent on advertising a product which the Central Authority failed to supply. The following resolution was unanimously agreed on.

Presuming the acceptance under the 1947 Electricity Act of the joint responsibility with the Area Boards for the electrification of the Rural Areas, the Central Authority be requested to prepare and publish details of such a scheme for rural electrification and so enable farmers in those areas to plan according accordingly for the betterment of agriculture in general and the production of food in particular. In this connection it should be noted that provisions of the Milk and Dairy Regulations which become operative this year make compulsory additions and alterations to farm buildings and dairying procedures generally, and it is common justice the farmers should have the benefit of the facilities which are in inseparable from a supply of electricity in order that they may more easily comply with these regulations.
This concluded the business of the Parish Council meeting
Signed chairman 14.4.54

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the school room on Wednesday 10th 1954 following the council meeting.
All the parish councillors were present and three local government electors.
The minutes of the last annual parish meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Electricity.
No estimate from the SWEB having come to hand, it was impossible to proceed with the proposal to connect and maintain two lights for the new housing estate at the Grove.
Precept.
The meeting unanimously adopted the proposal to precept for £80; viz; General Fund £20, Burial ground £40, Lighting and watching £20.
AOB.
Some discussion took place on the John Harris Memorial Fund and it was decided that the present Hall Committee should call a meeting before the next council meeting and report back.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 10 am.
Signed chairman 12.5.54

A Parish Meeting was held in the school room on Wednesday, May 12, 1954 at 8:45 pm.
Those present were FL Mitchell, chairman, four parish councillors, the clerk S Leat, the Rev WJ Bernan Davies, RD councillor, and three local government electors.
The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting were read and signed as a correct record.
Electricity
It was proposed by S Leat and seconded by Councillor Priday that the tender of the SWEB of £20-18-0 for the connection of two street lamps in the Grove be accepted. This was carried unanimously. It was further proposed by Councillor Priday and seconded by the Rev Bernan Davies that the balance of £10-15-0 (thus allowing for the £10-0-0 donated by the Coronation Committee) be charged to the Rates. The positioning of the lamps was agreed for one at the entrance to the Grove and approximately the middle. This was proposed by Cllr Priday and seconded by Rev WJ Bernan Davies and carried unanimously.
Parish hall.
The following resolution was submitted by Mr CW Dimes. That this Parish Meeting resolves that the money in the John Henry Harris Memorial Hall Fund now amounting to £595-10-7 shall be used for no other purpose than for a village hall. This was seconded by Mrs Yabsley and carried unanimously.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 9.3.55

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was held in the school room on Wednesday, June 2, 1954.
Those present were Councillors Mitchell, CJ Barnett, AS Gordon, L Brice, Mrs Barnett and Mrs Yabsley, the Rev Bernan Davies and three local government electors. Election of Chairman 1954-1955
The first business was to elect a chairman. Councillor CJ Barnett proposed and Mrs Yabsley seconded that Cllr Mitchell be asked to continue for another year. This was carried unanimously.
Vice Chairman.
Councillor Gordon then proposed Cllr CJ Barnett as vice chairman. This was seconded by Councillor Brice and carried unanimously. The minutes of the previous meeting were then read and signed as a true record. Correspondence.
The clerk reported that he'd received several letters from various Insurance companies setting out the terms for parish councils. After discussion it was decided that no immediate action be taken as the council have no commitments to insure against at present.
Housing.
A letter from the RDC stated that with reference to the Demolition Order, no occupant of the property concerned would be evicted unless and until accommodation in the village is available. Proposed by Councillor Gordon and seconded by Councillor Mrs Yabsley. A unanimous vote of thanks was recorded to Rev Bernan Davies for his efforts on behalf of the parishioners in connection with the Demolition Order.
Electricity.
Cr CJ Barnett reported that he had been in touch with the SWEB regarding rural electricity but owing to a rearrangement of the link up it was inevitable that a little further delay was unavoidable.
PCA.
The clerk reminded the council that the subscription for the current year was overdue. After discussion it was decided to send a cheque for £1-5-0 and continue for another year and then decide whether any useful purpose would be served by remaining a member.
AOB.
The subject of overgrowth on the garden hedge at Town Farm was again raised and the clerk was instructed to write once more to the Divisional Surveyor requesting that action should be taken in this matter. The clerk was also instructed to write to Mr Bray pointing out that the council had first drawn attention to the dangerous state of footpath number 15 on the 27.20.53 owing to collapse of a wall but that nothing had been done about it. The council wished action to be speeded up in this matter.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
Signed Chairman 14.7.54

A meeting of a Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, July 14, 1954.
All councillors were present plus two parishioners.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the RDC informing the council that repairs to footpath number 15 were now being put in hand.
Accounts

The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Clerks salary £3-0-0
Cemetery attendant £4-0-0
Petty cash £1-17-10
SWEB £4-9-8
Electricity. Cllr Barnett had nothing by way of progress to report but in answer to letters from the Parish Council Association, one from the NFU and a copy of the SWEB's new tariff, now called the Rural Development Scheme, he had prepared a report to be presented at the PCA's conference at Exeter of July 19th by the clerk S Leat. In this report he pointed out that although the NFU had favoured the line rental system of the SWEB and had made many apologies for it in the 1954 Year Book, the SWEB had in fact condemned the line rentals in favour of the Rural Development Scheme. Finally Blackawton Electricity Committee disagrees with Mr Arnold Baker's suggestion as there is nothing in the 1947 Act that provides for one charge for townspeople and an extra burden for rural areas. It is the wish of this committee that the PCA should press for the removal of all those charges.
Housing.
There having been a public local enquiry on whether six houses in Chapel Street should be demolished or not, the council discussed the matter. It was decided to write to the Minister of Housing requesting that the Order be quashed as it was the Parish Council's wish that Blackawton should keep it rural character, whereas by demolishing houses in whole blocks would only leave ruins which would be an eyesore.
AOB
The clerk was instructed to write to the Divisional Surveyor once more pointing out that the overgrowth of the garden hedge at Town Farm was still getting worse and could action be taken in this matter.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm
Signed Chairman 8.9.54

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, September 8, 1954.
Those present were Councillor Mitchell, chairman, Mr S Gordon, Mr G Priday and three parishioners. Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Mr and Mrs Barnett, Mrs Yabsley and Mr Brice.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the Divisional Surveyor with reference to the garden hedge at Town Farm stated that he was still pressing the owner to get the work done, but at the same time Pointed out that in his opinion the lamp was badly sited. The council failed to agree with this view and the clerk was instructed to write and thank him for his efforts, also offering to meet him on the spot to see what alternative suggestions he had in mind.
Appointment of school manager
By communication through the chairman, Cllr Barnett expressed his desire to nominate Mrs WJ Bernan Davies as the Parish Council's representative on the Board of School Managers. Cllr Mitchell seconded this and on being put to the vote it was carried unanimously, Mrs Davies stating that she would be pleased to accept the appointment.
Electricity.
A report from Cllr Barnett stated that he was still trying to get something definite regarding the charges under the new Rural Development Scheme, and hoped to be able to furnish a favourable report at the October meeting. The clerk was instructed to write to

the SWEB asking that the two lamps already ordered for The Grove may be fixed as soon as possible.
AOB.
Cr Gordon asked if any progress has been made with getting a Public Hall. Cllr Mitchell replied that owing to pressure of work the Hall committee haven't done very much. The clerk offered to visit Mr Lapthorne at Strete to ask for details of Strete's procedure when they built their Hall as well as any grants which may be available towards the cost. The clerk was also instructed to write to the PCA to see if they could help with any information.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm
Signed Chairman 13.10.54

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, October 12, 1954.
Those present were Cllr Barnett (in the chair), Mrs Barnett, Mr L Brice, and Mr G Priday.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the Divisional Surveyor making an appointment to meet the clerk on the spot and discuss possible alternative positioning of the street lamp at the road junction at the Normandy Arms. The clerk reported that he had met the surveyor and after one or two facts had been pointed out he retracted his statement regarding the lamp being wrongly sited, and agreed that it's present position gave the maximum amount of light in all directions providing the owner of the garden hedge would cooperate by cutting down the bushes which at present completely block the light from one portion of the road.
The clerk also read a letter from the cemetery attendant tendering his resignation, the same to take effect as from 31 December 1954. The council deeply regretted this decision, and the clerk was asked to write to Mr Lock stating this regret and also to express the council's appreciation of the conscientious way in which he had carried out his duties during his period of service. Accounts.
The following account was presented and passed for payment.
Shaw and Sons for Payment and Receipt Book £1-10-9
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Cemetery attendant's salary £4-0-0
Grave digging £3-10-0
Petty cash £1-10-10
South-western electricity (public lighting) £4-9-8
Audit stamp £2-0-0
Clerk's expenses for audit £1-0-0
Electricity.
In his report Councillor Barnett stated he was continuing his efforts to make the authority recognise their liabilities in regard to rural electrification. In view of reports that costs are no longer a limiting factor he suggested that contractors be employed to speed up the work, and proposed a resolution that Rural and Parish Councils in Devon be invited to cooperate in an appeal to the Government and others. This was seconded by Cllr Brice and carried.
Audit.
The clerk reported that he had attended the District Audit and all the accounts, books etc were in order with the exception of two previous minutes which are amended as follows.
(A) page 3 Clerk's salary. This minute should read; Mr Leat's appointment takes effect from 1st April 1952 at the salary of £12 per annum.

(B) page 45. With reference to the tender for grazing the following minute should be entered for the council meeting held on October 14th 1954. The clerk reported that he had received one tender only from Mr L Foale for £1-0-0. This he had accepted and paid into the bank as shown in the accounts.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 915 pm.
Signed Chairman 10.1.54

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, November 10, 1954.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell in the chair, Councillors Mrs and Mr Barnett, Mr L Gordon and Mr L Brice.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk presented four estimates for a for a new "Exclusive right of burial," book and the council decided to accept the one from Mr Ellis of Dartmouth in the sum of £2-10-0.
Electricity.
Cr Barnett presented his monthly report and produced a resolution for the council's approval and suggested sending it to Rural and Parish Councils in Devon and any other body who are in interested in rural electricity. He also suggested that this should be taken to the Central Authority level. The clerk S Leat as the council's representative on the Executive Committee of the PCA was asked to put this forward for the quarterly meeting to be held at Exeter on November 29. In connection with the foregoing the clerk stated that he had attended the annual meeting of the PCA at Exeter and a very interesting address by Mr Arnold Baker the PCA's Hon Secretary, he assured the council that the PCA was very solidly behind him in his efforts to get rural electricity.
The overgrowth of the garden hedge at Town Farm was again discussed and it was proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Gordon that Mrs Barnett might be asked to approach Mr Harding personally with a view to his cooperation in the matter. This, Mrs Barnett willingly undertook to do and was thanked by the council.
Village Hall.
This was discussed at some length and the council decided to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.
Clerk's insurance.
Through a series of misunderstandings the clerk's industrial insurance had been allowed to lapse since his appointment and the Ministry had now presented a bill for £4-19-0 arrears from 1st April 1952 to 1.11.54. This council decided to draw a cheque for this cement and the clerk was instructed to keep the current card stamped up to date from the petty cash account.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
Signed Chairman 8.12.54

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, December 8, 1954.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell in the chair, Cllrs Mr & Mrs Barnett and Cllr AS Gordon.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Mrs D Yabsley, Mr L Brice and Mr G Priday.
The minutes of last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.

The clerk presented the half yearly demand from the Public Works Loan Board in respect of the burial-ground. The chairman was authorised to sign a cheque to be forwarded on the 31.12.54. There were also several letters in answer to the resolution prepared by the electricity committee and sent to parish and rural district councils, MPs and other interested bodies. In his monthly electricity report Councillor Barnett had little to report by way of definite progress but there were signs of past efforts bearing fruit in the foreseeable future.
Village Hall.
Councillor Mitchell reported that he had contacted various contractors for pricelists and estimates for the erection of a Village Hall and that progress was now taking definite shape.
Burial-ground
The clerk reported that he had had no replies to the advertisement for a gravedigger and caretaker. After discussion on the matter it was decided to write to the Ministry of Housing to get a ruling on the liability of the Parish Council as the burial authority to providing a gravedigger.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm
Signed Chairman 9 February 1955

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, February 9, 1955.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell in the chair, Cllrs Mr & Mrs Barnett, AS Gordon and G Priday, and apologies for absence were received from Cllr Brice.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter was read from the County Surveyor regarding Footpath 34 at Paddlelake suggesting that as it seemed to be only a postman's path, it's status as a public right-of-way was doubtful. After discussion the clerk was instructed to reply stating that the Parish Council had no objection to it being deleted from the draft map. Another letter from the County Surveyor asked the clerk to have the Draft Maps of Public Rights of Way for a period of four months and be open to inspection at all reasonable hours to anyone interested. A letter from the RDC asked for the estimated amount of money the Council intended to precept for. After discussion it was decided to precept for £50, the chairman remarking that this was the lowest for several years. Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Public Works Loan Board £11-12-7
Clerk's salary and petty cash £4-9-6
Cemetary caretaker's wages £4-0-0
SWEB £8-19-4
Ellis (printers) £2-12-9
POSB
The clerk reported that the John Harris Memorial Fund now amounted to £615-9-4
Appointment of school manager.
Nominations were asked for to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mrs Yabsley. Mr Mitchell proposed Mrs Whittingham but there was no seconder. Mr Gordon then propose Mrs Burge. This was seconded by Mr Priday. There being no other nomination Mrs Burge was appointed.
Co-option of Councillor.
Before nominations were called for the Chairman remarked on the loss to the council by the death of Mrs Yabsley. The council were unanimously in agreement and the clerk was instructed to write a letter of sympathy to Mr Yabsley. Cllr Priday proposed the Rev. Bernan Davies and Cllr Mitchell seconded the proposal with pleasure. In reply the vicar

said he would be pleased to sit on the council for the rest of his term of office and would attend as many meetings as his health would allow. There were no other nominations and the vicar was unanimously co-opted as a member.
Village Hall.
Cr jMitchell reported that he had made more contact in regard to costs, site etc and after discussion it was decided to leave it until after the new council was elected in May.
Electricity.
In his report Cllr Barnett said that at long last there were definite signs of at least one part of the rural area of the parish getting electricity as plans were well advanced for the building of the substation at Blackawton to link up with the Woodford Clinton area and through to East Allington. He was still not in agreement with the Rural Development Scheme and had drawn up a memorandum which the clerk S Leat had presented to a meeting of the executive committee of the Parish Councils Association at Exeter on January 31. This meeting decided that as it was a long memo and had only been presented at the commencement of the meeting they could not fully discuss it. The Hon Sec Mr Popham read extracts from the memo and Mr C Jakway said that if we had any complaint we and local NFU members should take it up with the HQ of the NFU. Councillor Barnett said he would take this matter further in due course.
AOB
The chairman pointed out that the annual parish meeting would be held next month and it was agreed to hold the council meeting at 7:30 pm to be followed at 8 o'clock by the parish meeting. The clerk reported that he had received a verbal offer from Mr J Colwill to carry out the duties of gravedigger and caretaker. The council were pleased to accept this and the clerk was asked to notify Mr Colwill of his appointment.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm
Complaints were received from Mr Cole that a stile at Dallacombe was badly in need of repair. Mrs Barnett complained about flood water damage at Clinton and Cllr Priday also complained about the Quarry Head road. The clerk was asked to write to the Divisional Surveyor drawing his attention to these complaints.
Signed Chairman 9.3.55

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, March 9, 1955.
Those present were Cllr FL Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs Mr and Mrs Barnett, Cllr Gordon and Cllr Brice. Apologies for absence were received from the Rev WJ Bernan Davies. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the Clerk to the DCC stated that in the County Council's view the repair of stiles or gates on public footpaths was a matter for the Parish Council concerned. On referring to the Parish Councillor's Guide the council were of the opinion that they could, if they so wished, pass a resolution to carry out repairs, but were not compelled to do so. Before pursuing the matter further the clerk was instructed to write to the PCA for legal advice.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett had very little to report but stated that work had commenced in connection with the new substation to link up the Woodford-Clinton area and through to East Allington.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8 pm. Signed chairman 6.4.55

The Annual Parish eating was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 13 at 8 pm, with Councillor FL Mitchell in the chair.

Others present were Cllrs Mr and Mrs Barnett, the Rev WJ Bernan Davies, RDC, Councillor Gordon and Councillor Brice. There were also two other local government electors.
The chairman gave a resumee of the events which had taken place in the last three years, all of which are contained in the parish council's minutes.
Precept.
It was moved by Councillor Barnett and seconded by Councillor Gordon that the precept for the year 1955 - 56 should be as follows;
Lighting and Watching Act; Street Lighting £30-0-0
General fund £20-0-0.
Making a total precept of £50-0-0.
Due to a larger number of burials than usual during the past year, the burial-ground account needed no precept. The foregoing proposals were put to the meeting and carried unanimously.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm.
Signed Chairman 29.5.57

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I, William John Bernan Davies having been elected to the office of Parish Councillor, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will truly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability.
Dated the sixth day of April 1955
signed WJ Bernan Davies.
This declaration was made and subscribed before me
F Mitchell chairman of the Parish Council.
A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 6, 1955.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell, chairman, Cllrs Mr and Mrs Barnett, the Rev WJ Bernan Davies, Councillor AS Gordon and two parishioners.
In opening the meeting the chairman welcomed the Rev Bernan Davies as a member to serve until the termination of office of the present council.
The minutes of the previous meeting were red and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the Educational Executive stating that the new Parish Council would be required to appoint two representatives to the Board of School Managers as from June 30, 1955. The clerk also stated that he had received Parish and Rural Election notices and had placed them in suitable places throughout the village and the outlying parts of the parish.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Petty cash £1-10-1
PCA subscription £1-0-0
J Colwill salary and maintenance of street lighting £3-0-10 South-western electricity board £4-9-8
Parish footpaths.
With reference to correspondence between the Parish Council and the County Council regarding repairs to the stile at Dallacombe, the clerk reported that he had received legal

advice on the matter and the council acting on this advice, decided against undertaking the repairs, Mr C Cole and the linty Council to be notified accordingly.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett said he had little to report as to any progress in getting power lines to Rural Areas but he was continuing his efforts. The clerk reported that he had distributed copies of the Electricity Committee member's memo and observations to members of the Executive Committee of the Devon Parish Council Association at a meeting at Exeter on April 4. This has been very favourably received and all members of the committee suggested it should be sent to the National Committee for action, as it is concerned Rural Areas in all Great Britain. At the same time they expressed the opinion that the NFU were wrong in accepting the Rural Development Scheme as being a fair and just system of charges.
School residence.
It was proposed by the Reverend Davies and seconded by Councillor Gordon that the Divisional Executive Committee be requested to provide a school residence for the head teacher. All members were in agreement with this and expressed their opinion that this was most desirable.
Bus terminal
It was proposed by the Rev Davies and seconded by Councillor Mitchell that the Western National Bus to be approached with a view to extending the bus terminal from the George Inn to the top of Vicarage Lane. This was discussed and considered desirable in view of there being 23 houses at the Grove and the clerk was instructed to write to the Bus Co.
Hedge
Following a complaint from Mrs Barnett in respect of overgrowth of the hedge leading from Morleigh Cross, the clerk was instructed to write to the County Surveyor drawing his attention to the matter.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 11.5.55.

The monthly Parish Council Meeting was held in the school room at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, May 11, 1955 with Councillor FL Mitchell in the chair.
Other members present were Cllr Mr & Mrs Barnett, Cllr Brice and Cllr Rev W Davies. There were two local government electors present.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read the following correspondence:

(1) From the county surveyor informing the council that action had been taken regarding the overgrown hedge at Moreleigh Cross.
(2) From the clerk of the County Council regarding the repair to stiles. Awaiting further correspondence.
(3) From the divisional education officer informing the council that he could hold out little hope of the DCEC agreeing to a new house being built, but they might consider buying a council house if the RDC was agreeable.
(4) School lettings. From the DCEC informing the council that as from 3.11.54 cleaner's payment had been increased to 3/- scale say. As the council were not clear under which scale they were occupying the classroom the clerk was asked to write and get the matter clarified.
(5) School managers. From the DCEC reminding the council that two representative managers should be appointed at the first meeting of the new council and the CTCEC be informed of names and addresses.

(6) Several letters from various parties acknowledging receipt of the Electricity Committee's memo on Rural Electricity. One of these from the Ministry of Fuel and Power suggested getting in touch with the South-Western Consultative Council but the clerk pointed out that this has been done but no reply have been received. Cllr Barnett suggested that the clerk should write to the secretary reminding him of this, quote the Minister's observation, enclose another copy of the memo, and suggest that if he had received the first one, that he passed the second copy to Lady Carew Pole, chairman of the Electricity Consultative Council. This was agreed unanimously. Council Barnett said he had seen no visible signs of the extension of the Cliston area, neither had any officials visited any of the people concerned to try and further the use of power. He took a very dim view of this and during the coming months intended to see the position clarified.

(7) Bus terminal. From the Western National Omnibus Co saying that the council's request for the proposed extension was being considered. Further correspondence awaited.

Cleaner's fees.

The clerk reported correspondence from the County Education Authority stating that the school cleaner's fees for council meetings being raised from 2/6 to 3/- per meeting as from November 1954. The clerk stated that he had paid the cleaner accordingly.

Signed Chairman 1 June 1955

Swearing in of counsellors for the year 1955-56

I FL Mitchell having been elected to the office of chairman of Blackawton Parish Council hereby declare that I take the sais office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability.

Dated this first day of June 1955

Signed FL Mitchell

This declaration was made and subscribed before me, a member of Blackawton Parish Council

signed Irene L Barnett.

We the undersigned, having been duly elected councillors, do hereby declare that we take the said office upon ourselves and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of our judgement and ability

signed and witnessed, 1st June 1955.

A meeting of the newly elected Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday 1st June 1955.

The first business was to elect a Chairman.

In a letter apologising for absence through illness, Cllr Barnett wrote that it gave him great pleasure in proposing Frank L Mitchell. The clerk called for other nominations but none being forthcoming the Rev WJ Bernan Davies said it gave him great pleasure in seconding Councillor Barnett's proposal. Cllr Mitchell was then unanimously elected chairman for the year 1955-56.

