

# DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms on Tuesday March 3rd, 2026

**Present:** Cllrs K Morris (Chair), B Webber, P Harper, R Squire, T Anderson, A Arnold, C Parry, District Cllr A Swain and the Clerk Lynne Ogden. 0 Members of the Public attended

**Sergeant Ryan Cooke** (Neighbourhood Team Leader) attended for the beginning of the meeting. Cllr Morris welcomed him to the meeting and invited him to speak. He informed us of two key people for Dunsford – **Police Constable 12307, Jo Gilbrook, is the new Neighbourhood beat manager and Police Community Support Officer, Tina Jordan.** It is hoped they can attend the Annual parish meeting. Cllr Harper asked that photos of our key officers can be sent to the Clerk. Sgt Cooke agreed. He also informed the Council that Teignbridge have a nominated Anti-social behaviour officer, Laura Evans, and any incidents can be reported to her via the Teignbridge website.

<https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/clean-safer-neighbourhoods/anti-social-behaviour/report-anti-social-behaviour/>

However, he assured the Council that Dunsford remains a low crime parish.

1. **a) Apologies** – Cllrs French, Lewis, and County Cllr Keeling sent apologies. Noted and accepted.  
**b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests:** Cllr Morris has connections with item 5.4 p/ment as bookings secretary for the Village Hall.

2. **a) Minutes of the meeting held on January 6th, 2026**, had been distributed, were approved and signed. These were not signed at the February meeting as the Council wished to add this to the first paragraph of item 3.4, for clarification - The Clerk agreed to note the following in addition to the approval of the January minutes and a copy of this item will be attached to item 3.4 of the January minutes for clarity: - *There was a great deal of discussion, as the situation is very complex and not ideal, and there was a lot of concern for the position that the Council finds itself in. Despite this, the Council felt it had to be proactive and that it needed to set out its ideas in the current climate.*

**b) Minutes of the Council meeting held on February 3rd, 2026**, had been distributed, were approved and signed.

3. **Progress reports** (on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda).

**3.1 Action Points from last meeting-** all actions completed apart from securing some more 20s plenty stickers. The Clerk will also check on the ownership of the main sign and see if it is ok to adapt it.

**3.2 Clerk's report** – sent to all Cllrs. No Highways meeting this month.

**3.3 Reports from other councillors/ representatives** – reports received from District Cllr Swain and County Cllr Richard Keeling. Cllr Swain also reported that a Scrutiny Committee has now suggested that Teignmouth Lido should be opened. Not closed, as was the case. He would appreciate it if people could be encouraged to use it.

**3.4 Housing Working Group** – The Clerk has received an email from a resident, registering their concerns about site 1 being used for Affordable Housing. As the key Cllrs of this group are both away, the Clerk will meet with them as soon as possible to address this matter. The resident has been informed of this.

**Action Cllrs French/Lewis/the Clerk**

**3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT)** Nothing to report but it was agreed that they should meet again soon. **Cllr Morris**

**3.6 Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI)** - Next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> March **Cllr Squire**

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

**4. Correspondence:** - List of correspondence listed overleaf. To discuss a) Devon Community Resilience Forum in the TVCH on March 26<sup>th</sup> – the Clerk and Cllr Squire will attend.  
b) TDC Community Network Event, 1st April - No Cllrs can attend.

## **5. Finance**

**5.1 C/A - £10,730.15 as at 14/01/2026 BBI/A - £1,880.39 as at 09/01/26**

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

**5.2 Clerk's Salary (4 weeks) – Net pay to Clerk £474.40 + £170.98 (including £59.99 for new printer and £84.99 for Microsoft 365 subs.) = £645.38 chq 1646**

**5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for February – £100 chq 1647**

**5.4 Village Hall Room hire January/February – £20 chq 1648**

**5.5 Parish Online subs - £81 chq 1649**

**6. Village Green – a)** Cllr Webber had carried out the monthly report and this had been sent to all Councillors. All is well. She thanked the Lengthsman for his work in the Village Green. **b)** The ROSPA inspection will take place in March.

**7. Planning: Applications: 7.1 None Decisions: 7.2 Teignbridge 25/01991/FUL – Land at Ngr 283986 92577 – Dunsford -Demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of a self - build dwelling and change of use of adjoining land to residential – Grant of conditional planning permission.**

**8. Lengthsman** – tasks for March were discussed. These include removal of brambles on the decking in the Village Green and continuing work on the drains. He will continue with the regular areas that he monitors, in addition to this.

The Council would like to say **a big thank you to all residents** who played a big part in keeping the drains working in Dunsford during the recent extreme downpours. The Lengthsman has obviously been working on this as well but cannot be there all the time. So, the Council is very grateful for its residents who take a proactive part in the Village. **Action Clerk**

**9. Gov.uk domain**– The Clerk had presented possible domain names to the Council, and these were discussed. The Clerk will consider what was said and choose a suitable domain name and begin the process. **Action Clerk**

**10. Adoption of phone box Action** – The signed contract has been returned to BT, and the process should be completed soon. The Clerk will liaise with Hannah Smallridge who has offered to help set up a book swap/library in the Kiosk and keep the Council informed. **Action Clerk**

**11. Annual Parish Meeting** – The Council had an initial discussion, and a set of possible dates were given to the Clerk to check suitability. A date will be chosen, and the Clerk will begin the process of inviting contributors. Cllrs volunteered for necessary tasks. **Action Clerk**

**12.** The Council discussed the resolutions raised at the last meeting a) use of draft watermarks in minutes – the Clerk explained that this is considered as extra unnecessary admin. There is a statement on the website stating that all minutes are in draft until approved at the following meeting. This does not apply to minutes on the noticeboards as they have been approved. b) The Council discussed that all correspondence to be distributed to all members for approval prior to issue to the public – It was decided that approval from the whole Council was not needed for everyday correspondence from working group/committee members but that all Cllrs should be aware of anything being sent to residents. c) The Council discussed a draft open letter, (written by Cllr Lewis) for clarity about the Housing Working Group situation. It was agreed that it did help to clarify the situation and could be used accordingly. The Chair thanked Cllr Lewis for this.

**13. Matters brought forward by the Chair (for information only /possible addition to next month’s agenda including: - a)** Any pressing Highways issues for Clerk to pass on to Highways’ contact –The Clerk and some Cllrs have been made aware of the condition of Collabridge Road. The Council agreed that it has deteriorated a lot overtime and more so recently and they would like to prioritise it for improvement. b) there have been concerns about availability of parking spaces outside the Church. The Clerk will follow this up. c) Cllr Squire reported that the grit bin on the Fulford Road has been replaced. Thanks to Highways. **Action Clerk**

**14. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026 7:30 pm in the Village Hall dressing Rooms**

**There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.55pm**

**Signed as a true record..... (Chair) 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, including Village Hall’s
- Teignbridge District Council newsletter
- Devon County Council newsletter
- Devon Climate Emergency newsletter
- LGR update and next steps for town/parish councils
- Road closure notice Berry Cross – Park gate Cross – June 2026
- B3212 litter picking invitation
- Notification of play area inspection this month
- Devon Community Resilience Forum- Notice of Spring Forum