



Shepton Montague Parish Council

Clerk's Report 20th August 2026

1. The defibrillator has been registered on 'The Circuit'. Cllrs Willasey-Wilsey and Sykes have been nominated support guardians, there is an agenda item to discuss other potential nominated support guardians. The defib pads (Adult) will need replacing in June 2030, I have created a 'Budget forward planning' spreadsheet document for items like this, to ensure it doesn't drop off of the radar when planning budget.
2. The Somerset Parishes 2026 Conference is scheduled for 3rd October and I have booked my place for this. If any of you are interested in coming along, let me know. This is a free event and great for networking and getting ideas.
3. The new memory hardware has been installed into my laptop and does seem to be making a difference! There is an invoice within the agenda for authorisation.
4. We have received zero applications for the councillor vacancy.
5. The consultation deadline for Somerset Council Local Plan has been extended to 9th August.
6. I received an invitation from 'Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd (SAAA) to sign up for a digital portal account. I plan to use this for next year's AGAR submission. Please note the details: The Digital AGAR Portal will be **voluntary for the 2027 AGAR submission**, giving authorities an opportunity to become familiar with the new process and benefit from the enhanced functionality. SAAA intends for the portal to become the primary submission route and, subject to final arrangements, its use is expected to become **mandatory for the 2029 AGAR submissions**. To encourage early adoption, SAAA will also be introducing an **incentive scheme during 2027** for authorities that register for and use the Digital AGAR Portal. Further details of this scheme will be announced later this year. To help us prepare for the portal launch, we'd like to make sure we have the correct contact details for your authority. Having up-to-date information will ensure that the right people receive important updates, training invitations and portal access information as soon as it becomes available.
7. The FREE Defib training has been organised by Cllr Willasey-Wilsey and has been promoted on the website as well as via the village what's app group.