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed Cllr Gibbs as a new member of the council. The Rev Davies said he wished to supplement the Chairman's remarks and pointed out that it was, in his opinion an asset to have another farmer on the council being as we were an agricultural area. An apology for absence was received from Cllr Gordon.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.
A letter from the South Western Electricity Consultative Council acknowledging receipt of electricity memo.
The half yearly account from the public works board for £11-12-7. As this fell due before the next meeting the Chairman was authorised to sign a cheque for this amount.
Committees.
Councillor CJ Barnett and Cllr Mitchell were again elected to the Electricity Committee. The previous Burial Committee was considered unnecessary so was not re-formed. The Hall Management Committee was left on the table.
School managers.
Mrs WJ Burnham Davies and Mrs R Burge were re-appointed as the council's representatives on the board of school managers.
School house.
This was discussed and the council decided to leave it on the table for the time being.
Electricity. In his written report Cllr Barnett said that he was still trying to get rural electrification speeded up and hoped to have a more favourable report at the July meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 13.7.55

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on in the school room on Wednesday, July 15, 1955.
Those present were Cllr Mitchell in the chair, Cllrs Mr & Mrs Barnett, Reverend WJ Bernan Davies and Cllr Gibbs.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the chief constable's office stating that it wasn't considered practicable to transfer the Constable from Halwell to Blackawton. From the Western National Omnibus Co stating that the extension requested by this council could not be considered as the roads were unsuitable for public service vehicles.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Clerk's salary and petty cash £4-4-0
Cemetery attendant £4-0-0
Mr Bray election fees £2-2-0
Kingsbridge RDC election contribution £1-4-0
R Rundle stationery £2-10-3
Burial-ground.
In view of the extra work entailed the chairman proposed that the clerk, S Leat, be paid something extra for burials. Various suggestions were put forward and discussed by members of the council. It was finally proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by the Rev Davies that the clerk's fee should be £1 per burial. This resolution was passed unanimously.
The problem of differential charges in the burial ground was discussed and the clerk was asked to make enquiries from other local bodies and supply the council with the information at the September meeting.
Electricity. Councillor Barnett said he had hoped to present a report on progress but although there was slight signs of movement it was so slow that he dare not make any forecast on when the Woodford-Cliston and Millcombe-Bow areas were likely to get a supply.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm

Signed Chairman 12.10.55

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, October 12, 1955.
Present
Councillor CJ Barnett (in the chair), Mrs Barnett, Rev Davies Cllrs A Gordon, V Gibbs and L Brice.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk reported on the correspondence he had had with the DAPC in not having received requests for nominations for the executive committee, but had received a list of persons nominated. In consultation with Councillor Barnett the clerk had sent in his own name for nomination as a member of the executive committee, also to represent Blackawton Parish Council at the annual meeting at Exeter on 22/10/55. The council confirmed the clerk's action in this.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment;
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Cemetary attendant £4-0-0
Clerk's insurance 19-2
Petty cash 2-7
Audit stamp £3-0-0
Audit expenses £1-0-0
Total: £12-1-9.
Electricity. Councillor Barnett stated that he could give no satisfactory report on progress of Rural Electrification, but was in the hope of getting a supply in the Woodford-Cliston area by the end of November. Meanwhile he was continuing his efforts to get someone in authority to make a definite move in doing something for all rural areas.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that the chairman and himself were trying to arrange a date to meet the clerk of Kingswear Parish Council with a view to a reorganisation of the burial procedure. Until then the clerk was asked to continue the present system.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm
Signed Chairman 14.12.55

A special meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Monday, October 17 1955 at 7:30 pm
Present: Councillor CJ Barnett in the chair, Mrs Barnett, Rev WJ Bernan Davies, Cllrs Brice, Gordon and Gibbs and seven parishioners. In attendance Mr Whiting from Dawes Creameries.
Agenda. To discuss the proposal of Dawes Creameries to supply milk to one retailer only as from November 1 instead of the three now being supplied. Mr Whiting explained that this was being done in the interests of economy as the amount of bookkeeping necessary to supply three retailers with a combined total of 17 gallons per day meant a loss to Dawes Creameries. After a long and varied discussion it was decided that no useful purpose would be served by the council taking any action in the matter, Councillor Gibbs remarking that in view of Dawes being adamant in their decision it was another instance of the steam roller procedure policy of big business with complete disregard for the consumer's freedom of choice.
Mr Whiting was thanked for his attendance and the meeting closed at 10 pm
Signed Chairman 14.12.55

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on the Wednesday, December 14, 1955 at 7:30 pm
Those present were Cllr Mitchell (Chairman) Mrs CJ Barnett and the Rev Davies.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
Two letters from Slapton Parish Council asking this council's support in (1) A protest to the Western National Omnibus Co regarding the bad state of the buses operating on the Plymouth-Dartmouth route. As this route didn't affect Blackawton people the council decided that they were unable to lend the support in this matter. (2) A request to the Medical Officer of Health at Kingsbridge asking that applications be made to the appropriate authority to arrange for the mobile x-ray unit to visit villages as well as towns. It was resolved that having due regard to the heavy expenditure involved to serve a relatively small number of people the request would be impracticable. The clerk was instructed to reply to the two letters accordingly.
Electricity.
The clerk reported that he had attended a meeting of the PCA at Exeter and the executive committee had fully supported the council's proposal that the SWEB be asked to put out to tender certain of the work to speed up rural electricity. Councillor Barnett reported that at last he had hopes of the Woodford-Cliston area being connected but hoped to report at the January meeting that something definite was being done.
AOB.
The clerk was asked to write to to the area surveyor regarding hedge paring on the Cliston to Morley Cross road, and point out that although this council registered a complaint in April 1955 nothing had been done.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm
Signed Chairman 11.1.56.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, January 11, 1956.
Present.
Councillor Mitchell (chairman) Mr and Mrs Barnett, Rev Davies and Mr Gibbs. An apology was received on behalf of Mr A Gordon.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the SWEB stating that it was proposed to increase the public lighting prices from £7-11-9 per annum to £7-13-0 per lamp. The clerk was asked to write and agree to the new terms, to take affect from 1 April 1956.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Public Works loan board £12-11-7
SWEB £6-5-7
Cemetery attendant's wages £4-0-0
Clerk's salary and petty cash £3-8-0
Clerk's fees for two burials £2-0-0
Mrs Beer for six council meetings 18-0
Total £29-3-2
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported two burials during the previous quarter Mrs H Shillabeer on December 22 and Mr F Buckingham on December 30.

Arising from the council meeting of 12th of October the chairman stated that together with the clerk he had a meeting with Mr Preston Tucker clerk of Kingswear Parish Council and examined their scale of charges and system of bookkeeping. As a result he presented an amended copy of the Table of Fees Payments and Sums, under section 34 of the Burial Act 1852, for the councils approval. After a full discussion it was unanimously resolved that the application be made to the Minister of Housing to amend the Table of Fees Payments and Sums accordingly.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett reported that poles were now being erected to connect the Woodford-Cliston area. He also reported that a meeting of the electricity committee had been held at Mr Garbett's at Millcombe to discuss the further procedure regarding the connecting of the remaining parts of the Rural Area. He also stated that there was to be a preparatory meeting on February 14 to discuss the agenda for a public meeting to be held in the Assembly Rooms on February 23rd when Mr Smith of the NFU would be present.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
Signed Chairman 14.3.56

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, March 13, 1956
Present
Cr F Mitchell in the chair, Cllrs Mr and Mrs Barnett, A Gordon and the Rev WJ Bernan Davies.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence. There was no correspondence.
Burial Ground
The clerk reported that he had received a revised application form from the Ministry of Housing and together with the chairman would complete the details and resubmit it to the minister.
Precept.
The chairman proposed the following money be precepted for, for the year 1956-57.
General fund £30-0-0
Burial Ground £10-0-0
Lighting and Watching Act £40-0-0
Total £80-0-0
It was moved by Rev Bernan Davies and seconded by Councillor Gordon that the above amounts be precepted for. This was carried unanimously.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett reported that he was happy to report that the Woodford Cliston and Hutcherleigh area have now been connected to the mains, but, at the same time he was disappointed at the reluctance of the SWEB to connect the rest of the rural area.
The public meeting which was postponed from February 23rd owing to inclement weather would now take place on April 12.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8 pm. Signed Chairman 11.4.56

The annual parish meeting was held in the school room on March 12, 1956 at 8 pm.
Present
Cr FL Mitchell (chairman) Cllrs CJ and Mrs IL Barnett ,Gibbs, JW Bernan Davies and the clerk S Leat. An apology for absence was received from Councillor AS Gordon.
Minutes.
The minutes of the parish meeting held on April 15, 1955 were read and signed as a correct record.

Precept.
The recommendation of the Parish Council that the sum of £80 be precepted for the coming year was put to the meeting and unanimously carried.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9 pm.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 11, 1956.
Present. Councillor FL Mitchell in the chair, Councillors Mr and Mrs Barnett and Councillor AS Gordon.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Rev Davies and L Brice. The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the Devon Playing Fields Association was read asking the council to subscribe a minimum of 5/- annually and become members. After discussion it was resolved; that the clerk be asked to write and state that owing to unsuitability of the surrounding countryside there was little if any possibility of ever being able to provide a playing field. Under the circumstances it was regretted that the council were unable to support this cause.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported one burial during the previous quarter, R.Grills on 23 January 1956.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Clerks salary and petty cash £3-3-6
Clerk's insurance 3.10.55 to 26.3.56 £1-1-1
1 book burial forms £1-8-2
JC Colwill annual maintenance and replacements £4-7-4
Devon Association Parish Councils £1-0-0
Cemetery attendant's wages £4-0-0
SWEB £6-5-7
Total: £22-5-8
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett had nothing further to report but stated he hoped to make a full and satisfactory report after the public meeting on April 12.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.07pm
Signed Chairman 30.5.56

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was held in the School on Wednesday, May 30, 1956.
Present
Councillor Mitchell, Mr and Mrs Barnett, BV Gibbs and AS Gordon.
Election of Chairman.
Councillor Barnett proposed and Cllr Gibbs seconded that Mr Mitchell be asked to take the office of Chairman for the coming year. There were no other nominations and the resolution was carried unanimously. Cllr CJ Barnett was proposed as vice chairman by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Gibbs. This was also carried unanimously.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from Dartmouth Borough Council asked for the council's support in protesting against British Railways' intention to discontinue the cheap day tickets from Dartmouth to Churston Paignton and Torquay on the Torbay Express. The council fully supported Dartmouth in this and the clerk was asked to write to British Railways accordingly. A letter from Mr Knight of the Forces Tavern asked for the council's advice regarding an

advertisement board. The clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr Knight and explained the PC had no authority over advertisement signs but had given him all the information possible regarding planning permission etc.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett proposed that a joint protest meeting with neighbouring parishes be convened in the autumn, the details of which would be arranged later.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:30 pm
Signed Chairman 18.7.56

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, July 18, 1956.
Present
Mr F Mitchell (chairman) and Mr and Mrs Barnett.
Apologies were received on behalf of the Rev Davies and Mr Gibbs.
There was no correspondence.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment. Cemetery attendance wages £4-0-0
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Clerk's insurance and petty cash £2-5-9
Advertisement re-burial-ground 18/-
SWEB £6-6-11
Public works loan board £11-12-7
Total £28-3-3
Electricity
Councillor Barnett had little to report regarding further progress with rural electrification, and it was arranged that in the September meeting the winter programme would be discussed and arranged. Meanwhile Councillor Barnett would draw up a circular letter with which the clerk undertook to canvas the Milcombe-Bow area to collect signatures.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:30 pm
Signed Chairman 10.10.56

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, October 10, 1956.
Present
Cr Mitchell (chairman) Mr and Mrs Barnett, Rev Bernan Davies, Mr B Gibbs and one parishioner.
Correspondence.
The clerk reported that he had received the burial-ground amended schedule of charges, duly approved by the Minister of Housing. The clerk also produced 100 printed copies of the new fees which had been authorised to have printed.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment;
Cemetary attendant's wages £4-0-0
Clerk's salary £3-0-0.
Petty cash 3/-
Dartmouth Chronicle (printing of burial fees) £2-19-0.
Clerk's insurance 13/9
SWEB £6-6-11
Total £17-2-8.
Spark's Charity
The council has been had been requested to appoint a trustee in place of F Life (deceased) to serve until 1958. The Reverend Davies proposed Mr A Sage. this was

seconded by Mr Gibbs. There being no other nominations this nomination was carried unanimously and the clerk was asked to notify Mr Sage of his appointment.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett stated that he had arranged for Mr Garbett of Milcombe to canvas the Milcombe-Bow area, and if successful would once more apply to the SWEB for a supply.
Vacancies.
It was decided to co-opt two members to complete the required number of councillors at the November council meeting the same to be placed on the agenda. This was decided after receiving Mr Gordon‘s resignation and Mr Brice’s disqualification through non-attendance.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm
Signed Chairman 11.11.56

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I Louis Bird having been duly elected to the office of parish councillor, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will truly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability.
Dated the 14th of November 1956 signed L Bird.
This declaration was made and subscribed before me F Mitchell, Chairman of the Parish Council.
I Leonard Arthur Garbett having been duly elected to the office of parish councillor, hereby declare, that I take the said office upon myself, and will truly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability. Dated 14th day of November 1956 signed L Garbett.
This declaration was made and subscribed before me F Mitchell Chairman of the Parish Council.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, November 14, 1956.
Present
F Mitchell Chairman, Mr & Mrs Barnett and Mr Gibbs. An apology for absence was received from the Rev WJ Davies. A letter was read from Mr L Sage thanking the council for appointing him as a trustee of Sparkes Charity. Also the agenda for a meeting of Devon PCA to be held on Monday, 19 November 1956.
Co-option of members.
Mr L Bird and Mr LA Garbett were in attendance for the purpose of the nomination. Mr F Mitchell nominated Mr L Bird, this was seconded by Gibbs. Mr Garbett was nominated by Mr Barnett and seconded by Mrs Barnett. Both were co-opted unanimously.
Electricity.
Councillor Barnett and stated that Cllr Garbett had canvassed the Millcombe-Bow area and it was was agreed that Councillor Garbett and Cllr Mitchell approach SWEB and report back at the next council meeting. The clerk, S Leat, reported that through sickness he had missed the last four meetings of the PCA and he had decided to resign from the executive committee forthwith.
AOB
S.Leat RD councillor reported that steps were being taken to have the untidy eyesores in the village cleared up in the near future.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:55 pm
signed Chairman 12.12.56

A meeting of the Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, December 12, 1956 at 7:30 pm. Present
Councillor Mitchell (chairman), Cllrs Mr & Mrs Barnett, Rev WJB-Davies, Mr L Bird, Mr B Gibbs and Mr L Garbett.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the county council was read asking for particulars regarding allotments. The clerk was instructed to inform The CC that the parish council owned no land or allotments, neither was there any demand for allotments.
A letter from the RDC referred to the Lord Mayor of London's appeal for the "Hungarian relief fund" and asked if anything was being considered by the council to raise money for the fund. The chairman reported that he had organised a social evening on Tuesday 11th December and as a result the sum of £16 would be forwarded to the Mansion House.
Electricity.
Councillor Garbett reported that he had collected all the necessary information and applications from the Millcombe-Bow area, and that together with the chairman would approach the SWEB and report back at the next council meeting. Councillor Barnett read a manifesto concerning Rural Electricity with a view to getting it published in the national press. It was decided to leave the details of this to be acted on by Councillor Barnett and the chairman.
AOB. There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
signed Chairman 9.1.57

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, January 9, 1957 at 7:30 pm. Present
Councillor Mitchell chair, Councillors Mr and Mrs Barnett, L Bird, L Garbett and B Gibbs.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence. There were four letters of acknowledgement of the Electricity Manifesto, Roy Morby MP, Harold Roper, MP, DAPC and the NFU.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Public-works loan board £11-12-7
South Western Electricity Board £6-6-11
Cemetary attendant £4-0-0
Clerk's salary and insurance £3-12-0
Clerk's burial fee re Mrs R Bastard £1-0-0.
Postage phone calls and stationery 15-5
Total £27-6-11
Burial.
The clerk reported one burial during the previous quarter, Mrs R Bastard.
Bus services. The recent drastic cut in the bus services was discussed and the clerk was instructed to write a letter of protest pointing out that several buses had been discontinued causing hardship to rural dwellers, and with no attempt being made to adjust the timing of the remaining services to meet with essential needs.
Electricity.
Councillor Garbett reported that he had now drawn up a plan for the Milcombe-Bow area and together with The chairman would compose the necessary application and forward it to SWEB.
AOB.

A complaint from a parishioner regarding the bad state of the Hutcherleigh road and flooding at Washwalk Bridge was discussed and the clerk was asked to write to the county surveyor on the subject.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm
signed chairman 13.2.57

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school room on Wednesday, February 13, 1957 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillor FL Mitchell (chair), Mr and Mrs Barnett, Rev. Davies, L Bird, B Gibbs and L Garbett.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the RDC was read asking for the annual estimate for 1957-58. After discussion it was decided to precept for £80.
Precept.
General fund £30, lighting and watching £40, burial-ground £10. The clock deposited the Abstract of Accounts 1956 and correspondence from the DAPC. There was also a letter from the county surveyor informing the council that repairs have been carried out on the Hutcherleigh Road and steps taken to obviate the flooding at Washwalk Bridge.
Electricity.
The chairman stated that together with Mr Garbitt he had formulated an application to SWEB for a new mains supply to the Milcombe-Bow area and had had a reply to the effect that the board would reconsider the situation. Councillor Barnett submitted his report which stated that he had studied the new Bill now before Parliament and concluded that if passed it would adversely affect the supply of electricity to the south-west area. He therefore submitted a resolution which he suggested might be sent to all west country MPs as well as other interested bodies. After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Barnett, seconded by Rev. Davies that the report be adopted, and the resolution, with minor adjustments be sent.
AOB.
Councillor Gibbs stated that having disposed of his farm he would be leaving the district and this would be the last meeting he would be attending. The Chairman on behalf of all councillors expressed regret of the loss of Mr Gibbs as a councillor and wished him all success in his new surroundings.
With reference to a recent statement by the chairman of Newton Abbot RDC a letter was produced, written by Mrs Brockhurst of Maldon, condemning him for making erroneous statements, and pointing out the various powers of parish councils. This was considered a very interesting and enlightening letter and the clerk was asked to write to Mrs Brockhurst and compliment her on taking such a convincing defence of the liberty of free speech, especially in parish councils.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 13.3.57

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, March 13, 1957 at 7:30 pm
Present. Councillor F Mitchell (chair), Mr and Mrs Barnett, Rev Davies, Mr L Garbett and Mr L Bird.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from Councillor B Gibbs stating that as he was leaving the county he tended his resignation with regret. The clerk also reported that he had received notice

from the district auditor that the council's accounts books et cetera would be audited at the RDC offices on Monday, 8 April 1957.
Electricity.
With reference to the resolution passed at the previous meeting Councillor Mitchell apologised for not proceeding further with it owing to pressure of work. In the light of further discussion the proposer Councillor Bird and the seconder the Rev Davies withdrew their proposal and the matter was left in abeyance.
Burial-ground.
The Rev Davies again reported that he had had several complaints regarding cattle straying into the burial-ground. It was unanimously agreed that the clerk write to Mr Colwill pointing out that he was asked by the chairman three months ago to repair the gap and fit springs to the two gates, and neither of these request had been complied with. The clerk was now instructed to request that this would be carried out at once as the council took a very serious view of the matter.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:35 pm
Signed Chairman 10.4.57

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 10, 1957 at 7:30 pm. Present. Councillor f Mitchell (chair) Mr and Mrs Barnett, Rev Davies, Mr L Garbett and Mr L Bird.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the DAPC asking the council to find a substitute for the clerk S Leat to serve on the executive committee. The clerk stated that his health had greatly improved and would be willing to serve for the rest of the term of office. It was proposed by the Rev Davies that the clerk be asked to rejoin the executive committee. This was seconded by Councillor Barnett and carried unanimously.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Clerk's salary, petty cash, clerk's insurance, audit stamp £6-10-6
Cemetary attendant's wages £4-0-0
Clerk's burial fee £1-0-0
JC Colwill annual maintenance replacement of bulbs (street lighting) £4-16-0
South-western electricity board £6-6-1
Total £22-13-5.
Audit
The clerk stated that he had attended the district audit on that day and all accounts books et cetera have been passed as satisfactory.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported one burial during the previous quarter Mrs RH Bastard 2-11-56.
It was again reported that although the gap in the hedge had been repaired the springs on the two gates had still not been fitted. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Colwill informing him that the council took a very serious view of this and to further inform him that unless the work was completed by April 18, 1957 the council will take steps to allocate the work to another contractor.
Electricity.
Councillor Mitchell stated that he had received a letter from the electricity consumers council enclosing a petition to be completed and submitted to the SWEB for a mains supply to the Milcombe area. It was agreed to discuss the matter at the next meeting.
Casual Vacancy.

Owing to the resignation of Mr Gibbs it was agreed to include the co-option of another member at the next meeting.
AOB
As the annual parish council meeting had to be held on or within 14 days after 20th May it was decided to combine this meeting with the monthly meeting of the council.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
signed chairman 29.5.57

Declaration of acceptance of office;

I, Michael Reginald Toms having been duly elected to the office of parish councillor, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will truly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability. Dated the 10th day of July 1957
signed Michael Toms.
This declaration was made and submitted before me, F.L.Barnett, vice-chairman of the Parish Council 10.7.57.

The annual meeting of the Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, May 29, 1957 at 7:30 pm.
Chairman
Proposed by Councillor Barnett and seconded by Councillor Garbett that Mr FL Mitchell be chairman for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations and the proposal was carried unanimously
Election of vice chairman. Mr Mitchell proposed and Cllr Garbett seconded that Cllr Barnett be vice chairman. There were no other nominations and this was also carried unanimously.
Apologies.
Were received on behalf of Mr L Bird and the Rev Davies. Correspondence.
There was no correspondence.
Co-option of Councillor. Councillor Barnett's nominated Mr M Toms to fill the casual vacancy and this was seconded by Councillor Garbett. By request Cllr Mitchell nominated Mrs C Cole, but as there was no seconder this was not proceeded with. Put to the vote Mr Toms was unanimously elected. Electricity.
Councillor Garbett stated that he had been unable to find time to proceed further with the Millcombe-Bow scheme but would report at the next meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 7:55 pm.
Signed vice chairman 15.7.57

The annual parish meeting was held on Wednesday, May 29, 1957 at 8 pm.
Present
Cr F Mitchell, chair, Mr & Mrs Barnett, Mr L Garbett and Mr M Toms.
Apologies.
For absence were received on behalf of Mr Bird and the Rev Davies.
Agenda. Minutes of last meeting, matters arising, correspondence, consider and authorise the precept of £80 viz: general fund £30, lighting and watching £40, burial-ground £10. It was resolved that the above amounts were correct and that they be precepted for.
AOB.

The RDC representative, S Leat, was asked to contact the highways department and try to get a passing place cut on the Milcombe Road, the owner having verbally offered the necessary land free of charge.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:35 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.3.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, July 10, 1957 at 7:30 pm. Present. Councillor Barnett in the chair, Mrs Barnett, Mr L Bird, L Garbett and Mr M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
There was no correspondence.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Burial fees £3-0-0
Audit expenses £1-5-0
Phone calls and postage 8-9
Cemetary attendance £4-0-0
SWEB £6-6-11
Public Works loan board £11-12-7
Total £29-13-3.
It was resolved that in the absence of the Chairman the clerk be authorised to pay the above accounts when the cheques were duly signed.
Electricity. Cllr Garbett stated that he had been unable to proceed further with the Milcombe-Bow scheme but hoped to report some progress at the next meeting.
AOB.
The clerk was asked to write to the divisional surveyor drawing his attention to the state of the road from North Milcombe to Abbotsleigh Hill.
The clerk reported three burials during the previous quarter. Miss M Chapman 5th June 1957
Mr W Colton 11th June 1957
Mr W Bolt 21st June 1957.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:25 pm
signed chairman 11.9.57

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school room on Wednesday, September 11, 1957 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor F Mitchell in the chair, councillors Mrs Barnett, CJ Barnett , L Bird, L Garbett, M Toms and Rev Davies.
The minutes of the last meeting were read confirmed and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
The clerk stated that he had written to the divisional surveyor regarding the road at Millcombe and some attempt had been to roughen up the lengths concerned to avoid vehicles skidding, but Cllr Garbett stated that the result was far from satisfactory.
Correspondence.
From the Devon County asking for the return of the draft map for the necessary amendments to be made in accordance with the National Parks and Access to the

Countryside Act 1949, and also stating that the said maps would be returned when completed.
Shops Act 1950.
A letter from the RDC enclosing the proposed making of an order under the Shops Act 1950 (Sunday trading). After discussion it was resolved; that the clerk be asked to ascertain the views of the shop keepers concerned and notify the RDC accordingly.
Parish council review.
A letter from the DAPC asking for subscriptions to the parish councils review at the rate of four quarterly copies at five shillings per annum. It was resolved that a subscription for two copies per quarter be sent and that the clerk be asked to circulate the two copies to all members of the council.
Electricity. Councillor Garbett stated that he had obtained signatures from all interested parties and had forwarded the completed forms to the consultative council. It was resolved; that the council await the reply before taking the matter further with the SWEB.
Burial ground. The clerk reported one burial; Mr R Bastard on 10 July 1957.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 13.11.57

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, November 13, 1957 at 7:30 pm.

