

Dunchideock Parish Council

Minutes of Dunchideock Parish Council Meeting
Held at the Village Hall on 8 September 2025 at 19:30

Present: Councillors Dudley Swain (DSw) (Chairman), Trevor Baker (TB), Edward Ellis (EE), Derren Summers (DSu), David Barclay-Watt and 1 member of the public.

228 Apologies for absence

None

229 Declarations of Interest - None

230 Public Discussion

There were no questions.

231 Minutes

Minutes of the PC meeting held on 14th July 2025 were agreed and signed off.

232 County and District Councillor's Reports –

Neither apologies nor reports had been received. It was noted that Cllr. Lake has been disqualified from being a TDC councillor. An election is scheduled for 9th October.

233 Financial Report

DBW explained the financial position, with the current balance at £21,471 Discussed the recovery of VAT for 2024/25 but as there is very little to be reclaimed it was decided not to make a claim.

234 Annual Audit Documents

The bank reconciliation, cash book and variances for 2024/25 remain to be completed. The asset register is now updated and on the PC website.

235 Local Government Reorganisation

The options were discussed. It was concluded that a single unitary council, excluding Plymouth, would probably be the most effective and cost-efficient structure. A response to this effect will be sent to TDC and DCC.

236 Teignbridge Local Plan 2020-2040

Proposals were noted but it was decided it was unnecessary to present a response to TDC.

237 DALC Annual meeting – 1 October Cost of £60 per person. No one wanted to go to the full event although DSw will attend the AGM (free of charge).

238 Speed Limit on Dunchideock Roads

DSu reported that no locals have dashcam evidence of dangerous situations. It was agreed that at the present time, there is little prospect of making progress on a speed limit.

239 Bus Stop Shelter

DSu reported that he was still awaiting details from Mike Gardener about his design for the shelter. The question of land transfer was discussed following informal advice from a Tower Court resident who is a solicitor with Mitchelmore's. More details are to be ascertained and a formal quote for the legal work required will be sought. Cost remains at £6,000 for the shelter and the base. The possibility of siting the Bus Stop Shelter further up the hill has been discounted. A site visit is to be undertaken to mark the proposed site.

240 Notice Boards

It was agreed to replace the boards at Dunchideock Bridge and Underdown with a metal two-door version in black with white lettering (Dunchideock Notices) and black aluminum mounting posts at an approximate delivered cost of £1,300 each. DSu offered to find a company that could undertake installation.

241 Removal of Phone Box

There has still been no response from TDC further to our request that the box is retained by BT.

242 Parish Clerk & RFO

The revised Person Specification and Job Responsibilities was agreed. An updated advertisement will be placed on DALC's recruitment pages with working hours of 260 per year, based on approximately 5 hours per week. A salary of £15.06 per hour (SCP13) is offered.

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

244 Parish Council Website

The Parish Council website www.dunchideock.net is now operational. Further historic financial information is being researched but data from previous websites is no longer accessible. We now have an email of clerk@dunchideock-pc.gov.uk as formal contact point for the PC.

The Chairman was thanked by all present for designing and posting the new website. DSw said that the hosting costs and domain name cost would total about £130 for three years.

245 Public Discussion

There was discussion regarding the replacement of the heating system for the Village Hall. It was agreed that the Parish Council could use some or all of the CIL money (about £4,550) to support this project. The Village Hall committee will provide details and present the case for financial support.

There was discussion regarding the key holders for the new notice boards and it was agreed that a key would be given to the Village Hall.

246 Date of Meeting

Date of next meeting is 10th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:55

Signed

Dated