

Dunchideock Parish Council

Minutes of Dunchideock Parish Council Meeting

Held at the Village Hall on 13th July 2026 at 19:30

Present: Councillors Dudley Swain (DSw) (Chairman), Trevor Baker (TB), David Barclay-Watt (DB-W), Derren Summers (DSu), and 2 members of the public.

324 Apologies for absence – Edward Ellis

325 Declarations of Interest - None

326 Public Discussion

A member of the public explained his interest in Belvedere Place, the old, empty property near the Belvedere. The Parish Council commented about the advantage of it being renovated and re-occupied.

327 Minutes

Minutes of the PC meeting held on 12th May 2026 were agreed and signed off.

328 County and District Councillor's Reports – Neither apologies nor reports had been received.

329 Financial Report

DBW provided information regarding the overall situation of 2025/26. The current balance is £16,890.73. The annual CIL report for 2025/26 needs to be completed. Reclaim of VAT from 2025/26 needs to be progressed.

330 AGAR and Internal Audit

SILC (Specialist In Local Councils) have been appointed as Internal Auditors. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was reviewed and must now be progressed. The AGAR will be progressed with DBW contacting SILC and PKF Littlejohn to ask for progress and extension of timetable. Several of the audit documents are now on dunchideock.net as required.

331 Items of Expenditure

The WIX hosting for dunchideock.net to 7/7/2029 was agreed at £259.20, a greater sum than previously now the initial 3-year discount has ended.

332 PC Documents Updates

It was agreed that updates to the other 15 policies will be reviewed in due course.

333 Village Name Signs

Devon Highways say no faults were found with our signs. Devon Highways has quoted £500 for a village sign replacement. In the meantime, a company has been approached for an outline quotation. Options are to be progressed.

334 Notice Boards

Installation completed with all work and costs undertaken free of charge by the Lord Haldon Hotel manager Wayne Moore and his staff, as a gift to Dunchideock. This is greatly appreciated and a formal acknowledgement will be sent to Mr. Moore. It was agreed to order 6 additional keys for £24.

It was agreed that the Chairman arrange to install a step at the bridge noticeboard and adjust the noticeboard height so it is safer to both read and access.

335 Telephone Box

The Box will have to be maintained (full re-painting and some repairs) to the standards set out by BT in their handover papers. Chairman will investigate BT's requirements and obtain three quotations including EE's offer to use his painter.

336 Manstree Junction Mirror

Devon Highways does not agree to the placing of such a mirror on the highway. A concern was also raised that there may be serious litigation against the PC should someone rely on the mirror but be involved in a vehicle crash. DSu will consult the Dunchideock public via WhatsApp regarding these options since the PC is not willing to go against Devon Highways policy nor take the litigations risks.

337 Public Rights of Way

The Chairman will contact Devon PRoW team regarding his 07/03/2026 response to their annual PRoW report. Although our Parish Paths Partnership is currently in abeyance, it was agreed that the style on path 103 to Idestone needs attention and perhaps might be a good use of the grant funds that we hold.

338 Parish Clerk & RFO

The post has been updated on the DALC website.

339 Casual Vacancies - There have been no responses to date.

340 Public Discussion

The outstanding Village Hall rental fees will be invoiced to the Parish Council shortly.

341 Date of Meeting

Date of next meeting is 14th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.25

Signed Dated