Present.
Councillor F Mitchell in the chair, councillors Mrs and Mr Barnett, L Garbett and M Toms.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of the Rev Davies.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record
Matters arising.
The clerk reported that arrangements have now been made for the passing place in the Millcombe Road to be carried out in the near future.
Correspondence.
The clerk produced the minutes of the meeting of the DAPC held at Exeter on 7th October which he attended, together with the agenda for a meeting to be held on 16th November. A copy of the Parish Councils Act 1957 was also presented. The clerk gave a brief summary of the Act and drew attention to part 2 para 11 with reference to charities. It was proposed by Councillor Barnett that the question of deciding whether Spark's Charity was parochial or ecclesiastical be deferred until the next meeting when it was hoped the vicar would be present to give the correct definition. This was seconded by Councillor Garbett and carried.
Electricity.
Councillor Mitchell stated that he had prepared a drawing of the Millcombe-Bow-Abbotsleigh area and had sent it to the consumers consultative council asking that they press the SWEB to expedite the scheme. As he had no reply he intended to write again to ascertain what results, if any, had been obtained.
Clerk's telephone. The subject of the increased cost of telephone line rentals was discussed and it was decided to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.
Accounts
As there was no meeting held in October and the chairman was absent on holiday the clerk's action in drawing cheques for the following accounts and getting the vice chairman to check and sign them was confirmed; Dartmouth Chronicle agenda £2-7-4
SWEB Street lighting £6-6-11
Cemetary attendant's wages £4-0-0

Clerk's salary £3-0-0
PCA 16-5
Parish council review 10-6
Clerk's burial fee £1-0-9
Clerk's insurance £1-4-9
Petty cash phone and postage 7-6
Total: £19-13-3.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm
signed Chairman 11-12-57

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, the 11th of December 1957 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillors FL Mitchell, CJ and Mrs Barnett, Rev Davies, L Garbett and M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk presented a copy of the Parish Councils Act 1957 together with a circular from the Ministry of housing and local government. Arising from this the chairman drew attention to part 11 section 11 with reference to charities and gave his opinion that Spark's Charity should be classed a Parochial charity. The vicar disagreed with this and stated that it was Ecclesiastical and would not accept it as a parochial charity unless he had legal advice on the matter. After a very lengthy discussion on various points in the will of Richard Sparke the clerk was asked to write to Arnold Baker Esq the legal advisor to the Parish Council association and get the correct legal ruling on the matter. Clerk's telephone rental.
This was again discussed and Councillor Rev Davies objected on behalf of three local government electors but refused to divulge their names. In view of this the council decided to refer to the January meeting when local government electors would be invited to attend to lodge any objections or criticisms.
Electricity.
Cr Mitchell produced a letter from the consumers consultative council regarding the Millcombe Abbotsleigh line and it was considered very unsatisfactory. Cllr Mitchell also stated that he had again written to Mr Allwood at Torquay and was awaiting his reply.
The Rev Davies asked the council on behalf of Lord Chaplin if they could do anything to get a supply to Hembro Post to Forces area. He was invited to inform Lord Chaplin that it would be best for him to canvas all his neighbours and persuade them to apply direct, and that if this was done the council would give it support.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed chairman 8.1.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, January 8, 1958 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillors FL Mitchell, chair, Councillors CJ Barnett , Mrs Barnett, L Bird, Rev Davies and L Garbett
In attendance. S Leat, and RD councillor. There were 16 local government electors.
Apologies. An apology was received on behalf of councillor M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence. A letter from Mr Popham DAPC stating that he had forwarded the correspondence relating to Spark's Charity to Mr Arnold Baker for his legal advice.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Public works loans board £11-12-7
Clerk's salary £3-0-0 .
Cemetary attendant £4-0-0 .
SWEB £6-6-11
Clerk's insurance 11-11
Hire of school room, Mrs Beer and county treasurer £1-3-0 Clerk's postage and phone calls 5-7
Total £27-0-0.
Clerk's telephone.
In opening this discussion the chairman explained that the clerk had informed him that the telephone line rental had now increased to £12 per annum and he could no longer afford to keep it, and asked the council if they considered a phone necessary. If they didn't think so the clerk intended to have the phone discontinued . If, however, it was considered necessary, the clerk asked for a contribution towards the line rental. At the meeting held on December 11 all councillors present were unanimous in agreeing that the phone was essential and that the whole line rental should be paid by the council. After a very full and lengthy discussion and listening to various alternatives and objections the council, with two objections, Cllr L Bird and the Rev Bernan Davies, agreed to pay the phone line rental. The clerk however stated that he had no wish to accept the full amount but would be content with three quarters. Cllr Garbett proposed and Cllr Mrs Barnett seconded that this offer be accepted. This was carried.
Electricity.
Cr Mitchell reported that he had further correspondence regarding the Millcombe - Bow area and that he had arranged to escort the canvasser to all interested parties when the canvasser from the SWEB called.
Roads.
Mrs Bernan Davies asked whether something could be done to get the village cleaned more often if it was in a very dirty condition owing to the regular use by cattle. Mr S Leat promised to raise the matter at the next highways meeting of the RDC and report back at the next Council meeting. Burial-ground.
The Rev Bernan Davies raised the question of the bad state of the burial ground, but as it was so late and Councillor Bernan Davies had left the meeting it was decided to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:50 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.2.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday, February 12, 1958 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillor Mitchell (chair), Cllrs Mr and Mrs CJ Barnett, L Bird, L Garbett and M Toms, and 2 LG electors.
Apologies
An apology was received on behalf of the Rev W Bernan Davies. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence. The clerk read correspondence from Arnold Baker of the NAPC relating to Sparks Charity who gave his opinion, that in the absence of any special scheme by the charity commissioners, Spark's Charity with the exception of the paragraph relating to the annual sermon by the vicar of Blackawton and the upkeep of Spark's tomb, was a parochial charity within the meaning of section 75, Local government Act 1894, and that

the trustees would be required to produce an annual statement of accounts to the Parish Council as laid down by the Parish Councils Act 1957. As the council had no knowledge of any scheme it was decided to put it on the agenda for the next meeting when it was hoped the vicar would be present.

Clerk's telephone.

Arising from the minutes of the last meeting the chairman produced the letter from Mrs OD Cole, read it to the council together with the reply he had sent. It was resolved that both letters should be recorded verbatim;

8 January 1958 Dallacombe Farm, Blackawton

Sir, having heard that the clerk has requested that his telephone rental, which I believe to be £14, should be paid by the council, my thoughts go back to when I asked for a salary increase of £2 per annum, to help towards the cost of using my car for meetings etc, and how I was told that the rates were already too great a burden. Surely with the kiosk so near home the clerk should use same for parish work and give up his private phone if it is too expensive. Yours faithfully OD Cole (Mrs).

Chairman's reply.

Dear Mrs Cole; 11th January 1958

Your letter dated 8th January was handed to me at the beginning of the parish council meeting last Wednesday by the Rev WJ Bernan Davies and when we reached the item on the agenda clerk's telephone I read it aloud to the parishioners who were present. I think it is my duty to advise you that the contents were not only irrelevant there being no similarity between a telephone for the benefit of the parish and a salary for the benefit of an individual but were a definite mis-statement of fact. Your letter reads "I asked for a salary increase of £2 per annum" but a minute in your own handwriting dated November 14, 1951 reads "Mrs Cole asked if anything had transpired as a result of a promise made at a Parish Meeting to enquire about the possibility of raising her salary, and formally asked for the amount to be increased to £20 per annum. It was decided the matter be considered by the council and be dealt with at the next meeting". A further minute dated 13th 1952 reads "the chairman stated that the councillors had had a private meeting but had decided not to increase the rates by raising the clerk's salary as requested. They were, however, prepared to reduce the work by holding six meetings per annum unspecified dates instead of the present arrangement of every month. This was not acceptable to the clerk who stated that she would tender her resignation as from the financial year ending 31 March 1952." I will ask you to observe two points about these minutes, first that the amount of increase in your salary which you demanded was £8 and not £2 per annum and secondly that at that time your lack of concern at raising the rates were such that you refused considering a reduction in your work. As your letter obtained wide publicity through its public reading to 16 parishioners and contained an erroneous statement, I am now asking for your permission to publish a copy of this reply in the window of Chapmans Stores. Yours sincerely FL Mitchell Chairman. PS I am willing to publish also any explanation you may wish to make.

Electricity.

Councillor Mitchell stated that he was still waiting for the canvasser from the electricity board to meet him and visit the would-be consumers in the Milcombe Abbotsleigh area and had sent a reminder to Mr Allwood pointing out the urgency of the matter.

AOB.

Cr Bird raised the question of recurring flooding at Oldstone and the clerk was asked to write to the divisional surveyor to try and get something done by way of a scheme to permanently drain this part of the road. Cllr Toms complained that every time there was heavy rain storm water caused the sewage disposal works to overflow which resulted in crude sewage been discharged into the stream to which his dairy herd had access.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm

signed chairman 12.3.58

Addition to minutes of 12.3.58
Burial ground.
This matter was again discussed and it was resolved that owing to the unsatisfactory way in which the burial ground had been kept, Mr J Colwill's appointment as cemetery attendant would be terminated on 31 March 1958.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, March 12, 1958 at 7:30 pm Present
Counsellor F Mitchell, Chair,Cllrs CJ Barnett, Mrs Barnett, L.Bird and M Toms.
Apologies were received on behalf of Rev Bernan Davies and L Garbett.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence
The clerk produced a letter from the returning officer setting out the relevant dates appertaining to Parish Council and RDC elections. The clerk also reported that the caretaker's fee would be raised from three shillings to 3/6, and the clerk's insurance would be raised from 11d to 1/5, both to take effect from 1 February 1958
Sparks charity.
The chairman read a letter from the vicar enclosing an extract of the letter he had received from the diocesan registrar who was satisfied that it was a parochial charity. The vicar however still disputed the requirements of the parish councils act 1957 and the clerk was asked to write to the charity commissioners asking them to clarify the position and advise the vicar accordingly.
Electricity.
Cr Mitchell stated that he had had a visit from the board's canvasser who had been to the other applicants, and the result of the canvas and subsequent action was now awaited.
AOB.
There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:20 pm
signed Chairman 9.4.58.

The annual parish meeting was held in the school room on Wednesday, March 12, 1958 at 8:20 pm.
Present. Cllr Mitchell chair, Cllrs CJ Barnett, Mrs Barnett, L Bird and M Toms.
In attendance. S Leat, clerk, and RDC councillor. There were five local government electors.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
There was no correspondence.
Chairman's report.
The chairman gave a brief summary of events over the past three years and this was considered satisfactory.
Burial-ground.
Mr Sage complained about the unsatisfactory state of the burial ground and also that he found the gates continually open which allowed stray cattle to trample and foul the

graves. The council discussed various schemes and the chairman promised to look into a scheme to the gate question and report to the next council meeting.
Street light.
Mrs Bernan Davies enquired into the possibility of erecting an extra light in the vicinity of Balsam. As this would mean an extra charge on the rates the matter was deferred. Telephone kiosk. Mrs Graves Smith complained about the dirty state of the kiosk and the clerk was asked to take the matter up with the telephone manager at Exeter.
Ye Old Bell
The fate of this village relic was again discussed and it was decided to instruct the clerk to write to the vicar offering it to the church and suggesting that it be hung over the Lychgate.
Noticeboard. The question of a public noticeboard was again raised. Mrs Graves Smith kindly gave permission to have it erected on her property at Crowlands and Miss Graves Smith also offered to approach the school managers with a view to presenting the Parish with an obsolete blackboard if considered suitable for the purpose. This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.
Signed Chairman 11 March 1959.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, April 9, 1958 at 7:30 pm. Present. Councillor CJ Barnett, chair, Councillor Mrs Barnett, L Garbett, M Toms and the Rev WJ Bernan Davies. Apologies. An apology was received on behalf of councillor F Mitchell.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk produced a notice of audit and acknowledgement from the charity commission, and a copy
of the Kingsbridge RDC Sunday trading order 1958. A letter from the postmaster Totnes informing the council that steps had been taken to clean the telephone kiosk and it will be kept clean in the future. From the divisional surveyor that the flooding at Goldstone would be attended to. A letter from JC Colwill terminating is his appointment as maintenance man of the street lights. The clerk was asked to interview Mr Airzee offering him the post of maintenance man, and if declined to write to SWEB asking for their suggestions.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment;
Clerk's salary, burial fees, petty cash refund, clerk's line rental, cleaning fees, hire of school, clerk's insurance, postage and phone calls, audit stamp £17-4-8
SWEB £6-6-11
JC Colwill maintenance and bulb replacement £4 -14-4
Total £28-5-11.
Precepts.
The clerk stated that after consulting the chair he had forwarded to the RDC the following estimate for 1958/59
Burial ground £20, lighting and watching £30, general fund £30.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported two burials during the previous quarter; Mrs A Quantick 29th January, Mr JE Tope 1st March. The clerk also reported that the spring which had recently been fitted to the lower gate had been deliberately broken. It was decided to discuss this matter at the next council meeting.
Electricity. Cllr Garbett could report no further progress but stated that they were continuing to press the SWEB to carry out the Milcombe Abbotsleigh scheme.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:29 pm.
Signed Chairman 4.5.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school run on Wednesday, May 14, 1958 at 7:30 pm. Present. Councillor F Mitchell, chair, councillors Mrs Barnett, CJ Barnett, L Bird, L Garbett and M Toms.
In attendance S Leat, clerk, and RD councillor. There were also five LG electors.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the charity commission stating that the annual statement of accounts relating to sparks charity should be delivered to the parish council under section 11 parish councils act 1957, and that the vicar had been notified to that effect. A letter from the Rev Bernan Davies accepting the Blackawton Bell to place in the church. A letter from the DAPC informing the Council of a special meeting to be held at Exeter on May 31.
Audit.
The clerk reported that he had attended the audit at Manor House and that there were no comments or observations. Street lighting.
The clerk reported that he had interviewed Mr Airzee who had declined the post of maintenance man for the street lights, and he was now awaiting a reply from the SWEB regarding the scheme for maintaining street lights. Electricity.
The Chairman reported on a letter from the SWEB stating that the board could not give any hope of a supply to the Milcombe area this year but promised to give it priority for 1959/60.
Passing place.
Mrs Barnett raised the question of a passing bay on the Woodford Cliston Road and the clerk was asked to raise the matter with the highway authority.
Bus service.
The clerk was asked to write to the omnibus company making strong representations to reinstate the bus service from Dartmouth to Totnes to the original timetable before petrol rationing last year.
Vote of thanks to the chairman.
Mr Bird proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring chairman Cllr F Mitchell for the hard work he had done in service to the parish during his term of office, and also to the vice chairman Councillor Barnett for the untiring efforts of Mrs Barnett and himself in getting electricity to Blackawton. Councillor Garbett seconded and it was carried unanimously.
In reply Cllr Mitchell stated that he had found the work interesting and enjoyable and although he had lost his seat as a councillor he would be always at the service of the council if he could help in anyway. Councillor Barnett in his reply stated that he was pleased to be of help to the parish in getting electricity and wished to thank publicly all those parishioners who had cooperated by taking a supply. Clerk's testimonial
Councillor Barnett stated that as this was the last meeting of the council he would like to propose a vote of thanks to the clerk for the good work he had done during his six years of office. Seconding the proposal Cllr Mitchell said it gave him great pleasure to support Cllr Barnett as he had found Mr Leat very conscientious in his work, and as chairman could not have found a better clerk. Also his being RD councillor working in close association with the Parish Council has brought numerous benefits to the parish. In associating himself with his remarks Cllr L Bird said that the confidence of the majority of voters was reflected in S Leat being returned top of the poll as a RD counsellor.
Clerk's reply.

In reply the clerk stated that he had been very happy working under the chairman and all other councillors and if such happy conditions continued with the new council he would feel more than satisfied.
Next meeting.
The date of the annual parish council meeting was fixed for Wednesday, May 28, 1958.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm
signed chairman 28.5.58

The annual parish council meeting was held in the school room on Wednesday, May 28, 1958 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor F Mitchell, chair, Cllr CJ Barnett, Rev WJ Bernan Davies, L Bird, Miss Graves Smith, JH Foale, L Garbett , LA Sage and M Toms.
In attendance.
S Leat, clerk and RD councillor.
There were also six government electors.
Election of Chairman
In opening the meeting the chairman explained the reason for himself and Cllr Barnett being there and called on the clerk to read the relevant part of the local government act relating to the election of the Chairman.
Councillor Garbett then proposed that Mr Mitchell be asked to accept the chair. Councillor Barnett seconded. Councillor Rev Bernan Davies proposed Cllr Bird. Councillor Mitchell's nomination, Councillors Barnett, Garbett, Sage and Toms voted in favour, 4 votes.
Councillor Mitchell left the meeting, was then declared to be elected chairman. The Rev Bernan Davies protested at the procedure and Councillor Mitchell then proposed that Councillor Sage be vice-chairman and this was seconded by Councillor Foale and carried.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the borough engineer of Dartmouth informing the council that air raid sirens would be tested on Monday, June 2 at 7 pm. A letter from the Western National Omnibus Co stating that owing to insufficient support it wasn't practicable at present to increase the service. After discussion it was resolved that the clerk write to the RDC asking for the reinstatement of the 5:30 pm Dartmouth Totnes return on Wednesdays, and this to be forwarded to the RDC association.
Precept.
The clerk stated that estimates for the financial year 1958-59 had been forwarded to the RDC for the following amounts; Burial Ground £20, Lighting and watching £30, General Fund £30. It was proposed by Councillor Bird, seconded by Councillor Garbett that this amount be now precepted for. This was carried.
School manager appointment
A letter from Mrs C Airzee offering her services as a manager was read together with a letter from Mrs R Burge offering her services if re-elected. It was proposed by Councillor Sage and seconded by Councillor Foale that Mrs Airzee be nominated. It was proposed by Councillor Bird and seconded by Councillor Miss Graves Smith that Mrs Bernan Davies be nominated. It was proposed by Councillor Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Garbett that Mrs Burge be nominated. Put to the vote, Mrs Airzee five votes, Mrs Bernan Davies three, Mrs Burge three. The chairman gave his casting vote in favour of Mrs Burge. Airzee and Mrs Burge were duly declared appointed as representative managers for the period ending 30th of June 1961.

Sparks charity trustee.
Mrs Bernan Davies was unanimously re-elected. Councillor Sage stated that he didn't wish to be nominated for re-election. Councillor Miss Graves Smith proposed and Councillor Bird seconded that Cllr Foale be appointed. This was carried unanimously.
Electricity. The clerk stated that he was still awaiting a reply from SWEB regarding the scheme for maintaining the street lights.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that he had interviewed Mr CA Oldrieve regarding the cemetery gates, and that Mr Oldrieve had offered to collect the iron rails, given by Cllr Mitchell, for the cost of materials only. The clerk was asked to thank Mr Oldrieve for his generous and public spirited action. Cllr Mitchell stated that he would spray the turnaround and entrance with weed killer and also see what could be done about the spring on the lower gate. Cllr Garbett and Cllr Toms undertook to cut the grass in the used portion and the clerk was asked to get a farmer to cut and take away the grass on the remaining portion.
AOB.
Cr Bird offered to act as treasurer and was thanked for his offer. It was also resolved that as it was now at the end of May there would be no meeting in June and the next meeting was fixed for the 9 July 1958.
PWLB. It was agreed to authorise the drawing of a cheque for £11-12-7 for payment on the 30th of June 1958.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 9.7.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, July 9, 1958 at 7:30 pm. Present. Cllr Mitchell (chair), Cllrs Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, L Bird, L Garbett , J Foale, M Toms and S Sage.
In attendance. S Leat, clerk and RD councillor and Mrs Tidlesley from the SWEB. There were 5LG electors. Minutes.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Procedure. The Rev Davies commented on the procedure at the previous meeting and denied any suggestion by Councillor Garbett that there was a Vicar's Party. Cllr Bird stated that he thought that some regard should be made to the views of the electorate at the election. Councillor Foale stated that he thought it wrong for the clerk to bring Mr Barnett to the meeting, but the chairman pointed out that the clerk did not bring Mr Barnett, Mr Barnett attended because he was entitled to by law. The Rev Davies stated that he desired no ill feeling in the matter and the chairman replied that he wished to be friendly with everyone and thought by staying in the chair he could be of help to the parish.
Correspondence.
A letter from the Dartmouth swimming pool committee asking for support to raise £6000 for a swimming pool. After discussing it was decided that no action be taken. Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment;
public works loan board £12-12-7.
SWEB for Street lighting £6-6-11
S Leat clerks salary, insurance petty cash and travelling expenses for audit £5-14-8
DAPC subscription and review (two copies) £1-11-0
Total £20-5-2.
Burial ground.
The clerk stated that he hoped to get the grass cut within the week and The chairman promised to spray the weed as soon as possible when the weather appeared to be more settled.

The clerk offered to put a new post and erect the noticeboard if it was worth repairing. The clerk was asked to pay Mr Brown's account of 5/- for repair to the cemetery gate out of petty cash.
Electricity. Mr Tilsley gave details of the boards new proposals for supplying energy, costing £15-6-3 per annum and annual maintenance of same at £10-5-0.
It was resolved that the boards offered be accepted as being the most efficient. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Colwill stating that the council decided not to accept his new proposal of £5-5-0) per annum plus the replacement charges. Mr Tilsley also promised that the Milcombe Abbotsleigh area would be connected next year. He also informed the council that the whole of the Blackawton area was under review for future development
AOB
Councillor Bird raised the question of a public noticeboard and after discussing the clerk was asked to obtain quotations from the local tradesmen for the making and erection of same, using a blackboard kindly given by Miss Graves Smith.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm
signed Chairman 10.9.58

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, September 10, 1958 at 7:30. Present. Councillor F Mitchell, chair, councillors Miss M Graves Smith, L Bird, J Foale, and S Sage.
There were 2LG electors.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of L Garbett and M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
There was no correspondence.
Matters arising.
The clerk reported that he had not received the contract for Street lighting from SWEB and discussion on this matter was deferred.
Burial-ground.
It was decided that the chairman and Mr Sage to decide what would be a reasonable charge to cut the burial-ground hedges and burn the parings, the clerk to get an estimate for same, and if the chairman and Mr Sage agreed, the work to be put in hand and these actions to be confirmed at the next meeting. The clerk was authorised to spend up to 15/- on repairs to the shed door.
Noticeboard.
The chairman opened two letters received from C Oldrieve and C Colwill. C Oldrieve submitted a total cost of £5-17-6 and C Colwill an estimate of £8-10-0. It was proposed by Councillor Bird and seconded by Councillor Mitchell that the price of £5-17-6 from C Oldrieve be accepted. This was carried unanimously. Councillor Miss Graves Smith offered to ask the WI if they were prepared to make a contribution towards the cost of erecting the board and the clerk was asked to write to the young farmers club asking if they would also consider making a contribution.
Bus service.
The clerk reported that the question of rural bus services was being dealt with at ministerial level by the Rural District Council Association and would report to the council as soon as a reply was received. With reference to the service for children attending Churston Grammar School it was decided that this was primarily a case for the school managers, but that the Parish Council would give them every support to improve the travelling facilities for the children.
Posting box.

The clerk was asked to write to the postmaster at Totnes pointing out that there was no indication of times of collection on the postbox at the post office and to request that this be attended to.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm.
Signed vice chairman 8.10.58

The monthly meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, October 8, 1958 at 7:30. Present.
Councillor S Sage in the chair, councillors Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, L Garbett and M Toms.
There were 2LG electors.
Apologies for absence were received from councillors F Mitchell, L Bird, and Miss Graves Smith.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the postmaster at Totnes stating that it wasn't the usual practice to print times of collections on post boxes attached to sub post offices, and pointing out that the necessary information was exhibited at the post office. The annual report of the SWEB consumers consultative Council was received.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
H Lock. Trimming cemetery hedges and burning rubbish £2-16-0
Clerk's salary and petty cash £4-5-9
Total £7-1-9.
Electricity. The clerk reported that he was still awaiting the new contract for the street lights from SWEB.
Burial ground
The clerk stated that together with councillor Sage they had examined the cemetery shed door and found that repairs were more than at first thought. After discussion it was resolved that the clerk instruct C Oldrieve to carry out the necessary repairs as economically as possible.
AOB.
Mr Warnes asked whether anything could be done regarding unpared hedges. When the procedure was explained it was decided no action to be taken.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:20pm
Signed chairman 12.11.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, November 12, 1958 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Counsellors F Mitchell (chair), councillors S Sage, Rev Bernan Davies, Miss Graves Smith, L Garbett, M Toms and L Bird. There were 2LG electors.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record
Matters arising.
The clerk reported that he was still waiting for the street lighting contract from SWEB. The repairs to the cemetery shed door had been completed. The clerk also reported one burial, Mr O Oldrieve, 24 October 1958.
Accounts.
The clerk's action in drawing a cheque in favour of SWEB for £6-6-11 was confirmed.

Town and country planning.
In connection with an application by Mr J Cutmore for permission to erect six chalets, the Parish Council were asked for their views. Councillor Garbett stated that he had attended a site inspection committee on behalf of the council and raised no objection. The Rev Bernan Davies stated that as a vicar he raised no objection on behalf of the church, and the clerk was instructed to inform RDC that the council would not raise any objection to the proposed development. A letter from the postmaster at Totnes asking for council's views on the application by Mr G Crocombe (sub-postmaster) to change the half day closing from Wednesday to Saturday. It was resolved that no objections be made to this proposal
AOB
In reply to councillor Sage it was explained that the procedure in case of fire was to contact the Dartmouth fire service by dialling 999.
This concluded the normal council business and was followed by an interesting discussion on the history of Blackawton.
The meeting finally closed at 8:55 pm
Signed vice chairman 20.12.58

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday, December 10, 1958 at 7:30 pm.
Present councillor S Sage, chair, Miss M Graves Smith and M Toms.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of councillors Mitchell, Bird and Garbett.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record
Matters arising.
The clerk reported that he had checked with the chief fire officer and ascertained that all fire hydrants were checked in March and found to be in good working order.
Correspondence.
A letter from the county council regarding footpaths was read and it was resolved that an answer be considered at the January meeting
A letter from Councillor Mitchell asked for council to accept his resignation but as there was only a quorum present it was decided to defer this to the January meeting.
Noticeboard.
The clerk reported that the noticeboard was now erected in the approved site.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported one burial, Mrs M Tope on 25.11.58.
This completed the business and the meeting closed at 8:25 pm
Signed L Bird 14.1.59

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, January 14, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillors L Bird, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, L Garbett, S Sage, M Toms and Miss Graves Smith.
It was proposed by the Rev Bernan Davies and seconded by Councillor Foale that Cllr L Bird take the chair for this meeting.
Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mitchell.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
Correspondence.

