



THURSDAY 9th JANUARY 2025 at 7.30 PM SWIMBRIDGE JUBILEE HALL

MINUTES

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Cllr Haworth-Booth sent his report as he is unable to attend the meeting.

1. I have contributed to a Thematic Working Group on housing as part of creating a new Local Plan with Torridge DC. I emphasised the need to improve the visual quality of new housing, which can be achieved by working closely with developers and sometimes - with larger projects - by calling for a Design Review Panel. I also urged that Active Travel be pushed, with far better pathways / cycleways and connectivity. My main effort is a continuation eastwards of the new footpath / cycleway on Landkey Road, plus one between Landkey and Swimbridge.

2. I represent NDC on the Cultural Partnership Board with Torridge DC. I am championing the new initiative which aims to spotlight creative talent of all kinds in Northern Devon - which I hope everyone is aware of and will be actively involved with by making nominations.

3. I have worked with other Devon Green Cllrs to respond publicly to the Government's White Paper on Devolution / local government reorganization. We would like to see genuine devolution rather than a cost-cutting exercise involving the abolition of district councils. Our letter should be in the local press soon. I have also reflected on the issue in my new blog on the North Devon Green Party website.

4. I attended the Green Team planning meeting last week. Last Saturday morning I finished cutting back the large bramble patch in the Parklands and added woodchippings to the paths to the riverbank benches.

- 2025.1 Apologies and attendance –** Apologies received from Cllrs Haworth-Booth, Brown and Wright, District Cllr Lane and County Cllr Henderson. In attendance Cllrs Knill, Wadsworth and Ackland.
Cllr Wright has resigned. The clerk will notify the Monitoring Officer.
- 2025.2 Declarations of Interest – none received**
- 2025.3 Minutes of previous meeting**
The minutes were approved and signed.
- 2025.4 Any matters arising from the minutes -none**
- 2025.5 Correspondence**
Parish Forum Agenda for special meeting 12th March 2025 at Brynsworthy. Cllr Haworth-Booth will attend remotely.
Cllrs Clayton and Leaver to attend February meeting.
- 2025.6 Speed consultation/Community Speedwatch –** no update received as Cllr Haworth-Booth not in attendance.

2025.7 Telephone Box – Cllr Knill has asked Richard Kitchen to give a quote for the renovation of the telephone box.

2025.8 Grass Cutting Tender – Cllrs Knill and Wadsworth are to meet with the new contractor.

2025.9 Neighbourhood Development Plan to be considered once the new Government's priorities are known. To remain on agenda.

2025.10 Committee Reports

1. Planning

Cllr Haworth-Booth has requested further information from Planning concerning some caravans parked in a field near Hearson.

2. Finance

Accounts balances at 31st December 2024:

Current account £7932.31 Reserve account £10540.11 Glebe Field account £1.29

Renewal of Insurance £1071.36 – the renewal is approved.

The clerk has reviewed the banking arrangements – signatories need updating and the old Glebe Field account should be closed.

3. Community Engagement/Glebe Field/Green Team

We have received a copy of the comments made by Highways regarding the new school proposal (attached to these minutes). They are in line with the comments made by the Councillors. A meeting will be arranged with the DofE to discuss this.

4. Media. – Cllr Ackland reported that she has deleted several adverts from the Facebook page.

2024.110 Payments for approval

Clerks Salary X 2 November and December	£308.24 and £334.96
Coast & Country	£180.00
Jubilee Hall	£70.00
EDF Energy	£237.53
All payments approved	

2024.110 Items to be added to agenda for the next meeting.

Flood Warden and emergency planning.

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