

# DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held in Village Hall dressing rooms on Tuesday December 2nd, 2025**

**Present:** Cllrs P French (Chairman), K Morris, P Lewis, B Webber, C Parry, P Harper, A Arnold, T Anderson, District Cllr A Swain and the Clerk Lynne Ogden 1 Members of the Public attended for item 10.

**1. a) Apologies** – Cllr Squire. Noted and accepted.

**b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests:** Cllr Morris item 5

**2. Minutes of the Council meeting held on November 4th, 2025,** had been distributed, were approved and signed.

## **3. Progress Reports**

**3.1 Action Points from last meeting-** All actions completed from last meeting.

**3.2 Clerk's report** – had been sent to all Cllrs. with the Highways report.

**3.3 Reports from other Councillors/representatives** – Cllr Swain had sent a report which had been distributed to all Cllrs. He had updated the Council on the latest thoughts on Local Government Reorganisation and said it was now up to the Government to decide which route will be taken.

**3.4 Housing Working Group** – Cllr French had circulated the joint statement from TDC and DNPA about the affordable housing project, prior to the meeting. Cllr Lewis then elaborated and clarified any points from Council, who were asked to consider the situation carefully prior to a wider discussion in future. Similarly, the Council will also need to decide on the best way to engage the Parishioners on this topic.

### **Action All Cllrs**

**3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT)** –Nothing to report

**3.6 The Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI)** – Cllr Squire had sent a report to all Cllrs. Cllr French asked the Council to agree to co-opting Cllr Harper on to the Committee. The Council agreed.

**Action Cllrs French/Squire**

**3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Cllrs - None**

**4. Correspondence:** - List of correspondence listed overleaf. Nothing to discuss.

## **5. Finance**

**5.1 C/A - £15,498.48 as at 24/10/2025     BBI/A - £1877.54 as at 09/10/25**

**The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -**

**5.2 Clerk's Salary (4 weeks) – Net pay £474.40 + exp. £32.49 = £506.89 chq 1635**

**5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for November - £100 chq 1636**

**5.4 Room Hire (October) – Village Hall MC - £30 chq 1637**

**5.5 Graham Dicker Village Maintenance – Dec. 2023 – Nov. 2025 - £2326.64 chq 1638**

**5.6 Budget 2025-2026** – The Clerk presented a proposed base budget to build upon. Each Cllr was given the opportunity to suggest ideas for future projects/funding. These included a) contribution towards the digitalisation of the Dunsford Millenium Photos b) Funding for training the Lengthsman c) Funding to contribute to Village Hall maintenance d) Funding for new assets such as land e) Funding for a Community events ‘pot’ f) funds to support 20s Plenty activities. g) using 3.8% as the increase for normal payments.

**5.7 Cllr K Morris** – reimbursement of DERT leaflet printing costs - **£40.54 chq 1639**

- 6. Village Green** – a) Cllr Webber had carried out the monthly report and this had been sent to all Councillors. All is well and there have been no more issues with dog waste. Cllr French reported that he had experimented with an organic weed killer in the Orchard area and it seems to be working. So, he will try this on the grass which is growing through the matting in the play area. **Cllrs Webber/French**

**7. Planning: Applications: 7.1 None**

**Decisions: 7.2 Teignbridge 25/01636/NPA** – Land adjacent to Westview Farm – Application for Prior Approval under Part 3 Class Q for change of use of agricultural building to six dwellinghouses – Grant of Request for Prior Approval

- 8. Lengthsman** – tasks for December were discussed. Lengthsman to continue with the regular monitoring/cleaning of drains. The drain on the junction of Boyland and Corrabridge roads needs emptying but most probably too much for the Lengthsman. The Clerk will report to Highways. **Action Clerk**

**9. 20s Plenty** – The Council voted and resolved to approve funding a structure, on which, to post the banner. **Action Cllrs Arnold/Parry**

**10. Adoption of phone box** – The Council has already expressed an interest with BT to adopt the phone box, and resident Hannah Smallridge attended the meeting to express her interest in organising this project. Some residents have suggested a library/book exchange as the use for it, and this was discussed and accepted by the Council. There are still some processes that need attention, but the Clerk will liaise with HS to take these forwards. The Chairman thanked Hannah for volunteering. **Action Clerk**

**11. Village distress fund** – A recent incident instigated a resident calling a meeting of interested people. This was to discuss how to give support to anyone homeless who appears in Dunsford and the setting up of a fund to facilitate this. Cllrs French and Morris were asked to attend as representatives of the Council. The Church Parochial Council has decided to contribute £100 towards this and asked if the Parish Council would match this. Cllr French proposed and Cllr Morris seconded this. VOTE: unanimous Monies will be kept in the relevant accounts under Allocated funds and used as snecessary. **Action Cllr French/Clerk**

**12. Matters brought forward by the Chairman (for information only /possible addition to next month's agenda including: - a)** Any pressing Highways issues for Clerk to pass on to Highways' contact – drain at Butts/ Collabridge junction needs emptying b) there had been a recent incident of a dog attacking another dog. The Council have been informed that the correct procedure when this occurs is to contact the Police. c) The Council wish to inform residents that, if there is any incident of fly tipping, Teignbridge District Council should be informed, and they will deal with it. **Action Clerk**

**13. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 7:30 pm in the Walled Garden Tea Rooms**

**There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55 pm and light refreshments were served to the Council and guests to thank them for their work this year.**

**Signed as a true record..... (chairman)**

**Date .....**

**Email circulation during the past month**

- Planning applications and decisions from DNPA and Teignbridge
- Rural Services Network Bulletin plus Funding Digests and weekly newsletters
- DALC newsletters
- Devon Communities Together – various newsletters
- Teignbridge District Council newsletter
- Devon County Council newsletter
- Morgan Wilkinson – reminder of Local Government Reorganisation meeting for stake holders
- National Park Forum info
- Devon Climate Emergency newsletter
- DCC Roadmap newsletter