The clerk read a letter brought forward from the previous meeting, from Councillor Mitchell, tendering his resignation as chairman, but stating that he would reconsider his decision only if it was the unanimous wish of the council. Put to the vote, councillors Garbett Sage and Toms voted in favour of asking Cllr Mitchell to remain as chairman. Councillors Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale and Miss Graves Smith voted against. As it was Mr Mitchell's wish that the vote should be unanimous it wasn't considered necessary for the chairman, Mr Bird, to use his vote. It was proposed by councillor Garbett and seconded by Councillor Toms that the clerk write to Mr Mitchell thanking him for 12 years tireless work for the welfare of Blackawton Parish.
Election of Chairman
Proposed Rev Bernan Davies and seconded by councillor Foale that Mr Bird be elected chairman for the rest of the year. Councillor Garbett proposed councillor Sage but this was declined. Cllr Sage proposed Cllr Garbett but this was also declined. Councillor Bird was then duly elected chairman.
In thanking the council for his election councillor Bird stated that he wished it to be placed on record his appreciation of the work Mr Mitchell has done for the welfare of Blackawton.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Public-works loan board £11-12-7
SWEB £6-6-11
C. Oldrieve £6-15-6
Clerk's salary and burial fees £5-0-0.
Mrs Bird caretaker 17-6
Clerk's insurance and telephone £5-8-5
Petty cash 9-3
Total £36-10-2
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that Mr Oldrieve had completed the work at the cemetery entrance gate and that Mr Oldrieve had intimated that he wasn't making any charge for materials or labour. It was proposed by Cllr Sage and seconded by councillor of Garbett that Mr Oldrieve be written to and thanked for his public spirited action and also Mr Mitchell for his gift of the iron rails. This was carried.
AOB
Estimated precept.
The clerk produced a statement of estimated expenditure for 1958-59, which would leave a balance of £15. After discussion it was decided to write to the RDC and inform them that the council's estimated expenditure for 1959-60 would be; burial-ground £20, lighting and watching £30, general fund £30 making a total of £80.
Footpath
It was decided to inform the county council that the Parish Council wished to retain the "statements" relating to the definitive map of public rights of way.
Circulars. From the National Association of parish councils a report on a national survey of clerk's pay. It was decided to have this filed for future reference. There was also the Kingsbridge and Salcombe civil defence bulletin.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
signed Chairman 11.2.59

I Louis Bird having been elected to the office of Chairman of Blackawton Parish Council hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my ability and judgment
signed L Bird 11.2.59.

This declaration was made and subscribed before me a member of the Parish Council
signed S Sage vice-chairman 11.2.50
S Leat clerk 11.2.59.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish council was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday, February 11, 1959 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, councillors Miss Graves Smith, L Garbett, J Foale and M Toms.
Apologies for absence was received from Rev Bernan Davies.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
Letter together with a copy of the civil defence officers bulletin asking the council to try and stimulate recruiting for civil defence volunteers. After discussion it was resolved that the clerk write to the civil defence officer and suggest that he organise a house-to-house canvass by someone who he thinks most suitable to explain civil defence in detail.
Electricity.
The clerk produced a draft copy of an agreement from the SWEB for the maintenance of street lighting. After perusal it was proposed by Councillor Garbett seconded by J Foale that the clerk be authorised to sign the agreement, subject to clarification of paragraph 6(a) replacement of lamps.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:35 pm
signed Chairman 11.3.59

The annual parish meeting was held in the schoolroom on Wednesday, March 11, 1959 at 7 pm.
Present Cllr L Bird, chair, Cllr S Sage, L Garbett, M Toms, Miss Graves Smith, L Foale and Rev Davies.
Apologies for absence was received from S Leat, Clerk, through illness.
There were 14 LG electors present.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
Burial ground.
The chairman reported that the position had been remedied.
Extra street light.
This matter to be considered by the council later in the year since there is no provision in the current estimate for it. Telephone kiosk.
Miss Graves Smith reported that the kiosk was now kept in a much cleaner condition.
Ye Old Bell.
The bell now reported to be in Mr Colwill's store and which had been offered to and accepted by the church would require support if Hung under the roof of the Lychgate. Mr Davies agreed to inspect the bell to see where it could be best placed. During discussion it was suggested that the probable intention was for the bell to remain the property of the parish council and the church be custodian only. It was therefore decided to ask the clerk to look into the matter and see if the minute in question was the correct record and report at the next meeting
Noticeboard
It was agreed that a cover of glass and Perspex was needed and to refer it to the parish council. It was also agreed that the second key should be with the councillor living nearest the board, in this case Miss Graves Smith. Mr Caunter kindly offered to do the necessary signwriting of 'public notice board'. Control over the type of notice to be displayed was discussed but no decision was made.

J Lavidge esq, clerk to the RDC was in attendance and answered questions relating to council house rent rebate scheme and other ratepayers queries.
John Harris memorial fund.
Mrs Cole of Dallacombe raise the question of this fund, said to amount to about £700, (£679-5-10 at 1.1.59) in the POSB. Doubts were expressed on the legality of the project. It was resolved to ask the clerk to ascertain the facts and report at the next meeting of the Parish Council. A suggestion was made that a list of property held or controlled by the current parish council should be completed.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:05 pm
signed chairman 9.3.60

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday, March 11, 1959 following the annual parish meeting.
Present
Councillor L Bird, chair, councillors S Sage, Rev Davies, L Garbett , Miss Graves Smith, L Foale and M Toms. An apology was made on behalf of the clerk S Leat.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The chairman said he had received a further request, privately, from Colonel Cowley to be allowed to address the council on recruiting for civil defence. The chairman did not think Colonel Cowley would have much success by merely addressing the council but as he persisted it was considered advisable not to dissuade him. It was therefore resolved to invite Colonel Cowley to speak the next meeting of the council.
Audit
It was reported that the accounts for year ending 31.3.58 would be audited at Kingsbridge on April 8, 1959.
DAPC.
The Devon Association of parish councils had forwarded a copy of a circular issued by Wiltshire county council on rights-of-way. It was decided to discuss this at the next meeting.
Electricity.
The chairman stated that the agreement for streetlighting was with the clerk for signature. He also informed the council that the SWEB has applied for planning permission to erect overhead cables to the Millcombe Abbotsleigh area and the RDC had recommended planning approval. This was evidence that matters were now moving in earnest. This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.
Signed Chairman 8.4.1959

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held on Wednesday, April 8, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor L Bird, chair, Rev Davies, L Foale, S Sage and M Toms.
Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Miss Graves Smith and L Garbett .
Minutes
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
There was no correspondence.
Accounts
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Audit stamp £3-0-0

S W E B £6-6-11.
Clerk's salary and petty cash £6-3-2.
Clerk's petty cash float £3-0-0
total £15-10-1
Report on audit .
The clerk reported that he had attended the audit and that there were no comments or observations.
JH Harris Memorial fund.
This was again discussed and the chairman and clerk reported the facts and present position , i.e. that the council was only the holding authority and that the trustees were the only people who could decide when or how the money was to be spent. It was resolved that the clerk should get the necessary form to appoint another trustee in place of Mrs Yabsley (deceased) to be followed by a parish meeting with the trustees present to get the views of the parish as to the best way to spend the money, now amounting to £679-5-10 as a fitting memorial to the late Dr J Harris.
Civil defence.
Colonel Cowley addressed the council on civil defence and stressed the importance of the need for wardens first-aid, and welfare workers to be recruited and trained for an emergency in case of nuclear war. He specifically asked the council to try and get a parish organiser as the first step, and he undertook to brief and advise any such person male or female who would volunteer to undertake this work. It was resolved that all members of the council would try and stimulate interest in civil defence with a view to getting classes in First Aid started. It was further resolved to put civil defence on the agenda for the next meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:20 pm
. Signed chairman 27 May 1959

The annual parish council meeting was held in the school on Wednesday, May 27, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillors L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, L Garbett, M Toms, Rev Bernan Davies and J Foale. There were also 3 LG electors.
Election of chairman.
In opening the meeting the chairman called for nominations for the office of chairman for the ensuing year. The Rev Bernan Davies proposed Councillor Bird. This was seconded by Councillor Foale. There were no other nominations and Councillor Bird was unanimously elected chairman. The chairman thanked the council for his re-election.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the borough engineer of Dartmouth informing the council that civil defence sirens would be tested Monday 1st June at 7 pm.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported that some person or persons unknown had deliberately damaged one portion of the rails at the entrance to the burial ground and that he had reported the matter to the police who had investigated the matter but were unable to find the persons responsible. It was resolved that Mr Oldrieve be asked to repair the damage. Electricity.
The clerk reported that he had received the signed agreement for the street lighting. The clerk also reported that he had been successful in getting the electricity board to extend the power lines to Washwalk Mill and Seccombe Farm which they had previously turned

down. Cllr Garbett proposed a vote of thanks to the clerk for his efforts in this direction. It was seconded by Cllr Toms and carried.
Clerk's insurance.
It was reported that under an amendment to regulations the clerk's insurance card would only need to be stamped for the week in which a council meeting was held plus any week in which he was engaged in specific work authorised by the council.
Appointment of trustees to JH Harris Memorial fund.
Cr Garbett proposed the clerk S Leat as trustee. This was seconded by Counsellor Toms. Rev Davies proposed Miss Graves Smith. This was seconded by Councillor Foale. Put to the vote Miss Graves Smith two votes, S Leat three. S Leat was duly appointed trustee.
Civil defence.
The Chairman stated that he thought something concrete should be done towards getting wardens etc for civil defence in case of emergency and asked for volunteers to try and get people to take up training. Cllr Sage proposed that Mr Warnes be asked to do this. After discussion Mr Warnes consented to the work and the clerk was asked to write to Colonel Cowley who had promised to brief the selected person, notifying him of Mr Warnes' address.
AOB.
It was reported that Mr Oldrieve was in the process of replacing the wire netting with glass. The clerk was asked to write to Mr Caunter thanking him for making and printing the sign.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 10.6.59

A public meeting was held in the school on Wednesday, June 10, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present. Councillor Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, L Garbett, J Foale , and M Toms.
Trustees.
In attendance Miss M Harris, S Leat. An apology was received from Mr F Mitchell.
There were 12 local government collectors.
Opening the meeting the chairman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to get the views of the parishioners on the best way to dispose of the money, now held by the council, in The JH Harris Memorial Fund.
He expressed his disappointment at such a small attendance and also stated that he had heard rumours that certain people had canvassed parishioners to support a specific project and he deeply deprecated this procedure. The chairman then called for proposals.
Mrs Quick proposed that enquiries been made to get a gift of a field and build a hall, one in conjunction with the other. It was pointed out that if a field were given this would not affect the fund and this proposal was not proceeded with. Miss Graves Smith then proposed and J Foale seconded that the money be allocated for a recreation field, laid out with suitable equipment for children and seats for adults. The clerk pointed out that if the Parish Council carried out this scheme all future financial liabilities would fall on the ParisH Rates as an additional item. Cllr Garbett stated that although he had every sympathy with this project, he as a councillor would be very reluctant to support any proposal which would increase the rates. Cllr Garbett proposed and Cllr Sage seconded,

that the money be used to redeem the debt on the burial ground, erect a suitable plaque to the memory of Dr Harris, invest the balance and apply the annual interest to the Parish Rates fund and thus relieve the rates. Asked for her views as a trustee Miss Harris objected to this proposal. In view of this Cllrs Garbett and Sage then withdrew the proposal. Miss Graves Smith stated that in proposing the recreation field she had no intention of putting any financial addition to the rates, and she suggested that an independent committee be formed to investigate the financial liabilities involved and report back to the council and the trustees.
Miss Graves Smith, F Warne and J Foale were then appointed as members of the committee with power to co-opt.
The chairman strongly urged that guarantors should be found before the powers committed to the project and the trustees and that the trustees should satisfy themselves that they were legally in order in proceeding as proposed, having due regard to the original purpose of the fund.
This closed the discussion and the Rev Bernan Davies proposed a vote of thanks to Miss Harris for attending the meeting. This was carried nem con.
The meeting closed at 9:35 pm
signed chairman 29 July 1959

The monthly parish council meeting was held following the public meeting.
Present.
Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, Councillor L Garbitt, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale and M Toms.
Minutes.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter was received from PMG confirming the appointment of Mr Leat as a trustee of the Dr J Harris Memorial Hall fund.
AOB
There was a short discussion on the public meeting and it was resolved that the council endorse the proposals and would help in any way they could to further the project.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:50 pm
Signed Chairman 29 July 1959.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, July 29, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, L Garbett, J Foale and M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the postmaster, Totnes, stating that the delivery and acceptance of telegrams at Blackawton sub post office would cease as from the 29th of June 1959.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
C Oldrieve 12-6
DAPC. £1-11-0
SWEB £6-10-4.

S Leat. £11-12-4
Total £20-7-2.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that Mr Oldrieve had replaced the handrails and that he would make no charge for the work involved. It was unanimously resolved that Mr Oldrieve be written to and thanked for his work. The clerk was also asked to get the hedges trimmed, the weeds sprayed and the burial-ground tided up generally.
Electricity.
It was reported that the Milcombe-Bow scheme is now progressing satisfactorily.
Civil defence.
A letter was read from the CDO Kingsbridge asking the council's help in getting wardens. Mr F Warnes stated that he intended to start getting volunteers shortly and would report progress at the next meeting.
Water supplies.
Arising from complaints of dirty water it was explained that this was largely due to a burst in the mains feed line and that steps were being taken to prevent a re-occurrence. AOB.
The chairman enquired about any progress regarding the J Harris Memorial Hall Fund and the report was promised for the next meeting.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm.
Signed Chairman 9.9.59

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, September 9, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present. Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, Vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale and M Toms. There were also 8 LG collectors.
An apology for absence was received from L Garbett.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence was received from Mr C Barnett regarding electricity supplies together with suggestion to the SWEB for minimising the risk of further long cuts.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported that all the necessary work have been done and the burial-ground is now in a clean and tidy state. The clerk was authorised to get the grass cut again with the provision that the cost was not exceed £1.
Civil defence.
Mr F Warnes reported that in spite of all his efforts he couldn't find anyone interested in civil defence. It was resolved that the clerk right to Colonel Cowley informing him of this.
Electricity.
Mr C Barnett with a delegation of 6LG electors referred to his current correspondence and by means of a sketch demonstrated what he thought would be a solution to avoid the great length of power cuts. Mr Barnett was thanked for his interest in the matter and it was resolved that these suggestions be forwarded to the SWEB, and that the RDCs of Kingsbridge and Totnes be asked for their support.
AOB.
The chairman asked the JH Harris Memorial fund subcommittee if any progress had been made towards getting a playing field. It was reported that no progress at all had been made up to date, but the subcommittee would report at the next meeting.
Resignation.
The chairman announced that he had received a letter of resignation from Councillor Garbett who is leaving the district. The clerk was asked to publish the necessary notice announcing a casual vacancy.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:10 pm.

Signed Chairman 14 October 1959.

I Frederick A Warnes having been co-opted a member of Blackawton Parish Council, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability. Dated the 14th day of October 1959 signed F Warnes 14.10.59

This declaration was made and subscribed before me, a member of the parish council signed Chairman 14.10.59

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held on Wednesday, October 14, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
L Bird, Chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms, and F Warnes.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence. A letter from Lord Chaplin asking for the council's advice and possible help to abate a nuisance caused by the excessive noise from the exhaust of an electric generator at Dunkirk. After discussion it was resolved that though the council had every sympathy with the complaint they were unable to do anything in the matter at this stage, and the clerk was asked to write to Lord Chaplin to this effect.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment
Clerk's salary and petty cash £4.-1-9.
SWEB £6-10-3.
Co-option of councillor.
Two nominations were received for co-option to fill a casual vacancy, one from Mrs D Bird and one from Mr F Warnes. The vicar proposed Mr Warnes and was seconded by J Foale. There being no other proposals Mr Warnes was duly elected.
Electricity. The clerk reported on correspondence he had had with various parties and it was decided to await further developments.
Civil defence.
Counsellor Warnes stated that he couldn't get anyone interested but after discussion councillor Toms offered to enroll as a warden and the chairman promised to produce literature regarding civil defence.
JH Harris Memorial fund
Miss Graves Smith reported that she had agreed with the agent on the sum of £110 for the field and £50 compensation to the tenant and estimated that cleaning and re-seeding the field, transfer fees, and equipping the field would cost £190 making a total of £350. The trustees have been unable to meet in time for the meeting but it was hoped that the meeting would take place in time for the November council meeting.
AOB
Regret was expressed that circumstances necessitated the resignation of Mr Garbett and the clerk was asked to write and thank Mr Garbett for his services to the parish.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 10 pm.
Signed Chairman 1.11.59

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, November 11, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present.

Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Apologies. For absence was received from the Rev Bernan Davies.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from Devon County Council with reference to increasing the number of parish counsellors was read and after discussion it was resolved that no further action be taken.
Civil defence.
Councillor Warnes stated that owing to other duties he was unable to report any progress.
JH Harris Memorial Hall fund.
The clerk reported that he had received a reply from Arnold Baker and it seemed that it would be quite in order for the trustees to hand over the money for the purpose of acquiring a recreation field. The trustees were quite willing for the money to be spent on this project subject to the following conditions.
1. That a toilet block be erected for the use of old people and children using the field.
2. That the management committee undertake not to allow the recreation field to become a liability under the rates at any time.
Electricity.
It was reported that in spite of all efforts the SWEB still refused to consider taking a supply to Washwalk Mill. The council resolved that a letter be written to the chairman of SWEB at Bristol expressing surprise and regret at the way in which the case had been treated by the Torquay office of the SWEB and urging the board to reconsider the matter and ensure that Washwalk Mill is included in the current year's budget.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 9 December 1959.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, December 9, 1959 at 7:30 pm.
Present
Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
From the RDC asking the council's views on identification of properties either by name or number. It was pointed out that only five properties in the parish were without name or number, one of which had been declared unfit for human habitation. The other four at East Down were occupied and the owner had no intention of letting them for human habitation in the future. It was resolved that this be pointed out to the RDC.
The council further resolved that the streets of the village should be named viz Main Street, Chapel Street, Castle Lane, Church Hill, Vicarage Road, The Grove, and Park Lane. The clerk was asked to obtain estimates for supplying and fitting the required number.
Electricity.
A letter from the SWEB at Bristol was read in answer to a letter complaining about the refusal by SWEB to connect properties in the Milcombe area after the clerk had been given verbal assurance that they would be included in the current year's programme. It was resolved that a reply be sent pointing out that only two properties had been asked for i.e. Washwalk Mill and Secombe Farm and requested the board to specify the third property.

A complaint was made by Mr Barlow that street lights were often out and that they were out over a long period and suggested that the council revert to the old scheme, whereby a local man was employed to replace lamps. It was pointed out the present scheme was the cheapest overall scheme, and that the council were unanimous in favour of adhering to the present scheme. It was suggested however that several of the lamps were badly sited and the clerk was asked to write to the manager at Kingsbridge asking him to survey the village during the hours of darkness and invite him to attend the January meeting to discuss the whole problem.
It was proposed by Councillor Foale seconded by Councillor Warnes that an additional light be sited opposite Melrose in Vicarage Road. When it was pointed out that the cost of this had not been budgeted for in the present financial year it was agreed to defer it until a later meeting. Civil defence.
Councillor Warnes reported that he had not been able to persuade any more people to join civil defence.
JH Harris Memorial Hall fund.
It was reported that the trustees had issued a statement agreeing to hand over the entire fund to be used for the provision of a playing field with certain conditions. Councillor Warnes on behalf of the committee stated he disagreed with the conditions and was now writing to all three trustees asking for a joint meeting to discuss the problem.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 13.1.60

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, January 13, 1960 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, F Warnes.
Apologies were received From M Toms and Mr Tidesly.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment.
SWEB £6-10-4.
Public-works loan board £11-12-7
Clerk’s salary £3-0-0
Part telephone rental £4-10-0
Clerk’s petty cash £2-16-7
Total £28-9-6.
Electricity.
The clerk reported that he had met Mr Tidesly and had surveyed the proposed resisting of two lights together with the proposed additional lamp at Balsam. Mr Tidesly had subsequently produced estimates for the work involved. After discussion it was proposed by Miss Graves Smith and seconded by S Sage that an additional lamp be erected at Balsam during the financial year 1960-61 and the remaining work be considered at a later date.
A letter from the SWEB at Bristol stated that if the three properties in the Milcombe area would take a supply it would be considered in next years program but anything less would probably mean the board would go elsewhere to a more economical extension of rural electricity.
Estimates.

The chairman reported on the financial position of the council and it was resolved to inform the RDC that the estimated precept for 1960-61 would be as follows,
general fund £40, burial-ground £20, lighting and watching £40, making a total of £100.
Civil defence
Cr Warnes stated that he had been unable to interest anyone else in civil defence and said that it seemed useless to proceed any further with it.
JH Harris Memorial Hall.
The clerk stated that arising from statements at the previous meeting challenging the powers of trustees he, as one of the trustees, had obtained a copy of an extract of the conveyance of the hall which proves conclusively that the trustees had no power to impose any conditions. Mr Savage, clerk to the RDC had kindly offered to examine the relative documents and had stated that in his opinion the money definitely belonged to the Parish Council, but had sent a copy of the conveyance to the district auditor from whom a reply was awaited. It was decided to postpone further discussion until the next meeting.
AOB.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:45 pm.
Signed Chairman 15.2.60.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, February 10, 1960 at 7:30 pm.
Present. Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Apologies for absence were received from Miss M Graves Smith.
Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Civil defence
Cr Warnes reported that he was still unsuccessful in getting anyone interested and it was resolved that another effort be made in the late summer with a view to getting classes next winter.
JH Harris Memorial.
The clerk read a letter from the DA asking for particulars referring to the sale of land at the Hall site. These with all other information required had been forwarded and a reply was still awaited. After discussion it was decided to wait until the next meeting when it was hoped some definite progress could be made.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 9.3.60

The annual parish meeting was held on Wednesday, March 9, 1960 at 7:30 pm.
Present. Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev W Bernan Davies, J Foale and F Warnes. There were also 5LG electors.
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Toms.
The minutes of the previous annual meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Ye Old Bell.
This was again discussed and it was resolved that the parish church be authorised to remain the custodian of the bell, that the vicar to place it in a suitable position in the church. Miss Graves Smith kindly offered to provide a suitably inscribed plaque as to the bell's origin.
JH Harris memorial fund.

This was referred to the council meeting for further discussion.
This concluded the business and meeting closed at 8:15 pm.
Signed chairman 8.3.61.

The monthly parish council meeting was held in the school on Wednesday, March 9 at 7:30 pm.
Present
Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage vice-chair, Miss M Graves Smith, J Foale, Rev W Berman Davies and F Warnes. There were 5 LG electors.
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Toms.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A circular from the DAPC was presented together with the agenda for the association's National conference at Westminster on September 29 and 30th.
JH Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that he was still awaiting a reply from the DA as to what purpose the money could be used. Concern was expressed at the delay and the chairman promised to contact Mr Savage and possibly the DA to try and get an early reply.
AOB.
The future of the Blackawton primary school was discussed and it was unanimously resolved that the Rev Bernan Davies should represent the Parish Council in any future discussions that may develop.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 13 April 1960

The monthly meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, April 13, 1960 at 7:30 pm.
Present. Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Rev W Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Apologies for absence were received from Miss M Graves Smith.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.
The clerk read a letter from the SWEB stating that Washwalk Mill, Secombe Farm, Hillfield, Wadstray and Eastdown areas would be connected this year.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
SWEB £6-10-4
Clerk's salary, burial fees, petty cash £5-18-9
Total £12-9-1
J H Harris Memorial fund
The clerk read correspondence from the Minister of housing stating that he had no jurisdiction over the spending of the money in the fund but a letter from the district auditor stated that unless there was complete agreement on the subject his advice was, that the council should leave the money invested. After discussion it was resolved that the matter

be deferred until further enquiries were made including the reinvestment of the money at higher rate of interest.

AOB.

The vicar read a copy of a letter which had been sent to the chief education officer protesting against the proposed closing of primary schools in the area. A letter from Dr Cook was also read and it was resolved that the position be kept under constant review and action taken when the opportunity arose.

This concluded the business and the meeting closedAt 9:35 pm

signed chairman 25 May 1960.

The annual parish council meeting was held in the school on Wednesday, May 25, 1960 7:30 pm.

