

Dunchideock Parish Council

Minutes of Dunchideock Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Village Hall on 10 November 2025 at 19:30

Present: Councillors Dudley Swain (DSw) (Chairman), Trevor Baker (TB), Edward Ellis (EE), Derren Summers (DSu), David Barclay-Watt (DB-W) and 6 members of the public.

- 247 Apologies for absence** - None
- 248 Declarations of Interest** - None
- 249 Public Discussion** - There were no questions.
- 250 Minutes** - Minutes of the PC meeting held on 8th September 2025 were agreed and signed off.
- 251 County and District Councillor's Reports and Election Result** –
Neither apologies nor reports had been received. Kevin Smith (Lib Dem) was elected.
- 252 Financial Report**
DB-W explained the financial position and tabled the income/expenditure to 31 October, the current balance being £22,712.79. Progress is being made on VAT reclaims for last year.
- 253 Annual Audit Documents**
The bank reconciliation, cash book and variances for 2024/25 remain to be completed.
- 254 Village Hall** – The rental payment of £75 for May, July and September was approved. The requested grant of £7,257.65, being 50% of the heating and insulation, was agreed. This comprises spending the received CIL money of £5,418 and a grant of £1,840, both rounded.
- 255 Dunchideock.net** – It was agreed to renew the domain for 3 years due 12/12/25 for £48. The WIX hosting of the domain and website is due for renewal in July 2026 at approximately £100 for 3 years. This is considerably less than the approximately £780 per year paid by the previous PC.
- 256 Local Government Reorganisation**
The four authority option being proposed by Exeter was discussed. The single New Devon proposal now seems to consist of 16 local area committees. Cllrs. thought this might be in effect be 16 district councils and perhaps not a progressive, simplifying proposal.
- 257 DALC Annual General Meeting** – Chairman summarized his attendance of the AGM. He did not pay the fee to attend the full day of the seminar.
- 258 Speed Limit on Dunchideock Roads** – No further information was tabled so it was confirmed that there is little prospect of making progress on a speed limit.
- 259 Bus Stop Shelter**
DB-W confirmed there is no additional information regarding passenger numbers. DSu reported on the question of land transfer and associated legal steps that are required. It was agreed to not progress this using legal specialists at present and to place this topic in abeyance for the immediate future.
- 260 Notice Boards**
The two boards are now paid for and production has commenced with delivery anticipated in several weeks. DSu reported that the Lord Haldon Hotel has kindly agreed to install the boards free of charge and the PC shall pay for the necessary materials.
- 261 Removal of Phone Box**
The Chairman was able, with one day's notice, to prevent the K6 box being removed. Following finalizing of purchase Contract and payment of £1, this box is now in the ownership of the PC. Our insurers have it covered for 3rd party, damage and theft at no additional cost. Discussions will be invited of the residents regarding maintenance and use. "Well done Dudley" was the response from

all present at the meeting.

262 Parish Clerk & RFO

An applicant was scheduled to be interviewed in Part 2 but she is ill and cannot attend.

263 Casual Vacancies - Co-options advertised on the notice board and web site. There have been no responses.

264 Public Discussion

There was discussion regarding flower pots in the village. Very kindly, members of the public will now look after these.

The poor condition of village name road signs was raised and it was agreed the Chairman will approach Devon CC regarding replacement signs.

265 Meetings in 2026 – It was agreed to hold meeting on January 12, March 9; May 11 (inc. Annual meetings), July 13, September 14 and November 9.

266 Date of next Meeting – The next meeting is 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman wished all present a Happy Christmas.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed Dated

Part 2 Meeting

267 In the absence of the applicant due to ill health, a discussion took place regarding the need and costs for a clerk/RFO. It appears legal requirements can be accommodated otherwise.

In view of the demands and finances of this PC, the necessity was not of urgency. Our requirements and advertisement will be revised to reflect 156 hours annually (3 hours per week) and at lower pay scale. The PC shall keep this subject under review.