Election of Chairman

The Rev Bernan Davies proposed Cllr L Bird be re-elected chair. This was seconded by Cllr Sage and carried unanimously. Councillor Sage was re-elected vice chair. Present.

Cancel L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev W Bernan Davies, J Foale and F Warnes. Apologies for absence received from Cllr M Toms.

Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Burial-ground. The clerk reported that Mr J Tozer had no further use for the grass in the burial ground and after discussing this it was resolved that the clerk be authorised to negotiate with Mr Oldrieve to ascertain if he would undertake to cut and take the grass away free of any charge to the council.

Civil defence.

The chairman read a letter from the CD organiser asking that proposals be submitted as to a suitable place for a warden post. It was resolved that the chairman investigate certain properties and inform the CD organiser of his suggestions. To try and raise interest in civil defence the chairman promised to make a short address at a whist drive on October 3. Miss Graves Smith also offered to try and arrange for the WVS in talks to be given at a WI meeting. It was also suggested that a film be shown later in the year.

J Harris Memorial Hall fund.

The clerk read a copy of the letter he had sent to the minister of housing asking that the moneys now held be removed from the review of the district auditor, to enable the council to proceed with the provision of a recreation field. Further discussion was deferred until the ministers decision was received.

Signed chairman 13 July 1960.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, July 13, 1960 at 7:30 pm.

Present.

Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.

Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.

The clerk read a letter from the RDC‘s planning officer asking that a questionnaire regarding holiday accommodation be completed and returned on September 30, 1960. After studying the questionnaire and the possible reaction of the inhabitants to some of the questions it was resolved that no action be taken.

Civil defence.

The chairman reported that he had met the CD organiser and they had inspected premises at the George Inn. These were considered quite adequate as a warden's post with a telephone already installed. Regarding the recruiting campaign it was resolved that a suitable worded circular be compiled and distributed to the whole parish inviting people to a public meeting in conjunction with or to be followed by a film show. The council's proposal for a talk to be given during the interval of a whist drive was not agreed to by the CD organiser. Miss Graves Smith stated that she would report at the September meeting regarding the one in five talks by the WVS to the Blackawton WI.
J Harris Memorial Hall.
The clerk reported that he had written to the minister asking for a reply but none had been received. Further discussion was deferred until the minister's views were known.

Burial-ground.
The clerk's action in arranging for Mr Oldrieve to cut and remove the grass was confirmed. The clerk was also authorised to arrange with Mr Locke to trim the hedges and tidy the burial ground at the appropriate time.
Report of audit.
The clerk reported that he had attended the audit and that there were no observations or comments.
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment.
Clerks salary £3-0-0
Clerk's telephone £4-10-0
Clerk's insurance 7-1
Petty cash 10-4
Reclaim from 1959-60 8-1
SWEB £6-10-4
Affiliation fee DAPC £1-12-0
Parish Council review 11-0
Total £10-18-6
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm
signed Chairman 14.9.60.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, September 14, 1960 at 7:30 pm
Present.
Councillor L Bird, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Apologies for absence from Miss M Graves Smith and Rev B Davies.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that the grass was now cut and the remainder of the trimming was being done. It was resolved that the clerk be authorised to see that the annual cleaning was carried out on a continuing yearly basis.
Footpath. A complaint was received regarding the overgrowth on footpath 15 at Milcombe. The clerk was asked to take appropriate action.
Civil defence.
Councillor Warnes intimidated that it would be unlikely that he could carry on as Parish warden owing to other commitments and asked the council try and find a successor. Further discussion was deferred.
Electricity.

The clerk was asked to write to SWEB requesting that an additional Street lamp be fixed at Balsam Farm as agreed at the meeting held on January 13th.
JH Harris Memorial Hall.
The clerk reported that he had received a letter from M of H asking for further details which had been supplied and it was resolved to await the minister's reply.
AOB.
Councillor Warnes stated that verges at the Grove needed trimming and the clerk was asked to take appropriate action.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:25 pm.
Signed Chairman 12 October 1960

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, October 12, 1960 at 7:30 pm. Present
Cr L Bird, chair, S Sage vice-chair, Miss Graves Smith, J Foale and F Warnes .
Apologies for absence from Rev Bernan Davies and M Toms.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record
Accounts.
The following accounts were passed for payment
SWEB £6-10-3
H Locke burial-ground £6-4-0
Clerk's salary £3-0-0
Audit expenses, petty cash etc £2-1-6
Total £17-15-9.

Civil defence.
The chairman submitted the draft of a circular letter that was proposed to send to all parishioners asking them to attend a film show and address by Colonel Cowley, CD organiser. The clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements with Colonel Cowley, the date of the meeting to be November 10 if possible. A letter was read from General Campbell asking for support, cooperation and representation at an exercise to be held at Totnes in December. Miss Graves Smith was nominated to represent the council and the clerk was asked to write and suggest the December 10 or 17th as a possible date.
Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk read a letter from the MOH asking for a complete copy of the conveyance and it was resolved that the clerk obtain a copy and forward it to the minister.
Exmouth flood appeal.
A letter was read from the RDC Chairman asking for the council's support in arranging a collection for this fund and enclosed a copy of the appeal from the Lord Lieutenant of Devon, the Lord Roborough and the mayor of Exeter. Miss Graves Smith kindly offered submit the appeal to the WI with a view to arranging a Parish collection.
AOB.
Miss Graves Smith raise the question of which road took precedence at the Normandy Arms. It was explained this had been raised some years ago and it was decided that nothing further could be done.
The clerk reported that he had met the public health inspector, chairman of the public-health committee, divisional surveyor and consulting engineers on Tuesday 4th October to discuss the recent flooding and the sewage question as a whole. The whole village was inspected and a report was now awaited on a combined scheme for both stormwater flooding and sewage.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm.
Signed Vice Chairman 9 November 1960

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, November 9th, 1960 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillor S Sage, chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Apologies for absence from Councillor L Bird.
Minutes
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Harris memorial.
The clerk reported that he had obtained a copy of the complete conveyance and had forwarded it to the M of H. Civil defence.
It was reported that 25 people had attended the CD meeting where a film, dealing with nuclear war was shown, followed by a short address by Colonel Cowley, CD organiser. Up to the present no applications for membership had been received.
Electricity.
A letter was read stating that the SWEB intended to connect the Washwalk-Secombe area in January 61.
A letter was also read from Kingsbridge office with reference to the recent delay in replacing a light bulb. A list of locations was enclosed to be used in future and to request that all future complaints regarding street lighting be routed via the clerk .
Devon flood appeal.
Miss Graves Smith reported that to date she had forwarded £31-5-0, this included £1-11-0 the proceeds of the square dance held some time ago. It was also reported that the YFC were organising a dance and that Mr W Easter was making no charge for the hall. It was unanimously resolved that a letter be sent to Miss Graves Smith expressing the councils gratitude to her and members of Blackawton WI for their efforts in collecting this gratifying amount.
AOB. The Rev Bernan Davies asked whether anything could be done to clean up the war memorial before Remembrance day, Sunday, November 13. Councillor Sage offered to do as much as possible and Councillor Warnes offered to assist. It was further resolved that the lettering be examined with a view to replacing and cleaning.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm.
Signed vice-chairman 12 December 1960.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, December 14, 1960 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor S Sage, chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
A letter from Cllr L Bird was read resigning his office as chairman and treasurer of the parish council. It was resolved that a letter be written to Cllr Bird thanking him for his guidance and help during his term of office.
The election of a chairman and vice chairman to be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that he was still awaiting a reply from the Ministry of housing.
Civil defence.
An interim Report was received from General Campbell on the exercise held on December 3.
Bus service.
It was reported that the Wednesday bus service Dartmouth to Totnes reached Totnes too late to connect with the Totnes Newton Abbot bus which meant an hour's delay for people wishing to get to Newton Abbot market. It was resolved to ask Western national to bring the 9.24 bus forward 10 minutes on Wednesday to avoid this long wait. This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm
signed vice Chairman 11.1.61

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, January 11, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillors S Sage, Miss Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies, J Foale, M Toms and F Warnes.
Appointment of Chairman.
Nominations were called for and the Rev Bernan Davies proposed and Miss Graves Smith seconded that Cllr F Warnes be chairman. Councillor Toms proposed Cllr Sage, but Cllr Sage declined to take the chair, but subsequently agreed to carry on as vice chairman. Cllr Warnes was duly elected and thanked the council for their confidence.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Bank of England £11-12-7
Public lighting and additional street light £18-8-10
Clerk's salary, burial fees telephone and petty cash £10-2-5
Total £30-3-10.
Treasurer.
A letter was read from Mr W Leatt, manager of the NP bank at Dartmouth offering to act as treasurer in place of Mr H Thompson who had retired.
The clerk was asked to write and thank Mr Leatt and to inform him that the council would be very pleased to accept.
Estimate 1961 to 62.
The clerk provided details of the accounts together with estimated expenditure for the present financial year.
After discussion it was proposed by Councillor Toms and seconded by Cllr Sage that the following amounts be precepted for.
General account £50
lighting and watching £15
burial-ground £20
total £85.
Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that he was still awaiting a reply from the minister and it was resolved that a letter be sent asking for a decision as soon as possible.
Bus service.

A letter from Western omnibus stated that a revision of timetables was to be carried out early in 1961 and the councils request would be met if at all possible.
Electricity.
A letter from the SWEB informed the council that the energy charges would be increased 17.7% as from 1 April 1961. If the council disagreed with this increase the letter should be taken as a formal notice that the present agreement would end on 31 March 1961.
Casual vacancy.
As no new nominations were received it was decided to defer it until the next meeting.
Proposed residential development in OS3668, Blackawton. An outline application was received from the Kingsbridge RDC asking the councils views on whether this application should be supported or refused. The clerk S Leat as RDC representative explained the minister and planning authority's views on ribbon or sporadic development, the taking of valuable agricultural land and the extension of existing boundaries. After a full discussion Cllr J Foale proposed and Cllr S Sage seconded that the planning permission the refused. The Rev Bernan Davies proposed an amendment that planning permission be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Toms. Out of five members present two were in favour and two against. The Chairman F Warnes put the amendment to the vote and gave his vote in favour. The final voting was 3 to 2 in favour and the original motion was lost. Miss Graves Smith retired from the meeting part way through the discussion and therefore took no part in the voting.
Civil defence.
It was decided to put this on the next meeting agenda.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 8.2.61

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held on Wednesday, February 8, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor F Warnes chair, S Sage vice chair, Rev Bernan Davies, L Foale and M Toms.
Apologies for absence through illness Miss Graves Smith and the clerk S Leat.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Civil defence.
A letter and booklet from the CD organiser, R V and R areas, entitled local disaster planning was read and discussed. It was decided that the question of CD be placed on the agenda for the annual parish meeting.
Harris Memorial fund
As no reply had been received from the minister this was deferred until the next meeting.
War memorial.
An estimate had been received for repairs but due to the absence of the clerk no details were available. It was decided to carry this forward to the next meeting.
Devon County library service.
A letter from the county librarian stated that it was intended to commence a travelling library service in the South Hams in the near future. The council welcome this new service and considered it would be an improvement on the present system. The council's comments would be forwarded as requested, after the new service had been experienced. Treasurers Bond.
Mr Leatt, manager of NP bank at Dartmouth thanked the council for appointing him as council treasurer and asked if he was required to put up the usual bond of £50. Proposed

by Rev Davies seconded by J Foale: 'The parish council do not consider a bond necessary unless required by law'. Casual vacancy.
As no nominations were received it was decided to defer until the election of the full council.
Street lighting.
The chairman stated that he had asked for this item to be put on the agenda because of criticism of the positioning of the new Street light. The council had previously agreed to this position to save the expense of a new pole. It was proposed by Rev Davies seconded by S Sage that SWEB be asked to extend the arm of the new light far enough to clear the adjoining barn.
Cr Toms asked if information could be obtained as to when Wash Walk mill and Seccombe would be connected. It was understood that all wiring has been completed but that SWEB would not connect up before the whole Blackawton scheme was completed. It was decided to ask the clerk to make enquiries.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:25 pm.
Signed Chairman 8.3.61.

The annual parish meeting was held on Wednesday, March 8, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present Cllr Warnes, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev W Bernan Davies and M Toms.
Apologies for absence from J Foale.
Minutes of the last annual meeting with read and signed as a true record.
There were no matters arising nor any correspondence.
As there was only one LG elector it was decided to close the meeting and proceed with the monthly council meeting. The meeting closed at 7:38 pm.
signed Chairman 12.4.61

The monthly meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, March 8, 1961 at 7:39 pm.
Present.
Cr F Warnes chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, Rev Bernan Davies and M Toms.
Apologies for absence from J Foale.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence
A ministry circular informing the council that a revised form of financial statement was now in force and to be used as from April 1, 1961. Also the timetable of the triennial election to be held in May.
War Memorial.
The clerk explained the details of the estimate and it was resolved that Back and Sons be asked to replace letters and repaint existing ones, also to carry out any repointing which was considered necessary.
Street lighting.

The clerk reported that he had consulted SWEB and his information was that longer arms could be supplied if necessary. After discussion it was resolved that SWEB be asked to supply and fit a new arm at Balsam Farm either 1'6" or 2' longer and the clerk to meet the SWEB when fixing the arm to decide which length to have fixed.
Civil defence
The chairman and clerk both reported that in spite of all efforts there wasn't enough people interested to start a course of any sort. It was therefore resolved to leave Civil defence off future agendas.
Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that a reply was still awaited and he was asked to write again requesting a decision.
This concluded the business in the meeting closed at 8:20 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.4.61.

The monthly meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, April 12, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, Miss Graves Smith, Rev W Bernan Davies, J Foale, and M Toms. The Chairman reported that Mr Leat was unable to be present as he was in hospital. The council hoped that he would soon recover from his illness.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record. Due to the absence of the clerk the outstanding items regarding 1) wall memorial and 2) light at Balsam farm were held over until the next meeting. Correspondence.
The Chairman reported that nomination forms for parish councillors had been received.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
SWEB public lighting £6-10-4
Clerk's salary, burial fees, petty cash £4-17-7
Total £11-7-11.
Next meeting.
The date of the next meeting was arranged for May 24.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:05 pm.
Signed Chairman 24.5.61

Acceptance of office as councillors for the parish of Blackawton 1961 to 1964.
We the undersigned having been duly elected counsellors to hereby declare that we take the said office upon ourselves and will Duly and faithfully fulfil the duties of the role to the best of our ability and judgement.

Signed.	Witness
M Graves Smith	W Bernan Davies,
W Bernan Davies	M Graves Smith,
J Foale.	S Sage
S Sage.	F Warnes,
F Warnes	J Foale.

Signed S Leat Clerk 24.5.61

I F Warnes having been elected to the office of chairman of Blackawton Parish Council hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties of the role to the best of my ability and judgement signed F Warnes 24.5.61.
This declaration was made and subscribed before me a member of the parish council
signed J Foale 24.5.61
signed S Leat Clerk 24.5.61.

The first meeting of the new council was held in the school on Wednesday, May 24, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor Warnes in the chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss M G Smith, Rev W Bernan Davies, J Foale. An apology was received from Cllr M Toms.
Election of Chairman
It was proposed by Rev Bernan Davies, seconded by Miss G Smith that Cllr F Warnes be elected chairman for the ensuing year. There were no other nominations. Cllr F Warnes was unanimously elected Chairman.
Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
The clerk submitted notice of audit to be held at Manor House Kingsbridge on June 12, 1961. Circular number 21/61 public bodies (admission to meetings) act 1960 was submitted. There were also civil defence leaflets for distribution from the CD organiser.
School managers.
The clerk reported that the two retiring members Mrs Airzee and Mrs Burge had expressed their willingness to continue as the council's representative managers. Rev Davies nominated Mrs V Edwards and this was seconded by J Foale. Councillor Sage nominated Mrs R Burge but found no seconder. Rev Davies nominated Mrs Airzee. This was seconded by Councillor Foale. There were no other nominations and Mrs Airzee and Mrs Edwards were duly elected, the terms of office to commence on first of July 1961 and expire 30th of June 1964. Miss Graves Smith declared her interest and took no part in the discussion.
J Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that there was still no reply from the minister regarding the application of the money to a project other than a village hall. It was resolved with another letter being written countersigned by the chairman to try and get a reply. The clerk was asked to consult the district auditor to ask if he could help.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported one burial, Mr T Oldrieve.
The clerk was authorised to arrange the cutting and removal of the grass, and further, to get a written undertaking from the person concerned that the work shall be carried out between first and 15th July both days inclusive.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
signed Chairman 12th July 1961.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, the 12th of July 1961 at 7:30 pm.

Present Cllr Warnes in the chair, S Sage vice-chairman, Miss M Graves Smith, J Foale and M Toms.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.
The letter from the Mass radiography Service in connection with the recent visit stated that 50 people had attended for x-ray examination. They also thanked the council for their cooperation in this matter.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
SWEB £7-2-7
Bank of England loan charges £11-12-7
Audit stamp £2-0-0
S Leat as per details on cheque counterfoil £11-14-4
Devon Association of parish councils fees £2-3-0
Total £34-12-6
J Harris Memorial fund.
A letter from the charity commission stated that the council's application for the release of the money in the J Harris Memorial fund addressed to the minister of housing has been passed to them via the Ministry of education. After a short discussion it was resolved to postpone further action until the September meeting to give members and opportunity to digest the contents of the letter.
Casual vacancy.
There were no nominations for the vacancy and it was resolved to re-advertise the vacancy on the noticeboard. Streetlight.
The clock reported that he had enquired about the fitting of the new arm at Balsam and that he had received an assurance that it will be fixed before the dark evenings arrived.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported that the grass had been cut and removed and he was authorised to engage Mr Locke to trim the hedges and complete the tidying up of the burial ground in general.
AOB.
The chairman stated that he had, by invitation, attended the Mayor choosing at Dartmouth and he also stated that he had been invited to the Dartmouth secondary school sports on 12th of July and the prizegiving on the 19th of July but owing to prior engagements he would not be able to attend. He was pleased to say however, that Cllr Sage had agreed to deputise for him on both occasions.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
signed Chairman 13 September 1961

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, September 13, 1961 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Councillor F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice-chair,
Miss Graves Smith and J Foale.
Apologies for absence were received from M Toms.
Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence.
A letter from the bank asking for a complete list of signatures of members of the council.

Burial-ground. The clerk reported that the burial-ground is now in a clean and tidy state. He also reported that he had arranged for Mr Locke to hoe the weeds on the turnaround as and when required. The clerks action was confirmed. It was also resolved that the solitary holly tree be cut down. War Memorial.
The clock reported that the letters had been repainted and it was resolved that the pointing be done with local labour, the clerk being authorised to arrange this.
Civil defence.
This was given a very full discussion and the problem is explained by the RD counsellors. It was noted that no member of the public attended. After discussing the correspondence from the district Council it was resolved

a) that they be informed that despite all efforts no one had come forward as a volunteer for CD.
b) that the members of the parish council were willing to be trained in CD, but were unwilling to be responsible for forming a Parish civil defence committee
c) that the current parish council were unable to suggest the name of anyone willing to undertake the duties of post Warden on a voluntary basis
d) that the Parish Council suggest that all training and organisation be done by paid officials of the civil defence organisation. J Harris Memorial fund. This was again discussed and it was resolved that before applying to the charity commissioners for the release of the money, negotiations should be reopened with the owner and the tenant of the proposed playing field to ascertain if the field is still available and also what financial commitments were involved. As a first step J Foale undertook to see Mrs Dimes, the owner. This to be followed by a public meeting when it was hoped some definite proposals could be presented and discussed. AOB The Chairman read a letter from the licensing justices regarding the transfer of the license of the Forces Tavern. It was resolved that no objection to the license transfer be submitted. This concluded to business and the meeting closed at 9:20 pm. Signed Chairman 11.10.61

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held on Wednesday, the 11th of October 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present
Cr F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss Graves Smith, J Foale and M Toms.
The clerk , S Leat, was absent through illness.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Co-option of counsellor.
The Chairman welcomed Mr R Coe who expressed a desire to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. It was proposed by Councillor J Foale and seconded by Miss G Smith that Mr Coe be co-opted as a member to complete the statutory number of seven. This was carried unanimously, Mr Coe to take his seat at the next meeting of the council.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Harden Best and co Receipt and payment book £2-9-3
Rev Bernan Davies ministers fee 10-6
C Hallett grave digging £3-10-0
H Lock burial-ground £6-6-0
W Back and sons, repairs to war memorial £2-9-0
SWEB Street lighting £7-2-7

S Leat salary, burial fees, hire of school £4-12-8
Total £26-11-0
A letter was read from the clerk to Kingsbridge RDC giving details of the loans to local authorities scheme and asking that the maximum publicity be given. After discussion it was agreed that this could be beneficial to ratepayers in general and that the letter be put up on the public noticeboard.
Charities act 1960. Discussion on this was deferred until the next meeting.
Civil defence.
In answer to a further letter re CD the clerk was asked to inform The CD organiser that Cllrs Toms and Warnes were willing to serve in an emergency during the short-term organisation.
J Harris Memorial fund.
Mr Foale reported that he had seen Mrs Dimes and she has agreed to the price of £110 for the field. Mr Crocombe the tenant of the field was unwilling to give it up. It was suggested that other means might be used to acquire possession but Mr Sage opposed this as an unneighbourly act. It was decided however to get full particulars from the Kingsbridge RDC as to the possibilities of investing as much as possible and decide later what should be done with the balance.
Identification of properties.
It was pointed out that this information was supplied in 1959. Further discussion was deferred until the next meeting
Signposting of footpath. This was discussed and it was resolved that this was considered unnecessary and a needless expenditure of public money.
Footpaths 11 and 13
This was deferred until the next meeting.
School letting.
Details were produced of an increase in charges. The report was received.
Burial-ground.
A complaint was received regards regarding vandalism in burial-ground and it was resolved that the police be informed. It was also resolved that the police be informed that fireworks were being left off in the streets at night.
AOB.
The chairman was asked to write to Mrs Bernan Davies expressing the council's sympathy in the serious illness of the vicar.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:50 pm.
signed Chairman

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I Roy Coe having been co-opted to the office of parish councillor here by declare that I take the said office upon myself, and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties of the role to the best of my judgement and ability.
Dated this eighth of November 1961
Signed R Coe

.
This declaration was made and subscribed before me F Warnes chairman of the Parish Council
8 November 1961

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A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, November 8, 1961 at 7:30 pm.
Present.
Councillor Warnes, chair, S Sage vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, R Coe, J Foale and M Toms.
The council stood in silence as a tribute to the memory of the late Rev W J Bernan Davies.
The chairman welcomed Cllr R Coe as a new member of the council.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Charities act 1960.
The clerk was asked to write to the community Council of Devon asking for advice on the registration of the J Harris Memorial Hall fund as a charity.
Footpaths 11 and 13.
In answer to a letter from the RDC it was decided to agree that the footpaths 11 and 13 remain as such.
J Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk produced particulars of various alternative investments and it was proposed bY S Sage and seconded by J Foale that the clerk be asked to arrange to withdraw the sum of £713-13-4 + interest to date from the POSB and reinvest in the Devon and Exeter savings bank. This was carried unanimously.
Burial-ground.
The council unanimously decided to inform the police that they would prosecute anyone found to be the cause of vandalism in the burial-ground.
AOB.
The chairman stated that he had written to Mrs Bernan Davies a letter of condolence on the death of the Rev W J Bernan Davies, and had received the following reply
Mrs WJ Bernan Davies wishes to thank you for your kind expressions of sympathy which were of great comfort to her in her irreparable loss
The Vicarage Blackawton October 1961.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm
signed Chairman 13.12.61.

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I George Airzee, having been to the co-opted to the office of parish councillor, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability
dated this 10th day of January 1962
signed G Airzee

This declaration was made and subscribed before me
F Warnes chairman of the Parish Council
10th of January 1962

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 13th of December 1961 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Cr F Warnes chair, S Sage vice-chair, R Coe, J Foale, and M Toms.

Apologies for absence from Miss M Graves Smith.
In attendance. Mr G Airzee.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Charities act 1960.
The clerk reported that he had sent the completed application to register the John Henry Harris Memorial fund as a charity and had received an acknowledgement of receipt.
JH Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported that he had withdrawn the money from the POSB and opened an account with the Devon and Exeter savings bank, £50 in the ordinary account at 2 1/2% and £678-10-5 in the supplementary account at 4 1/2%. Casual vacancy.
Mr G Airzee was in attendance to offer himself as a co-opted member to fill the casual vacancy. It was proposed by councillor M Toms and seconded by councillor R Coe that Mr Airzee be co-opted as a member. There were no other nominations and Mr Airzee was unanimously elected. The chairman welcomed Mr Airzee to take his seat at the next meeting.
Streetlights.
It was reported that the light at Balsam farm was still out in spite of the clerk twice ringing SWEB. The clerk was asked to find out why a replacement had not been fixed.
Roads. Cr. Coe asked whether something could be done to stop the water coming from a field at vicarage Corner. The clerk was asked to contact the divisional surveyor and report back to the council.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm.
Signed vice-chairman 10th January 1962.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, January 10, 1962 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Counsellor S Sage chair, W Airzee, R Coe, J Foale, and M Toms. Councillor Warnes arrived late and councillor Sage remained in the chair.
Apologies for absence were received from Miss Graves Smith.
Minutes
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
Public-works loan board £11-12-7
SWEB £7-0-4
S Leat salary and telephone £7-10-0
Mrs Bird £1-8-0
Petty cash 7-6
Total £27-17-6
Estimate 1962 to 63.
The clerk presented details of monies in hand and also the estimated amount required for the ensuing year.
General account £30, burial-ground £15, lighting and watching £25, making a total of £70.
It was proposed by J Foale and seconded by G Airzee that these sums be precepted for.
Carried unanimously.
Civil defence.

A letter from the RDC set up the dates of a Parish civil defence committee. The clerk pointed out that following a letter in September he wrote to the clerk informing him that the Parish Council were willing to be trained in civil defence, thinking that some guidance would be given by the CD organiser. This has not materialised and the clerk was asked to write and point out this, with the councils observations on recruiting procedure.
AOB.
Counsellor Coe again reported that through a faulty connection in the street light at the Grove several properties were getting interference with radio and television. It was reported that this had been continually reported over a long period with no results. It was resolved that the people concerned should complain to the GP0, who it was hoped would take steps to remedy the interference.
This concluded the business of the meeting closed at 8:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 14.2.62

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, February 14, 1962 at 7:30 pm
Present
Councillor F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice chair, Miss M Graves Smith, J Foale, R Coe, and G Airzee.
Minutes.
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Civil defence.
A letter from the civil defence organiser Kingsbridge stated that he would be pleased to meet the council to discuss arrangements for necessary training. It was resolved to fix the meeting before the next training sessions start in September.
Council houses.
This item had been placed on the agenda to enable a discussion to take place in view of the feeling in the village over the allocation of a vacant house in the Grove. A large number of residents were of the opinion that the house should be offered to Mrs Davies, the wife of the late vicar. The Chairman reported a conversation he had with the clerk to the RDC concerning the practice adopted for the allocation of council houses by the housing committee. Mr Leat read copies of petitions signed by many ratepayers concerning the residence occupied by Mr J Colwill and the allocation of No 10 The Grove to Mrs Davies. As rural district counsellor he deplored this action which would not be given any consideration by the members of the KRDC. A lengthy discussion took place at the conclusion of which Mr Leat and Mr Sage, rural district councillors, stated that they supported the decision to allocate no 10 The Grove to the present tenant, and in view of all the circumstances, the decision was the right and proper one.
The meeting closed at 9:40 P.m.
Signed Chairman 10 April 1962.

A meeting of the Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, April 11, 1962.
Present.

Counsellors F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, Miss Graves Smith, R Coe, G Airzee, J Foale, and M Toms.
The council stood in silence before commencing the meeting as a tribute to the late Mr Stanley Leat, Clerk to the Parish Council who died on April 1. The Chairman and councillors expressed their appreciation of the work done by Mr Leat, who had served the Parish as rural district councillor and the Parish Council as clerk for many years. It was unanimously agreed that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs Leat.
Minutes.
The minutes of the meeting held on the 14th of February 1962 were presented by the chairman and signed as a true record.
Correspondence
A letter received from Mrs O Cole, applying for the post of clerk to the council was read.
Appointment of Clerk.
The chairman asked the council to consider the emoluments to be paid and the proposed amount to be recorded. After discussion it was proposed by Miss Graves Smith and seconded by Mr Sage that the salary be £12 and the contribution towards telephone rental be £9. Proposition was carried unanimously.
The application of Mrs Cole was considered and it was proposed by Mr Sage and seconded by Mr Toms that Mrs O Cole be appointed clerk to the council. Carried unanimously.
Mrs Cole was invited to join the meeting and was informed that the council had appointed her as clerk, the emoluments to be recorded as above. Mrs Cole thanked the council and said that as she had previously been clerk she was fully aware of the duties to be performed. Mrs Cole then left the meeting.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented.
SWEB Street lighting maintenance £7-3-0
alteration to light bracket £4-11-5
S Leat clerk's salary to 31.3.62 £3
Clerk's telephone to 31.3.62 £2-5-0
Clerk's insurance to 14.2.62 7-6
Hire of school room to 14.2.62 £1-0-0
Cleaner to 14.2.62 8-0
Petty cash to 31.3.62 4-9
proposed by Mr Airzee and seconded by Mr Coe that the accounts be paid. Passed unanimously.
AOB.
Mr Sage drew attention to complaints concerning the obstruction caused by dustbins being placed in the lane outside the school on alternate Wednesdays when refuse collection was made. Miss Graves Smith reported that if the bins were left in the playground where they were not visible from the main road they were left unattended. When they were emptied the bins were left at the bottom of the lane. The chairman considered this was unsatisfactory and undertook to write to the KRDC.
It was stated that the road between the Cross and Milcombe Road was in a bad state. Mr Sage undertook to raise this with KRDC.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:10 pm. Next meeting 23rd of May.
Signed Chairman 23.5.62

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A meeting of the parish council was held in the school at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 23rd of May 1962.
Present.
Cr F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, G Airzee, J Foale, M Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies for absence were received from Miss M Graves Smith and R Coe.
Election of Chairman .
It was proposed by Councillor Sage and seconded by Councillor Foale that Cllr Warnes be re-elected chairman for a further period and proposed by Councillor Toms and seconded by Councillor Airzee that Cllr Sage be re-elected vice chairman. Both nominations were carried unanimously. Minutes.
Minutes of the meeting held on April 11 were read and signed as a true record.
Roads.
Councillor Sage reported that the KRDC surveyor had promised to give his attention to the condition of the Milcombe Road when next he is in the area.
Dustbins.
A letter from the chief public health inspector, promising satisfactory arrangements regarding the school dustbins, was read and approved.
Civil defence.
Reference was made to correspondence between the council and Colonel Cowley concerning a course of instruction in civil defence, and it was decided that arrangement to be made nearer the date of the next autumn session of instruction.
Public noticeboard.
It was proposed by Cllr Sage and seconded by Councillor Toms that Mr C Oldrieve be asked to renovate and paint as necessary and Cllr Airzee undertook to convey the message. AOB.
It was reported that Mr L Oldrieve had enquired about the the grass cutting in that the cemetery and the clerk was instructed to write to Mr Oldrieve and to stipulate that the work be finished by June 30.
It was also reported that weeds were appearing in the paths and roundabout and the chairman undertook to see Mr Lock and to ask him to attend to this matter urgently and also to remind him about general tidying up of hedges etc. The clerk was also instructed to write to Mrs Beer a few days prior to each meeting, reminding her to prepare the room.
The clerk was asked to notify SWEB and the bank holding the Parish Hall account of the change of office address. Badge of office.
The chairman reported on his visit to Dartmouth's Mayor choosing ceremony and discussion ensued on the subject of a badge of office for Blackawton council.
The next meeting to be on Wednesday 11th of July 1962. This concluded the business and the meeting ended at 8:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 11.7.62.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday, 11 July 1962 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Comes F Warnes, chair, S Sage, vice-chair, Miss Graves Smith, G Airzee, R Coe, J Foale, M Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Matters arising.
Councillor Sage reported on his discussion with the RDC concerning roads and after some deliberation Cllr Coe proposed and Miss Graves Smith seconded that the clerk be instructed to write to the RDC highways committee enquiring when the hedges in Cemetery Lane and other parts of the village and the grass verges in the Grove, will receive attention, and when the road surface work from the village, particularly in

Cemetery Lane, will be carried out. Complaints were also reported of the extremely bad condition of the Dallacombe Road from Bow bridge to the village, with special mention of the dangerous potholes at the Bow bridge end. The clerk was asked to include this in the letter.

Correspondence.

The Chairman reported a letter he had received from the school managers, requesting a meeting with the council and this was arranged for 7:30 pm on Monday 16th of July. The chairman also reported various invitations he had received, i.e.

Dartmouth County secondary school sports 17th July

Churston grammar school sports 18th July

Dartmouth CS school prize-giving 24th July

Borough of Dartmouth Royal visit tree planting ceremony 27th July

As councillor Warnes was unable to be present on the occasion of the Royal visit, he passed on the invitation to the vice chairman and Councillor Sageaccepted the same.

Burial ground.

Cr Foale reported that Mr Lock was unable to continue to tidy up the cemetery and that Mr W Ryder was willing to take it over. Cllr Foale therefore proposed and Cllr Sage seconded that the clerk be instructed to write inviting Mr Ryder to undertake this work.

Council Seal

The clerk reported that the council seal had been located but that it was not in working order. An estimate had been obtained from Messrs Bendles of Newton Abbot as follows

To repairs as necessary 15-6

postage and packing 5-0

But owing to the very poor condition of the seal, due to wear and possible misuse, they recommended a completely new block and die section costing 57-6 plus postage. After some discussion Cllr Airzee proposed and Councillor Miss Graves Smith seconded, that a new one be ordered and the clerk was unanimously instructed accordingly.

Accounts.

Precept was signed in the sum of £70 and the following accounts represented for payment

audit stamp £2-0-0

Devon Association of parish councils £2-3-0

PWRB £11-12-7

SWEB £7-2-7

Dartmouth Chronicle £2-16-3

O Cole clerk's salary £2-12-8

Clerk's telephone £2-5-0

Clerk's insurance 9-0

Hire of school room 8-0

cleaner 8-0

petty cash 19-0

The clerk reported notice of audit for 1961/2 and submitted the books which were approved.

The clerk was instructed to confirm the cost of the hire of the school and the clerk's insurance, and to make any necessary adjustments in the September quarterly accounts.

Cllr Miss Grace Smith proposed and Cllr Toms seconded that the accounts as presented be passed for payment.

J Harris Memorial Hall fund.

After considerable discussion on the uses to which this money could be put, it was proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Councillor Miss Graves Smith, that the fund be used for the provision of a recreation field, provided authority can be obtained to use the

money for this purpose. This was carried by a majority vote with one against and one abstention.
The next meeting to be held on September 12.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:50 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.9.62.

A special parish council meeting was held in the school on Monday 16th of July 1962 at 7:30 pm to receive a deputation at the request of the Blackawton school managers.
The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the provision of a Parish recreation field as per certain recommendations contained in a recent report by HM inspector of schools on Blackawton CP school, with emphasis on the absence of suitable playing space.
After due consideration of various points of view, the deputation withdrew having assured the council of wholehearted support in any project which would result in the provision of a recreation field.
The council then proceeded to discuss the minute of their last meeting concerning the use of the John Henry Harris Memorial fund for the provision of a suitable field and it was resolved that the clerk be instructed to write to Mr Crocombe for his agreement to surrender his tenancy of field o/s no. 1334 and if this was forthcoming, to contact Mrs Dimes' agent regards regarding her willingness to sell this ground. If this was also satisfactory the council would then take the matter further with the charity commissioners with a view to using the whole fund for this purpose.
The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.
Signed Chairman 12.9.62

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday 12th of September 1962 at 7:30 pm.
Present Cllr Warnes, chair, Sage, Toms, Airzee, Coe, Foale, Miss G Smith and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Matters arising.
Councillor Sage reported that Go Slow signs would soon be ready for erection in the village and correspondence was read concerning the state of Dallacombe Road. After some discussion the clerk was instructed to write further about this and to request that signs be erected "Unsuitable for heavy traffic" at each end of this narrow road.
Resignation of Chairman .
A letter of resignation from Cllr Warnes was read. The resignation, due to his transfer to London, was accepted with regret and a hearty vote of thanks for past services was proposed.
Closing of railway to Kingsbridge.
Letters of protest and invitations to meetings were read and it was proposed by Miss G Smith and seconded by Councillor Foale that a letter in support of the protest against the closing of this line be sent and the clerk was instructed accordingly.
DAPC.
This matter was postponed for consideration at the next meeting.
Footpath.

It was suggested that the proper authorities be asked to deal with any obstructions, as and when necessary.
John Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported the current position in regard to this matter and submitted a letter addressed to the charity commission and the same was approved as drafted.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported errors in the various records for three graves and after some discussion was instructed to apply to the appropriate authority for permission to alter the records and if no objection is forthcoming to alter as required. One funeral was reported, Mrs S Tucker.
Civil defence
It was decided to notify Colonel Cowley that the council are willing to be instructed in civil defence on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. Details of an exercise “if only” were discussed and it was decided that as, at present, we have no proper organisation it might be possible to take part in an exercise at some later date.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented for payment.
Mr C Oldrieve £2-8-6
Bendells £2-17-4
O Cole clerks salary £3-0-0
clerk’s insurance 9-9
burial fees £1-0-0
audit stamp £2-0-0
audit expenses £1-5-0
Hire of school 1-6
petty cash 17-1
The cost of room hire was confirmed as being
April to September inclusive 4 shillings
October to March inclusive seven and six.
It was proposed by Councillor Miss G Smith and seconded by Councillor Toms that these accounts as presented be paid.
AOB.
It was proposed by Councillor Miss G Smith and seconded by Councillor Airzee that a request to be sent to the KRDC for a litter bin to be placed outside the church gate, near the seat and the clerk was instructed accordingly.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:30
signed Chairman 10.10.62.

A special council meeting was held in the school on Tuesday 2nd October to meet and discuss with Colonel Cowley, requirements of civil defence and after a long and interesting informal discussion it was arranged that councillor Coe would attend the exercise “if only” on Saturday 6th October and report to the council on Wednesday 10th October when consideration would be given to details of any requirements to enable the Parish Council to meet its obligations in this matter
signed Chairman 10.10.62.

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A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school room on Wednesday 10th of October 1962 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being Cllrs Airzee, Coe, Foale, Sage, Miss Greaves Smith and toms and the clock Mrs Cole.
Election of Chairman
Councillor Sage was unanimously voted Chairman and Cllr Foale vice chairman. The clerk was instructed to advertise the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr Warnes, nominations to be received by November 10.
Matters arising. Cllr Coe drew attention to a report in the press wherein it was stated that only five signatures were appended to the forms sent to Blackawton in connection with the closing of the branch line of British railways to Kingsbridge, and after discussion it was agreed that the remarks were incorrect, as this fact only referred to those forms left in the church.
Litter bins
A reply to the request for a suitable litter bin was reported wherein it was remarked about the emptying of a bin and the clock was instructed to reply suitably.
Civil defence.
Councillor Coe gave a detailed and interesting report on his visit to Kingsbridge for the “if only” exercise and it was decided that Colonel Cowley be advised that we now have more than eight persons ready and willing to take instruction on civil defence and to ask him to arrange for classes in the village as soon as possible.
Burial ground
The clerk reported that arrangements were in hand for the funeral of Miss Treeby, a non-parishioner, to take place on Thursday 11th October in the double grave already purchased for her brother. This led to a discussion regarding fees and it was decided to go more thoroughly into this matter at a later meeting.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
SWEB public lighting £7-3-0
W Ryder burial-ground £3-0-0
J Harris Memorial fund.
The clerk reported further correspondence with the charity commission and was authorised to make contact with a solicitor and land surveyor with a view to the completion of the purchase of the required field.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:20 pm.
Signed Chairman 14.11.62

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school room on Wednesday 14th of November 1962 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being Cllr Sage, chair, j Foale, R Coe, G Airzee and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies for absence were received from Mr Graves Smith and M Toms.
Nominations for new members.
No nominations having been received it was decided that this matter be adjourned until the next meeting
Litter bin. It was reported that the bin had been provided but had not been made secure, and that the clerk was instructed to contact Kingsbridge about this.
Freedom from hunger campaign.

The Devon and Exeter committee for the freedom from hunger campaign sent pamphlets and a questionnaire which outlined various suggestions of ways in which all local authorities can assist in this campaign, and after a considerable discussion it was decided that Blackawton parish council would organise an envelope house to house collection and the clerk was instructed to complete and return the questionnaire.
Roads.
The clerk reported a meeting with Mr Gay of the county roads department, and gave details of the proposed alterations to sign posts which are misleading to strangers. It was decided that these arrangements did not go far enough to satisfy the requirements, and the clerk was instructed to request that the signpost at Milcombe should indicate Abbotsleigh and Kingsbridge. Also that the post at Bow bridge crossroads should bear the word 'Bow' as there is nothing to indicate to passers-by that Bow bridge has been reached. The question was also asked whether any more news was available about the "go slow" signs for the village and the clerk was asked to follow up this matter. This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm signed Chairman 12th of December 1962.

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school room on Wednesday 12th of December 1962 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being Councillor Sage, chair, Councillors Miss Graves Smith, R Coe, G Airzee and Mrs Cole. Apologies received from councillors Toms and Foale. Matters arising.
The litter bin was again discussed and it was agreed to ask Kingsbridge to fix same at the end of the seat.
Civil defence.
It was agreed that Colonel Cowley be asked to give a 'pep talk' to be followed by another series of lectures to be held at the assembly rooms at the George Inn early in the New Year.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Bank of England PWLB £11-12-7
Mrs Cole salary £3-0-0
insurance 9-9
telephone £4-10-0
burial fee £1-0-0
petty cash 17-6
Hire of room £1-10-0
Co-option of member.
As there was not a full attendance of council it was decided to leave this matter again in abeyance.
Telephone kiosk.
Councillor Miss Graves Smith had reported the dirty state of the kiosk and the clerk had contacted the GPO with a view to getting this matter put right.
SWEB.
The clerk reported difficulty which had been experienced in connection with the failure of some street lights and it was further reported that the 33 KV pole on Woodford Hill was sparking sometimes 15 inches and the clerk was instructed to contact Kingsbridge SWEB office in connection with this matter.
Roads.

The clerk was instructed to contact the highways department at Kingsbridge regarding the state of the road in the village and those leading into the village, particularly the lane between Chapel Street and Greenslade house, and also French Furze Hill and to request that same be given urgent attention.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm signed Chairman 13.2.63.

A meeting of the Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday13th of February 1963 at 7:30 pm
Those present being Cllr Sage, chair, G Airzee, R Coe M Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole
Apologies were received from Miss Graves Smith.
It was stated that no meeting had taken place during January due to the Arctic weather conditions and the fact that the school was in a state of 'freeze up'.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Roads.
Considerable discussion followed the report that none of the approach roads to the village, all of which entailed travel on hills, had been gritted during the recent weeks of severe snow-up and it was resolved that the authorities should be asked to place chippings and sand at strategic points so that we could use same in the event of bad weather conditions in future winters.
Civil defence.
Due to the impossibility of travel since Christmas nothing further was done about this and the clerk was instructed to contact Colonel Cowley at an early date to enquire what arrangements could be made about a meeting.
Accounts.
The SWEB account for maintenance and current for street lighting was presented and passed for payment and a cheque was signed for £7-0-4.
AOB.
The chairman reported that he had read up the rules governing the place of meetings and found that council meetings are not allowed on licensed premises and this fact was confirmed by KRDC.
Church wall slip in School Lane.
On arrival for the meeting councillors found that a considerable part of the church wall had slipped into the school lane, including some large stones, and in view of the fact that a further fall was almost certain to occur, the clerk was instructed to contact the proper authority and to request that red lamps be placed in the lane until such time as the weather conditions enabled repairs to be affected. School Dustbins.
It was reported that the school dustbins had been emptied and left on the church steps again and the clerk was instructed to contact the RDC in view of the arrangements promised as recently as last May.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:10 pm
Signed Chairman 13.3.63

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, 13 March 1963 at 7:30 pm.

Those present being Cllr Sage in the chair, Airzee, Coe, Foale, and Miss Graves Smith and the clerk Mrs Cole. Apologies were received from Councillor Toms. The chairman reminded the meeting of the necessity for a parish meeting and because it is required that this should take place before April it was decided to arrange something for 27th of March and to invite Mr Savidge to be present to help with any questions. In view of this decision it was resolved that only routine items be discussed at tonight‘s meeting.
Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Roads.
The clerk was instructed to write to Mr Gay complaining of the condition of our roads, and requesting that railings be placed at certain dangerous places. The Chairman reported that, as district councillor, he had asked the highways department to arrange for certain roads adjacent to the village to be cleaned and it was stated that this would receive early attention.
Accounts.
The clerk’s account for salary was presented and passed for payment and a cheque for £3-17-4 was signed.
Civil defence.
It was resolved that Colonel Cowley be invited to attend the parish meeting. An agenda was drawn up for the parish meeting and the clerk was instructed to display copies of this at the post office, in the church porch and in the noticeboard. It was also decided that a council meeting should be arranged to follow the public meeting on March 27.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 29.5.63.

The annual parish meeting was held in the school on Wednesday 27th of March 1963 at 7:30 pm.
Those present were Cllr Sage in the chair, Airzee, Coe, Foale, Toms, and Miss Graves Smith and the clerk Mrs Cole, Dr Graham as a district councillor and Mr Savidge the clerk to KODC. There were no members of the general public present.
The chairman welcomed both Mr Savidge and Dr Graham and regretted the absence of the public.
Casual vacancy.
The first business of the meeting was to fill the vacancy on the council caused when Mr Warnes left the district. Dr Graham was nominated by Councillor Graves Smith and seconded by Cllr Foale and unanimously elected.
Roads
The clerk reported on the correspondence with Mr Gay as instructed at the last meeting and after considerable discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to Mr Savidge who undertook to convey the feeling of the meeting to Mr Gay and to advise the council regarding the best way to deal with this.
Regarding the positioning of the place name signs, the clerk was instructed to advise Mr Gay of the suggested situations for these - one on the Quarry Head Road and the other just outside the village on the Forces road and to request that same be erected as soon as possible.
Civil defence.
Mr Savidge offered apologies for Colonel Cowley who, due to pressure of business, was unable to be present but he will be very pleased to come to the village at any time provided he has sufficient notice to enable him to rearrange his classes.

Oxfam.
Councillor Miss Graves Smith reported the receipt of the envelopes for house-to-house collection and a donation of £5 from Blackawton youth club. The Blackawton WI are holding a whist drive on April 2 and the envelopes will be distributed early next week. Mr Savidge told the meeting that the target for Kingsbridge is £1200 which amounts to 2 shillings per head of population.
Rates.
Mr Savage described the new ratings system and suggested that whilst some of the larger newer houses will probably have bigger assessments, approximately 90% of rural houses will pay less.
Council house repairs.
Cr Coe reported his experience regarding repairs to his home and after considerable discussion Mr Savidge undertook to look into this further with the appropriate department at Kingsbridge.
Cr Airzee proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Savidge for his useful help and this was in endorsed by all present. Accounts.
The clerk requested that a cheque be signed to pay for the hire of the room in order to keep the accounts in order for the end of the financial year. This was signed in the sum of £1-2-6.
It was decided that as there had been two meetings in March no meeting would be held in April unless something unexpected made it necessary and therefore the next meeting would be held on May 22.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 29.5.63

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 29th of May 1963 at 7:30 pm
Those present being Cllrs Sage, chair, Airzee, Coe, Foale, Dr Graham, Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Miss Graves Smith.
This meeting was to have taken place On May 22 but owing to unforeseen circumstances was postponed until 29th. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman
The meeting unanimously re elected Cllr Sage as chairman and Cllr Foale as vice chairman.
The minutes of the last meeting will read and signed as a true record.
Oxfam.
It was reported that the freedom from hunger campaign had resulted in a cheque for almost £60 being sent to the KRDC as Blackawton‘s contribution and it was resolved that the letter of thanks be sent to the Blackawton WI whose members were largely responsible for this gratifying result. Roads.
The clerk reported the fixing by DCC of place name signs as promised by Mr Gay and after some discussion it was resolved that Mr Gay be advised of discrepancies in the signs and the absence of a proper post to hold the sign. It was also decided that the notice for Dallacombe Road should state “unsuitable for LARGE vehicles”. Attention also to be drawn to the stinging nettles regrowing in the main street of the village and the waste soil left in heaps in various parts of the village.
Accounts.
The following accounts items were presented, passed for payment and signed.
SWEB £7-3-0

Postmaster general audit £2-0-0
Bank of England £11-12-7
Association of Parish councils £2-6-0
Mrs Cole salary £3-0-0
phone £4-10-0
insurance 9-9
petty cash 3-0
total £8-2-9
Precept in the sum of £80 was presented and signed. Footpath number 13 Milcombe
A communication from The KRDC concerning footpath number 13 was read and discussed at some length and it was finally decided that the council would meet at the place concerned on Monday 3rd June at 11:30 am and that the reply would be sent to Kingsbridge afterwards.
Number 23 Dallacombe
Request for permission to demolish the north side hedge of this path from Dallacombe Cross to Pruston Lane and to erect a suitable gate was considered and agreed to.
It was resolved that unless any other business was required to be dealt with no meeting would be called for June.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm.
Signed Chairman 17.6.63

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Monday 17th of June 1963 at 7:30 pm.
All members were present.
Footpath.
This meeting was called to deal with the various problems in connection with footpath number 13 and to discuss the visit paid to the area by the complete council on Monday 10th June 1963. Unfortunately however nothing could be resolved because a vital piece of information was not to hand in time for this meeting and it was decided that a further meeting be arranged for Monday 24th of June to finalise this matter.
Burial-ground.
The question was raised concerning the use of the churchyard for interments, when by act of parliament the churchyard was closed in 1947. The matter was discussed at some length as it was finally decided that documents and correspondence should be searched and the whole business considered as another meeting.
Meanwhile in response to an enquiry from Cllr Rev Dr Graham it was resolved that in the event of any funeral occurring before the conclusion of this inquiry, if requested the churchyard may be used.
Councillor Tom is offered to arrange for the cutting and carrying of the grass in the cemetery and Cllr Foale undertook to see Mr Ryder regarding the weeding of the paths and hedge trimming.
Sparks charity.
Councillor Miss Graves Smith was elected as the parish councils representative on the committee responsible for this charity, thus filling the vacancy caused when Mrs Davies moved from the district.
Roads.
The clerk was instructed to write thanking Mr Gay for dealing with the complaints about the village roads and for the corrections to the village name signs, and also to draw attention to the dangerous potholes on the road between Milcombe and Bow bridge.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

Signed Chairman 11.9.63

A special meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Monday 24th of June 1963 at 7:30 pm.
All council members were present.
Footpath number 13.
After some further discussion concerning this footpath it was unanimously resolved that the Rural District Council be advised that it is the wish of this meeting that the designation of path 13 should be changed to “bridal path”. The highways act 1959 states that a footpath means a highway over which the public have a right of way on foot only
A bridleway means a highway over which the public have the following, but no other, rights of way that is to say a right of way on foot and the right of way on horseback or leading a horse, with or without a right to drive animals of any description along the highway.
Burial-ground.
Cr Foale reported that Mr Ryder was unable this year to undertake the weeding of the path and hedge trimming and so Mr H Kranshaw has been approached and he has undertaken to do this work. The clerk was asked to confirm this by letter.
Litter bin. The clerk was also asked to request Mr Krenshaw to level out the ground on which the litter bin stands beside the church gate to prevent it tipping over.
The next meeting to be held on July 10.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 8:15 pm
Signed Chairman 11.9.63

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 11th of September 1963 at 7:30 pm
Those present being Cllr Sage, chair, Cllr Foale, Coe and Toms and Mrs Cole. Apologies were received from Councillor Miss Graves Smith and Councillor Airzee.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Correspondence
A letter was read from the Association of parish councils re rating of burial grounds, and the clerk was instructed to discuss the matter with Mr Savidge and ask his advice.
Co-option of member.
This matter was again deferred in order that a nominee could be consulted and, if willing, be co-opted could be formally proposed next month.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment.
SWEB £6-19-11
Mrs Cole salary £3-0-0
insurance 11-11
Petty cash 13-3
audit expenses £1-5-0
printing agendas £3-0-0
hire of room 12-0
Mrs Krenshaw £6-0-0
Recreation field.

A draft of a proposed scheme was discussed as submitted by the Charity Commission and the clerk was authorised to exhibit the required notices and to insert the necessary notice in the Dartmouth Chronicle.
Street lighting.
The clerk was instructed to contact the SWEB regarding the lights in the Grove.
County review of Parish boundaries.
A questionnaire from County Hall in connection with the suggested amalgamation of parishes was discussed and the clerk was instructed to complete same after consultation with Mr Savidge. AOB
War Memorial
It was reported that the war memorial is in need of cleaning and general tidying up and the council members undertook to do this work among themselves.
Telephone kiosk.
It was also reported that complaints had been received concerning the nettles etc around the village telephone kiosk and the clerk was asked to take this matter up with the authorities.
Sewage at Bow and Forder.
Consulate Coe reported an objectionable smell at Bow Bridge and the clerk stated that the matter had been reported to the public health department some four weeks previously. It appeared to come for the Shepleigh Court outflow and as nothing appeared to have been done the clerk was asked to take the matter up again, this time by letter.
Complaints were also received about the state of the road at Forder due to farm effluent draining over the road.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm signed Chairman 9th October 1963

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 9th October 1963 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being c
Cr Sage, chair, Foale, Coe, Miss Graves Smith and Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Toms and Airzee.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.
Co-opted member.
It was proposed by Cllr Toms and seconded by Councillor Foale that Mr Penn be invited to join the council as a co-opted member and this was unanimously agreed to and the clerk was asked to advise Mr Penn accordingly. Correspondence.
A letter was read from the community Council of Devon giving details of a proposed scheme to encourage youth clubs etc to assist villages outside their own immediate area, with any jobs required to be undertaken, and after some discussion it was decided that Blackawton would welcome help in the cleaning and tidying of the war memorial, grass cutting etc in the cemetery and at a later date with innumerable jobs connected with the playing field project.
CD Billeting.
A letter from Mr Savidge asking for someone to undertake the job of assistant billeting officer for this area was considered, and Mrs Cole volunteered for nomination at any rate until someone more permanent could take over. Footpath sign posts
It was decided that as far as this area is concerned, no useful purpose would be served by incurring this expense. Accounts.

The quarterly account from SWEB was presented and passed for payment in the sum of £7-2-10
Amalgamation of parishes.
Details of the forthcoming County review were considered in a letter from the DAPC and it was resolved that Strete be invited to link up with Blackawton for this purpose and the clerk was asked to write to them on this matter.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:40 pm.
Signed Chairman 13.11.63

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I Harold Avenal Penn having been duly co-opted to the office of parish councillor hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will Duly and faithfully fulfil the duties for the role to the best of my judgement and ability. Dated the 13th day of November 1963 signed H Penn

This declaration was made and signed before me
S Sage, chairman of the Parish Council 13.11.63.
The council unanimously welcomed the new member Councillor Penn.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 13th of November 1963 at 7:30 pm. Those present being Cllr Sage, chair, Foale, Coe, Toms, Penn and Mrs Cole.
Matters arising.
A reply was read from the Devon community council in which they promised to keep us up-to-date with developments.
Amalgamation of parishes.
The clerk reported a telephone message from the Strete parish clerk Mr Lacey to the effect that no meeting had been held but that no doubt his council would be very interested in the suggestion of amalgamation.
Resignation.
A letter of resignation from Mr Airzee was read and it was resolved that the clerk should enquire if it was at all possible to reconsider his decision.
A letter of resignation was also read from Miss Graves Smith and after some discussion the clerk was instructed to acknowledge same with regrets and to invite Miss Graves Smith to rejoin the council when there is a vacancy and when circumstances are more propitious.
Recreation field.
The clerk reported the receipt of the sealed order and the various forms for public display in connection with this project which was discussed at some length. It was revealed that the original field which it had been hoped to use for this purpose had meanwhile changed ownership and it was therefore very unlikely that it was now available. In view of this Cllr Foale offered to make enquiries into the address of the owners of another suitable piece of land. War Memorial
Cr Coe reported on the sorry state of the war memorial and it was decided that owing to the poor condition of the base it was a tradesman’s job to repair the same and it was resolved that Mr G Airzee should be asked to give an estimate to put the memorial in good repair.

AOB
Cr Coe also reported that council road men had dug a gutter through a field entrance gateway to carry away surface water and furthermore had left the emptying of the trench in a heap beside it. Cllr Coe therefore proposed and Councillor Toms seconded that the letter being written to KRDC and Cllr Sage undertook to discuss it with the highways committee.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:10 pm.
Signed Chairman 11.12.63

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday 11th of December 1963 at 7:30 pm. Those present were Cllr S Sage, chair, Foale, Coe and Penn, and Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Cllr Toms.
Matters arising.
War memorial.
It was reported that Mr Caldwell is willing to undertake this work and if he could have specific details of what is to be done he will submit an estimate.
The clerk was asked to write to Mr Caldwell and Mr Airzee to the effect that the base be made good and the whole base be faced with cement.
Recreation field.
Cr Foale reported concerning his enquiries regarding the field opposite the cemetery but unfortunately he had no reply at the time of this meeting but hoped for news before the next meeting.
Correspondence. A letter from SWEB dated 22nd of November 1963 was read in which it was stated that there is to be a revision of charges for public lighting to take affect from first of April 1964.
Hire of room.
Increased cost.
It was also reported that the cost of hiring the school for meeting would be increased from April 1964 by 6d per meeting i.e. 4-6 in summer and 8-0 in winter.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
PWLB £11-12-7
Clerk's salary and phone £7-10-0
clerk's insurance £10-0-1
petty cash 12-8
An account was presented in the sum of £1-11-9 for repairs to public lighting standards in the Grove, but after some discussion it was decided that the clerk should enquire why this was not included in the annual fixed sum for maintenance of street lighting.
Burial ground.

The clerk was instructed to write to the RDC concerning the possibility of having the Cemetery turnaround tarmacadamed.
AOB.
Council houses.
Cr Coe reported on the new arrangements which the RDC are making with council house tenants concerning maintenance of cookers, and the clerk was asked to write to Kingsbridge "in view of the one month's notice sent to tenants will the housing

department put all solid fuel cookers in proper working order, prior to tenants being held responsible for condition".
Vacancies on council.
The clerk was asked to put up a notice in the village inviting applications to fill the two vacancies on the council.
This ended the business and the meeting ended at 8:45 pm.
Signed Chairman 8.2.64

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday eighth of January 1964 at 7:30 pm. Present.
Those present were Councillor Sage, chair, Foale, Coe, Toms and Penn, and Mrs Cole.
Matters arising.

War Memorial.
The clerk reported that Mr Airzee was unable to undertake repairs, owing to pressure of business at present, but that Mr Colwill would submit an estimate for the required repairs to the base of the memorial.
Recreation field.
Councillor Foale having been unsuccessful in his efforts to obtain an address of the owners of field O/N1321 (Sellicks) the clerk was instructed to contact KRDC to endeavour to get this information.
Casual vacancies.
The clerk reported that two candidates were prepared to accept nomination, Mrs Edwards of 18 The Grove and Mr P Williams of Forces Cross and there being no other nominations Mrs Edwards was proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr Toms and Mr Williams was proposed by Cllr Penn and seconded by Cllr Foale, and both were unanimously elected as co-opted members and the clerk was instructed to advise advise them accordingly. Accounts.
The repairs account from SWEB for lighting standards at the Grove was again discussed and the explanation about repairs not being acceptable by the council the clerk was instructed to take the matter up again.
Precept.
The estimates for the next precept were discussed at some length and it was decided that a sum not exceeding a 3d rate should be applied for. (£120)
AOB.
A ballot paper for one member of the APC was considered and it was decided to support the request from Stoke Fleming Parish Council that the nominee, Mr R Mesney, should have our vote.
White lines on local main roads.
The clerk was instructed to request a renewal of the white lines which are practically obliterated on the main road between Halwell and Hemboro' post.
Wadstray building licence
The clerk was instructed to write to the KRDC advising them of the disgust of the local population regarding the continued refusal of the RD Council to grant a building application for Wadstray plantation, particularly as this area is quite unsuitable for agricultural purposes yet ideal for building development.
Mr Barnett Deceased

The clerk was instructed to write to Mrs Barnett at Sewardstone expressing sympathy in her loss and deep appreciation of the efforts made by Mr Barnett to get electricity to the village for which he will be long remembered with gratitude.
This ended the business and the meeting ended at 9 pm signed Chairman

Declaration of acceptance of office
I Vera M Edwards having been duly co-opted to the office of Parish Councillor hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability
Dated the 12th of February 1964
signed Vera Edwards

I Paul G Williams having been duly co-opted to the office of parish councillor hereby declare that I take this said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability
Dated the 12th of February 1964
signed P Williams

These declarations were made and signed before me S Sage chairman of the Parish Council 12.2.1964

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 12th of February 1964 at 7:30 pm, those present being councillors Sage, chair, Foale, Toms, Mrs Edwards and Williams, and the clerk Mrs Cole. Apologies for absence due to illness were received from Councillor Foale.
The Chairman welcomed the two new members and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as correct.
Matters arising
The clerk reported having received the name and address of the owners of Sellocks Field, this information had also been confirmed by Councillor Foale and after some discussion it was decided, unanimously, that the clerk be instructed to write to that address i.e. the GMS syndicate Ltd, 32 Gt James Street, Bedford Row, London WC1 to enquire if they were willing to sell all or part of this property and if so at what price.
DAPC
A letter was read from Exeter advising that Mr St Clair Ellis of South Milton has been the successful candidate for this vacancy.
Accounts.
The quarterly account for SWEB was presented and passed for payment £7-2-10.
Annual parish meeting.
It was decided that the annual parish meeting should be called for Wednesday 11th of March at 7:30 pm to be followed immediately by the usual monthly council meeting. This concluded the business and the meeting ended at 9 pm
signed chairman.

The annual parish meeting was convened for Wednesday 11th of March 1964 at 7:30 pm in the school but as no members of the public attended it was decided that the business of the ordinary parish council meeting should be proceeded with.
Present.
All council members, except Cllr Foale who sent apologies through illness, were present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
A letter was read from Messrs Gibbon and Moore who are the agents acting for the owners of sellocks field in which it was stated that the GMS syndicate if they sold would require the purchaser to take all their interest amounting to some five and a third acres and suggesting a price of £120 per acre.
After some considerable discussion it was resolved unanimously that clerk should acknowledge this letter and also contact the charity commissioners asking for their agreement to the use of the endowment to purchase this land: upon receipt of such approval it was decided that negotiations should be pursued and an offer of £500 would be a reasonable price to suggest for the total area.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported that in answer to enquiries concerning the tarmac surfacing the turn about at the cemetery gate Mr Gay of DCC roads department had suggested that Torr Quarry company be asked to quote for doing the space inside the gate and that the county would probably undertake the lane side as and when similar work was in hand in the village.
It was decided that this was unsatisfactory and the clerk was instructed to write to Mr Madge in Exeter asking his help in expediting this matter.
Accounts.
The following account was presented and passed for payment
Mrs Cole salary £3
phone £2-5-0
insurance 10-1
petty cash 11-3
Hire of room for six meetings October to March inclusive £2-5-0
total £8-11-4
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9 pm signed Chairman 8.4.1964

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in School on Wednesday eighth of April 1964 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being Cllr Sage (chair), Mrs Edwards, Coe, Toms and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole. Apologies for absence due to illness were received from Cllrs Foale and Penn.
There was also a large attendance of local parishioners.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising
A letter was read from the charity commissioners, approving the acquisition of Sellocks Fields for the provision of a playing field and the clerk was instructed to contact Rendells to ask them to deal with any legal matters concerning this property.
Cemetery turnabout.
The clerk reported having a quotation for Mr A Horrier of Westlake, Ivybridge in the sum of £50 for the turnabout and £15 for the entrance ground outside the gate, but as no reply

had been received from Mr Madge it was decided that this matter be held over meanwhile.
Proposed development.
Subsequent to our request that this Council be given an opportunity of considering any planning applications of a major nature, which involve this Parish, the Devon County Council arranged for a meeting between a subcommittee of the planning authority and representatives of Blackawton parish council, on site, in connection with Mr Tozer's application for development of his field on the Dallacombe Road i.e. the building of some 40 to 50 bungalows. The meeting took place on Tuesday seventh of April and Major Oakley outlined the procedure for planning permission in Devon, i.e. the various regional centres and how they work. A report of this meeting was read and discussed at tonight's parish council meeting and it was finally resolved that whilst development is most desirable it is felt that this plan is on rather too large a scale.
The meeting ended at 8:15 pm
signed Chairman 27.5.64.

Acceptance of office as Councillors for the parish of Blackawton 1964 to 1967.
We the undersigned having been duly elected councillors, do hereby declare that we take the said office upon ourselves and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of our ability and judgement
Signed by all councillors, and witnessed.
O Cole, clerk, 27 May 1964

I Samuel Arthur Sage having been duly elected to the office of Chairman of Blackawton parish council hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my ability and judgement signed S Sage 27th of May 1964
This declaration was made and subscribed before me a member of the parish council
Signed O Cole, clerk, 27.5.64.

The newly elected council having individually signed acceptance of office, a meeting was held in the school on Wednesday 27th of May 1964 at 7:30 pm
Those present were Cllr S Sage, chair, Coe, Mrs Edwards, Penn, Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Election of Chairman and vice Chairman
Cr Toms proposed and Cllr Penn seconded that Cllr Sage be elected chairman for a further year and Cllr Coe proposed and Cllr Mrs Edwards seconded that Cllr Toms be elected vice chairman, and both nominations were agreed unanimously.
Apologies were received from both Cllr Lennon and Cllr Williams.
Local planning. It was resolved that the district councillors should request that the RDC give the Parish Council an opportunity of considering any future planning applications which concern this area.
Books of reference.
The clerk was instructed to obtain a copy of Arnold Bakers book on Parish administration, main volume and two supplements, and also a copy of the law on the matter of public footpaths, price two shillings.
Burial ground

The clerk reported Mr Gay's remarks concerning the roadway outside the cemetery gates and as it was felt that £50 was rather expensive in view of the minute income from the cemetery, it was decided to postpone tarmac work on the roundabout and instead to have the weeds sprayed again this year. Councillor Toms undertook to have this work done and also to have the grass cut and carried away. The clerk also suggested that in view of the modern trend for cremation, a part of the cemetery might be used as a garden of remembrance. This was considered to be a good suggestion and instructions were given for enquiries to be made for discussion at a later meeting.
Playing field.
Messrs Rendells having started enquiries concerning tenancy agreement in connection with Sellocks Fields, it was decided to leave this matter until next month in order to have a more complete report.
War Memorial.
No reply having been received from Mr Colwill concerning these repairs the clerk was instructed to ask Mr Lewis of Washbourne to quote.
Accounts.
The clerk reported the date for the annual audit as being 22nd of June and a cheque for £2 for the postmaster general to supply Audit stamp was duly signed as also was a cheque in favour of SWEB in the sum of £7-2-10 for street lighting.
Precept was also signed in the sum of £80.
It was decided that the next meeting should be held on June 17th.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm signed Chairman 17.6.64

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 17th of June 1964 at 7:30 pm
Those present were Cllr Sage, chair, Coe, Lunnon and Toms and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Mrs Edwards.
The council welcomed Cllr Lunnon and expressed the hope of a long and happy association.
Matters arising.
The clerk reported the receipt of some of the books of reference.
Burial-ground.
Councillor Toms stated that he had dealt with the spraying of weeds in the burial ground and that the grass would be cut as the weather permitted.
There was further discussion concerning a garden of remembrance and the clerk was asked to obtain any helpful information from any other nearby areas to maintain a garden and to report next time the council meets.
War Memorial.
Mr Lewis having promised to inspect and report on the necessary repairs to the war memorial and no reply being to hand, the clerk was asked to follow this matter up.
School managers.
Mrs Airzee and Mrs Edwards were elected as council representatives for a further three year period.
Charities act 1960.
A letter was read, from the community Council of Devon, in which this council offered to search the register on behalf of any local authority and the clerk was instructed to enquire whether anything other than Sparkes and the John Harris Memorial fund was known to be the affair of this council. Sparkes charity.

Councillor Sage raised the question of who are the present representatives of the council in regards to this charity and also the number of years which constituted a term of office. After some considerable discussion it was decided that this is a church matter rather than a parish council concern, and Cllr Sage was asked to enquire further into it.
Britain in bloom.
The British travel and holidays association are arranging a campaign to encourage the decoration of premises with growing flowers and shrubs, and after some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Toms and seconded by Councillor Lunnon that Cllr Penn should discuss this with Mr Savidge with special regard to the RDC arranging for council house Estates to have 'best garden' competitions.
Accounts.
The clerk enquired what expenses can be claimed for attending the audit and Cllr Penn proposed and Cllr Coe seconded that the usual rate as paid to district councillors should apply i.e. 9d a mile for use of car and five shillings lunch allowance and the council therefore authorised the sum of £2 to be paid.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
DAPC £2-5-9
PWLB £11-12-7
Mrs Cole clerk's salary £3
Clerk's telephone £2-5-0
Clerk's petty cash £1-12-6
Clerk's audit expenses £2-0-0
AOB.
Councillor Coe reported a request from Mr Brooke of Milcombe Farm that the roads department to be asked to cover the pipes which carry off surface water at the top end of Abbotsleigh Hill and the clerk was instructed to contact Mr Gay regarding this matter.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:45 pm signed Chairman 8.7.64.

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday 8th July 1964 at 7:30 pm.
Those present being councillor Sage, chair, Penn, Coe,Mrs Edwards, Lunnon and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole. Apologies were received from Councillor Toms.
Matters arising.
The clerk reported the receipt of a table of fees and other relevant information from the superintendent of Efford crematorium and after some considerable discussion it was decided that a detailed plan and suggested a table of fees should be drawn up for consideration at the September meeting after which a parish meeting could be called to adopt the suggestion.
War Memorial
Mr Lewis having given the clock a verbal estimate in the sum of £10 for repairs to the war memorial, this was agreed to.
Charities act 1960.
A reply from the community council was read in which it was stated that nothing more was mentioned in the records.
Highways.
It was reported that Mr Gay's department had undertaken to look into the complaint received from Mr Brooke. Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
SWEB £7-9-3

DAPC £2-7-0
It was decided, as is usual practice, that there would not be an August meeting but that the next meeting would be called for September 9th.
This concluded the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 pm
signed Chairman 9.9.64.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, 9 September 1964 at 7:30 pm.
All members were present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record. Correspondence.
Correspondence and ballot papers were discussed in connection with the election of executive committee of the Devon Association of parish councils and it was resolved that the three sitting members should all receive the Blackawton vote.
Maintenance of footpaths.
A letter from DCC at Exeter was read asking parish council's full cooperation in reporting any dangers on footpaths in the area and it was resolved that this should be agreed to.
Accounts.
The following account was presented and passed for payment
Mrs Cole salary £3
phone £2-5-0
petty cash £1-7-6
hire of room £1-2-6
total £7-15-0
Electricity.
Loss of light in The Grove was again reported and after discussion it was decided to await the full report promised by SWEB.
Playing field.
The clerk reported difficulty in obtaining a reply to a letter written to Messrs Gibbons and Moore concerning the field we had hoped to acquire and it was decided that another letter be sent requesting an answer to a letter of 27th of April last and that same be sent by recorded delivery post. Burial-ground.
The question of the provision of a garden of remembrance was discussed at some length and it was decided that members would each endeavour to obtain information on this matter and that a scheme should be finalised at the October meeting when a Parish meeting could be called to discuss the whole matter.
The clerk was instructed to ask Mr Kranshaar (stet) if he would again undertake to trim the hedges and cut the grass around the graves.
AOB.
Cr Lunnon asked the district counsellors for an explanation about why development was now authorised in Mr Tozer's field in view of local feeling in this matter and after Kingsbridge had been advised that, locally, it was not considered desirable.
Before closing the meeting a tribute was paid to the late Mr Jim Foale with memories of his many years of service to the parish.
This ended the business and the meeting ended at 10 pm signed Chairman 9.10.64.

Blackawton Parish Council minutes 1952-1977

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Monday 19th October 1964 at 7:30 pm
Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Williams. All other councils members were present, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising
Playing field.
The clerk reported having sent a letter per recorded delivery to Messrs Gibbon and Moore requesting a reply to our letter of 27th of April last but no communication had been received. After some discussion the clerk was instructed to seek advice from Mr Savidge of the RDC concerning a) a telephone call to Gibbon and Moore or b) a letter suggesting that we were applying for a compulsory purchase order in respect of the fields concerned and in due course to act on this advice.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported that a funeral had taken place since the last meeting and the certificate for grant of exclusive right of burial for Mr Hibbin was duly signed.
The council then proceeded to finalise the business of a garden of remembrance and it was decided that section A on the burial ground plan should be used for the scattering of ashes and section E would be used for the interment of caskets, in plots 2‘ x 18“ and 2 foot deep, the size we are advised by Efford crematorium is correct for two caskets. The fee for internment of cremated remains to be £2-10-0 and the cost of exclusive rights of burial in section E would be £3.
The fee for scattering the ashes in section A would be 17-6. It was further resolved that the fees in respect of section D -burial in earthen graves- should be revised and that internment fees should be doubled and exclusive rights increased to A) £6-6-0, B) £10-10-0 and C) 3-3-0 respectively.
The clerk was then instructed to submit this amendment to the minister of housing and local government for approval.
AOB.
Cr Sage referred to Cllr Lunnon’s enquiry at the last meeting concerning development planning, and the room and read the letter he had received from Mr Savidge on this matter. This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:40 pm.

A public meeting had been called for 8pm to discuss and approve the new business of the Burial Ground but as no member of the General Public attended it was resolved that the matter should proceed as decided in Council.
Signed Chairman 11.11.64

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, 11 November 1964 at 7:30 pm. Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Williams, all other members were present, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record. Correspondence.
A letter was read from Stoke Fleming Parish Council concerning the Devon County review and the clerk was asked to acknowledge this letter and file it with other papers on this matter.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment and cheques signed.
SWEB public lighting £7-9-3
Mr Krushaar Cemetary work £6-0-0
Playing field.

The promised forms not being to hand it was resolved that this must be awaited before anything more can be done.
Burial ground.
It was resolved that the clerk should write to Mr Chapman, explaining the difficulties concerning funds available for Grave digging and to request him to accept £2-10-0 for his work on this occasion.
Cr Lunnon undertook to revise the cemetery plan in regard to section E, in connection with the smaller plots for caskets.
Cr Coe undertook the making of a suitable notice board for use in the cemetery.
AOB.
Councillor Mrs Edwards reported enquiries from the village regarding the provision of another additional telephone kiosk or the re-siting of the present one and the clerk was instructed to make the necessary enquiries.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm signed chairman 9.12.64

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in school on Wednesday, 9 December 1964 at 7:30 pm.
Apologies were received from Councillor Penn, all other members were present, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
Playing field.
The clerk reported progress in connection with the purchase of land for the playing field and after some discussion it was resolved that Mr Gardner, solicitor, of Dartmouth, be asked to prove the vendor's title to the land. Telephone kiosk.
A letter was read from the telephone manager regarding our enquiry re-the re-siting of the kiosk and the clerk was asked to reply suggesting that the kiosk be re-sited at the post office.
Britain in Bloom.
A letter from HE Morton, a committee member of the South Hams Society, was read in which an offer of trees and shrubs was made to the parish council and this was passed to Cllr Penn for attention.
Grove lights.
The clerk reported a telephone message from SWEB concerning the light in the Grove which has been causing so much trouble, in which it was stated that this lamp was being damaged deliberately. It was requested that the Parish Council should report this damage to the police and if in future it became necessary to advise the police of this behaviour, SWEB would deal with it direct and advise the council of any action.
Electricity.
The clerk reported that Mr G Pugh of the electricity board had called at her home to discuss the laying of hardening at a section of the lane above the school. After some discussion it was agreed that this is a matter for the owner of the fields concerned and Devon County Council and the clerk were asked to advise SWEB that this was not a local matter and therefore the Parish Council referred SWEB to take it up with Exeter.
Accounts.
Bank of England £11-12-7
Mrs Cole salary phone and petty cash £7-11-9
Cheques signed.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm signed Chairman 13.1.65.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in school on Wednesday 13th of January 1965 at 7:30 pm.
All members were present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record. Correspondence.
Precept.
The usual enquiry re-estimates for 1965/6 was considered at great length and it was decided in view of the plans for the cemetery that funds must be available to meet this expense over and above the usual maintenance costs and it was therefore resolved the precept be estimated at £185. General account £60, public lighting account £40 and burial-ground £85.
Roads.
Complaints were again made concerning the condition of the roads with special reference to the Springs which are making Quarry head Road dangerous, the dirty condition of the village to Dallacombe Road and the lack of attention to the dangerous lengths of road from Bowbridge to Forder and Bow bridge to Dallacombe orchard.
The clerk was instructed to contact “someone higher up the scale than Mr Gay” in connection with these complaints mentioning the fact that the latter items were discussed as long ago as March 1963 and the promise was made, in writing, by Mr Gay that the fence would be renewed
This ended the business and the meeting ended at 8:35
Signed Chairman 10.2.65

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 10th of February 1965 at 7:30 pm. With the exception of Cllr Williams all members were present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and duly signed as correct.
correspondence
Deeds of site of old village hall.
The clerk reported a request from Mr Mason, solicitor, of Newton Abbot acting for Mr Oldrieve of Hillside for the document which indicated the consent of the minister of health to the conveyance of this piece of land to Mr Life dated 5th December 1947. This document was traced and handed to Mr Mason for attachment to the deeds and a receipt was obtained for sale.
Roads.
A letter from the divisional surveyors office in Kingsbridge, was read in which reference was made to some necessary repairs required to a retaining wall near a small bridge between Seven gates and Waterslade, the present cost of which is estimated at £125. As “this is an old occupation lane over which the public have a right of way and as this right-of-way is within the Parish” the county roads department are asking if this council would “be willing to subscribe towards this expenditure”. After considerable discussion it was decided it was decided that the clerk should write stating that this council feel this is a county council matter and asking for more precise details and a request for an explanation of what is an “old occupation lane”.
It was also reported that the road between Milcombe and Seccombe, at a point some 30 yards beyond the footbridge, is underwater to a depth of 3 to 4 inches whenever it rains. It was decided that the DCC be asked to look into this and do what is possible to put it right.
Burial-ground.

A letter from Mr Chapman was received at the meeting in which he stated that he was unable to accept the £2-10-0 sent to him last November and enclosing an account for £3-10-0. A cheque for £1 was therefore signed in his favour in connection with Grave digging last October, re-Mr J Hibbin.
Accounts.
The SWEB account for December quarter Street Lighting was duly signed in the sum of £7-9-3.
Churchill Memorial fund.
The clerk reported a phone message from Mr Savidge concerning the local effort in this matter, and after some discussion it was decided that 12 cans should be asked for and as many more as are required for distribution to village shops, the WI and any other collectors.
Local branch of the DAPC.
A letter was read from Mr F Edwards of Stokenham regarding an inaugural meeting and requesting this council to send two members to this meeting. The two district counsellors agreed to attend if possible.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm
signed Chairman 10.3.65

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday 10th of March 1965 at 7:30 pm. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Coe; all other members were present and the minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Churchill Memorial fund.
It was reported that six cans had been allocated for use in Blackawton and arrangements were discussed for handing over of the cans from one collector to another with a view to covering our area in a house to house collection during March.
Correspondence.
Local branch of DAPC.
It was reported that our representatives had not been able to attend the meeting in Kingsbridge arranged for 19th of February but that they would endeavour to ascertain information on the meeting and report at the April council meeting.
Playing field.
The clerk reported hearing from Mr Gardner concerning Messrs Gibbons and Moore's title to this land and after discussion it was resolved that Mr Gardner be instructed to make an offer of £500 for this land in accordance with Messrs Rendell's valuation.
Town and country planning amendment.
A copy of the bill in connection with planning amendment was received from the DAPC, together with a request that this council write in support of the bill to 1. the minister of housing and local government, 2. Sir Frank Pearson the local member of Parliament and our county councillor, and it was resolved that this request be complied with. Accounts.
The following account was presented and passed for payment and the cheque was signed
Mrs Cole salary £3
phone £2-5-0
Hire of room (six meetings) £2-5-0
typewriter repairs £1-7-0
petty cash £1-14-0 and 11-0
total £10-11-11
civil defence.

After some considerable discussion it was decided that any arrangements previously planned were now out of date and the clerk was instructed to contact Mr Savidge to ask that a member of the standing committee would attend our annual parish meeting at 6 o'clock on Wednesday 24th March, in accordance with Mr Savidge's letter dated 21st of December 1964.
Amalgamation of parishes.
No further detailed information being available on this subject the clerk was asked to write again to Strete Parish Council asking for an appointment for our chairman to meet Strete Chairman for a personal chat on the subject of amalgamation and for Cllr Sage to report back at the April meeting.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported a funeral since the last meeting, that of Mr George H Tucker of Hatherleigh. This being a non-parishioner business it had resulted in a surplus of income over expenses amounting to £13.
The deed of grant was duly signed.
The table of fees payments and sums in its revised form is now lodged with the printers and will subsequently be sent to the minister of housing for approval.
AOB.
It was reported that the light in the telephone kiosk is not working and the clerk undertook to advise the postmaster. It was also reported that the time switch for the street lighting is again faulty and that SWEB had promised to put this right as soon as possible.
Annual parish meeting.
It was resolved that the statutory meeting be convened for 6 pm on Wednesday 24th of March 1965.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:10 pm signed vice chairman 14.4.65.

Annual parish meeting.
Notice of the APM was displayed from March 15 in the parish noticeboard calling a meeting for 6 pm on Wednesday 24th of March 1965.
Members of the civil defence committee in Kingsbridge had requested an opportunity to attend the annual meeting with a view to discussing CD.
At the appointed hour however only our chairman Cllr Sage and the clerk Mrs Cole arrived to greet the visitors, Messrs Clark, Edwards and Brigadier Walters-Symons.
After waiting until 7 pm it was finally agreed to abandon the meeting.

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday 14th of April 1965 at 7:30 pm
Those present were Cllrs Coe, Edwards, Lunnon, Toms and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Mr Clark, district CD officer also attended.
A letter of resignation was read from Mr Sage and it was decided to postpone the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for this meeting and Councillor Toms took the chair as vice chairman.
It was decided that Cllr Toms should see Mr Sage to ascertain the reason for his resignation.
Councillor Toms welcomed Mr Clark.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Correspondence.
A letter from the county surveyor at Exeter re Pruston Lane was considered and the clerk was instructed to reply that in view of the lack of evidence of public danger, the council do not propose to contribute towards the cost of any repair in this instance.
Telephone kiosk.
It was reported that the telephone sales superintendent had visited the site and as a result it was decided that plans would be made to have the kiosk sited at the post office.
Town and country planning amendment bill. Acknowledgement of all three letters in support of this bill were read. Ministry of housing and local government noted the support but said the ministry is reluctant to incorporate anything which would add to the time taken in settling planning applications.
Civil defence.
Mr Clark discussed with the council the real need for preparation and proper planning in case of trouble and as a result of his remarks application forms were distributed for local people to sign and ultimately form a committee. Burial-ground.
The clerk reported a funeral since the last meeting, that of Mr Ryder.
Final amendments were made to the table of fees, and the clerk was instructed to send the same forward for approval by the Ministry of housing.
SWEB.
Further complaints were received regarding the time switch and it was resolved that a letter be sent to the consumers council with a copy to DAPC and SWEB at Kingsbridge.
Playing field.
The clerk was instructed to ask Mr Gardner to press this matter with a view to an early settlement regarding our offer to Messrs Gibbons and Moore.
Minute book.
Instructions were given for the order to be sent to Haddon Best for a new book.
Churchill Memorial fund.
The local collections had totalled £17-4-9 and the receipt for this sum was displayed in the parish noticeboard.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9.10 pm.
Signed Chairman 26.5.65.

The annual meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday 26th of May 1965 at 7:30 pm
Those present were Cllrs Coe, Edwards, Penn, Toms and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Election of chairman and vice Chairman.
Cr Toms was unanimously elected chairman and likewise Cllr Coe as vice chairman.
The clerk was instructed to write expressing the Council's thanks to Mr Sage for his loyalty and efforts on behalf of the parish during his term of office as chairman.
Minutes.
Minutes of the last meeting were read and Duly signed as a correct record.
Correspondence.
A letter of thanks from Mr Clark for allowing him to "put the case for civil defence" at the April meeting was read.
The clerk reported receiving two unusual communications: 1. A postcard from Hove addressed to 'the publicity officer' requesting a brochure of hotels, and 2. an air mail letter from New York addressed 'city information bureau' seeking information concerning

accommodation and architecture and public buildings of our town. Both communications were replied to in suitable terms.

Burial-ground.

The clerk reported a funeral since the last meeting that of Mrs Dennis, and also that whilst at the cemetery on that occasion she found that a kerb, presumably the one removed for the funeral of Mr Ryder, had been laid in the grass well away from the graves and was in danger of being overgrown before the usual haymaking. Enquiries were being made with a view to contacting the monumental masons concerns.

Cr Penn undertook to cut the grass and Cllrs Toms and Williams offered to help with this work.

In view of the alterations planned for the cemetery and particularly the general reorganisation, the clerk was instructed to request that the key to the toolshed be available for the convenience of the burial board for stocktaking purposes.

The table of fees now being ready for submission to the ministry the clerk was instructed to have same published in the local paper, the Dartmouth Chronicle, and for a copy to be sent with the other documents.

Street lighting.

The correspondence with the consumers council was discussed and in view of the fact that the time switch is still not satisfactory it was reported that part of the village is in darkness at approximately 10:40 pm whilst the rest is lit until almost midnight. It was decided that a further letter be sent to the consumers council.

Accounts.

Precept for £85 was signed in respect of requirements for the first half year.

The following accounts were presented and passed for payment

SWEB £7-9-3
Hadden Best £3-7-10
DAPC £1-9-3 and 14-0
PWLB £11-12-7
Mrs Cole salary £3
phone £2-5-0
petty cash £1-5-0
audit stamp £3

Casual vacancy co-option.

In view of the vacancy caused by Mr Sage's resignation it was decided to invite Mr Alan Buckpitt (proposed Cllr Williams and seconded Cllr Penn to join the council. In case he was unable to accept it was decided to invite Mr John Nichols Junior (proposed Cllr Toms, seconded Cllr Edwards. AOB.

The clerk reported receipt of the new minute book.

Road closure.

Reference was made to the very considerable inconvenience caused by the road closure in the village and the inadequacy of the notices which have been posted after the closure had been affected. It was reported that there was every likelihood of the closure remaining for a fortnight and in view of this possibility the clerk was instructed to contact someone with the object of having suitable direction notices displayed, particularly as visitors for Whitsun would be unlikely to find their way through the village without some such help.

It was decided that owing to the date of this annual meeting, no council meeting would be called for June unless emergency required it.

This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm signed Chairman 14.7.65

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, 14 July 1965 at 7:30 pm, those present being Cllr Toms, chair, Coe, Lunnon, Penn and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole. The minutes of the last meeting we read and sign as a true record. Correspondence.
A letter was reported as having been received from an address in Exeter the signature to which was indecipherable, as also was most of the letter. After some consideration it was decided that it was an enquiry concerning someone from Salcombe who had been there in 1910 or 1911. It was agreed that if able to read the signature or ascertain details of it the clerk should answer appropriately.
Burial ground.
A letter and supply of forms in connection with the revised fees, was received from the Ministry of housing and local government, and the clerk was instructed to complete same as required.
Casual Vacancy.
Both previous nominees have declined office and it was resolved that Mr Nolan Tope be invited, proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded Cllr Toms
Accounts.
The meeting was reminded that the annual audit was due to take place on Monday 19th of July in Kingsbridge and the clerk's expenses were agreed at 25 shillings.A second inscription fee of 10 shillings was received re Ryder's grave. The follow accounts were presented and passed for payment
Dartmouth Chronicle printing £8-3-6
William Lewis war memorial repairs £9-5-4
SWEB June account £7-9-3
Mrs Cole audit expenses £1-5-0.
AOB.
The bell ringers practice in the church being immediately above the room in which the council meet made hearing very difficult and it was decided that a Request be passed forward to endeavour to reduce the volume of sound during meetings.
In accordance with usual practice it was decided that no meeting would be called for August except that emergency required it.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.
Signed Chairman 8.9.65.

Declaration of acceptance of office.
I Nolan Tooe having been duly co-opted to the office of Parish Councillor, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof to the best of my judgement and ability.
Dated the 10th day of November 1965
signed Nolan Tope
This declaration was made and signed before me as chairman of the Parish Council
Michael Toms

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday eighth of September 1965 at 7:30 pm, those present being Cllr Toms, chair, Edwards, Williams Penn and Lunnon and the clerk Mrs Cole.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.

Matters arising.
It was reported that in response to the request concerning the bell ringing, the Vicar had dealt with this matter and it seems very satisfactory.
Correspondence.
Blackawton WI asked permission to plant low shrubs by the war memorial and a flowering tree near the Grove and some other suitable place or places in the village, with the promise that the WI would "look after them", in connection with their Golden Jubilee year. the clerk was instructed to thank them and to express the council's appreciation of the gesture.
OAP rest centre Kingsbridge.
A letter was read concerning the newly opened rest centre in Kingsbridge and a request for help in raising funds. The clerk was asked to reply that whilst we support the scheme in principle, there is no means of transport from our area to Kingsbridge and therefore our OAPs use the Dartmouth centre.
Playing Field
The clerk reported a visit at her office from Mr J0 Mann of the wayleave Department of SWEB at Torquay, in connection with obtaining permission to put down poles for the carriage of high voltage cables for use in regard to the supply of electricity locally. Mr Mann, in confidence, advised that he had been referred to the council as being involved in the purchase of the fields concerned.
After some discussion it was decided that these fields, if purchased, would be used as playing fields and overhead cables would therefore be dangerous, for kite flying for instance, and therefore sanction would not be given for wayleaves over this property.
It was also decided that Councillor Toms should personally call on Mr Gardner with a view to hurrying this business of purchase.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported the funeral of Miss Tucker and presented the deed of grant for signature.
The table of fees has again been returned from the ministry for further adjustment and was duly altered and posted back to London.
Telephone kiosk.
Enquiry was again made regarding the removal of the kiosk to the new site and a report of misuse and dirty condition was also given. The clerk was asked to deal appropriately.
Civil defence.
Correspondence and posters were passed to Cllr Williams for his attention.
Accounts.
A was presented and passed in the sum of £8-1-2 in respect of the clerk's salary and expenses
This ended the business and the meeting ended at 9 pm
Signed Chairman 13.10.65.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 13th of October 1965 at 7:30 pm, those present being Cllr Toms, chair, Coe, Edwards Lunnon and Penn and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Cllr Williams.
Minutes.
Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a correct record.
Correspondence.

A letter was read from the Devon correspondent of the National pure water Association concerning fluoridation of public water supplies, but as the rural district Council had already dealt with this matter it was decided to do nothing. Fouling by dogs.
Correspondence from Mr Savidge was read concerning this matter and asking whether the council would like the byelaw to apply to this parish if and when the county council make such a byelaw. After some discussion it was decided to support this idea as although at present we have very few pavements it might be useful at a later date. Civil defence.
A request for information regarding the local CD personnel was read from Mr Clark and it was decided to leave this matter until the next meeting in order that it can be discussed with Cllr Williams.
Telephone kiosk.
The clerk reported that as a result of last month's complaints about the village kiosk, the postmaster from Totnes had visited the village and dealt once again with those concerns with the cleaning. In connection with the removal to the post office site, Mr Culverhouse says the authorities consider the present position most central but that if the council can suggest some other site, preferably on council ground, the telephone manager would be prepared to discuss the matter further. After a considerable discussion the clerk was instructed to say the council feel that the village post office is the obvious place for ease of cleaning, coinbox emptying, etc etc. It was also stated that on three separate occasions the kiosk was out of order because the coin box was not functioning due to being overloaded.
Burial-ground.
The ministry having at last approved the revised table of fees, in draft form, a further copy, in duplicate, duly signed and sealed, has been sent for the minister's signature. The clerk was instructed to order 100 copies of the revised fees leaflet from the printers.
The matter of rearrangement and general tidying of the cemetery was discussed and it was decided that Cllr Penn and the clerk should endeavour to obtain information regarding the proper layout and persons able to undertake this work, and to report back at the next meeting.
Playing field.
The Chairman reported on his meeting with Mr Gardner, as a result of which it is hoped that more definite information will be available at the next meeting.
Accounts.
Mrs Coe's account for the noticeboard for use in connection with the cemetery, was presented and passed in the sum of £4-12-10.
School dustbins.
It was noticed that the school dustbins were again standing on the church steps and the clerk was asked to remind the RDC public health department of the promise that these bins should be collected from and to returned to the school gates.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:30 pm signed Chairman 10.11.65.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday, November 10, 1965 at 7:30 pm. Those present were Cllr Toms, chair, Coe, Edwards, Lunnon, Tope, Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Apologies were received from Cllr Penn. The chairman welcomed Cllr Tope, and after the signing of acceptance of office the usual business ensued.
The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Civil defence.

Cr Williams was asked if he would undertake to form a committee and enlist anyone interested in this matter, reporting to the Parish Council as and when necessary. This he agreed to do and the clerk was instructed to advise Mr Clark accordingly.
Telephone kiosk.
The clerk reported a conversation with Mr Melville in Exeter, in regard to the re-siting of the village kiosk as a result of which it is hoped that our request will be complied with, but not for some time.
Burial-ground.
The clerk reported receiving yet another communication from the ministry wherein we are required to have another currently dated advertisement in the press and if no objections are received within 14 days of publication it is promised that the minister's signature will be appended to the revised table of fees.
The clerk also reported the receipt of an estimate from Mr Weeden of Brixham for putting the cemetery in a respectable state, in the sum of £108, but as this estimate does not cover the type of work required it was held over pro tem.
Mrs Cole further reported having discussed this work with Mr C Dayment of Pruston and it was resolved that Mr Dayment be invited to quote for this work. During the discussion which followed, it was found that the original plan, drawn by Mr Maddick of Kingsbridge, did not disclose the scale used, and the clerk was instructed to contact Mr Maddick to obtain this information.
Accounts.
The following account was presented and passed for payment
SWEB September account £7-9-3
This concluded the business and the meeting ended at 9:20 pm
signed Chairman 8.12.1965.

A meeting of Blackawton parish council was held in the school on Wednesday eighth of December 1965 at 7:30 pm.
Those present were Cllr Toms, chair, Coe, EdwardS, Lunnon, Penn and Williams and the clerk Mrs Cole
Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising.
Cr Williams gave some details of the CD requirements and requested that this matter be included in the agenda next month for more consideration.
Correspondence.
A letter was read from CA Ansell regarding fluoride in public water and the clerk was instructed to reply that our views have already been conveyed to the RDC.
Accounts precept.
An estimate of next year's requirements was requested by Kingsbridge and it was resolved that £150 be asked for. No additional amount will be needed to March 1966 but the £100 outstanding for the current year was required and precept in that sum was duly signed.
Playing field.
It was reported that Mr Gardner solicitor had presented a contract for the purchase of the Gibbon Moore property for signature by the Harris Memorial trustees and that he had also requested a cheque for £50 deposit (10% of purchase price) which sum he has now received and a request for the balance is now awaited.

It was decided that a playing field committee should be formed to carry on the business and thus relieve the Parish Council of any further responsibility in this matter.
Burial ground.
The clerk reported a funeral since the last meeting, that of Mr Cyril Oldrieve. As the ground had been purchased some years ago there was no deed of grant for signature.
The necessary time having lapsed regarding the final publishing of the fees, the ministry were advised of this fact and also that no objections had been received, and we now await the signed approval.
And estimate from Mr C Dayment for work in the cemetery was discussed at some length and it was decided that certain points needed clarifying and that same be deferred until the next meeting.
Accounts.
The following accounts were presented and passed for payment
Dartmouth Chronicle £1-7-6
PWLB £11-12-7
Mrs Cole salary £3
phone £2-5-0
petty cash £1-18-9
travel expenses 3-9
It was agreed that reasonable travelling expenses to be paid to the clerk, the standard rate of 9d per mile.
Roads and flooding.
The clerk was instructed to write to Mr Savidge regarding the flooding from above FrenchFurze corner down Hillside, due to the surface stormwater not connecting with the new sewer works recently undertaken in the village. Also to Mr Gay regarding the springs which cause dangerous surface flooding on both sides of the valley at Quarry Head Road. And also to report the fact that the tarmac is washed out by the recent heavy rain, at the foot of Abbotsleigh Hill at Millcombe. If this is allowed to get much worse it could cause an accident.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 9:20 pm signed Chairman 12.1.66.

A meeting of Blackawton Parish Council was held in the school on Wednesday 12th of January 1966 at 7:30 pm, those present being Cllr Toms, chair, Edwards, Coe, Tope, Penn, Williams and Lunnon and the clerk Mrs Cole.
Minutes of the last meeting were read and signed as a true record.
Matters arising
Burial Ground
The work in the cemetery was again discussed and a second more detailed estimate from Mr Dayment was considered and it was decided that Mr Dayment should be asked to price each item, individually, and also that Mr Brian Goss of Dartmouth be asked to quote for this work.
Civil defence.
Cr Williams explained the requirement and necessary personnel for the executive committee and after some discussion it was agreed that Mr Clark should be asked to attend a meeting at a date approximately in five weeks time at which a nucleus of a local executive committee would be present, and Cllr Williams would advise those concerned in due course.
Playing field.

This matter was again discussed and it was decided that the Parish Council should be relieved of responsibility which will, in future, be accepted by the playing field committee.
This ended the business and the meeting closed at 8:50 pm
Signed Chairman 9.2.66

This transcription was done by James Mussen of Lower Collaton Farm, 2021.