

MINUTES

Public Session

Guest Speakers

Cllr Knill welcomed new County Cllr Tyldesley to the meeting. He reported that the bus stop markings are on the list to be remarked. He also stated that at a recent HATOC meeting several parking restrictions were to be advertised and some are in Swimbridge.

Cllr Haworth-Booth asked Cllr Tyldesley if it was possible to challenge Highways on the refusal to allow a mirror to be placed opposite the Hannaford Lane exit onto the main road. Cllr Tyldesley was not hopeful that they would change their policy. Cllr Knill suggested that the square could be re-designed to better suit the number of cars using this space to park.

The addition of flashing speed signs was discussed – Cllr Tyldesley advised that these could be purchased by the Parish Council for around £4-5,000 and he offered to send the guidance documents through.

2025.79 **Apologies and attendance**

Apologies received from Cllr Ackland. In attendance Cllrs Knill, Wadsworth, Haworth-Booth and Brown and County Cllr Tyldesley

2025.80 **Declarations of Interest – none received**

2025.81(a) **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th June were agreed and signed

(b) **Any matters arising from the minutes - none**

2025.82 **Correspondence**

Parish Forum – 9th July - circulated

Gavin Jones - Invitation: Rural affordable housing provision in North Devon - circulated

2025.83 **Speed consultation/Community Speedwatch – Cllr Haworth-Booth reported that there will be a special nationwide action tomorrow. Meeting in Landkey at Garden Green.**

2025.84 **Telephone Box – Cllr Wadsworth reported that he has obtained a quotation for shot blasting of £490.00. The glass would need to be removed beforehand, but it will need replacing anyway. Proposal : that this quotation and action be agreed**

All in favour.

Agreement in writing should be obtained from Phillip Dalling giving permission for use of his content.

2025.85 **Neighbourhood Development Statement**

It was decided to contact the owners of the Tannery to see how plans are progressing for re-development. Cllr Knill will advise of any contact details.

The old school building will be offered for sale on the open market.

2025.86 **Car parking Ste Honorine Du Fay Close**

The parking of scrap vehicles in St Honorine Du Fay Close will be reported to Livewest.

2025.87 **Purchase of Ducks and Duck House and 4 new Dog Waste Bins**

The clerk will order 4 new bins and Cllr Wadsworth will look into the purchase of ducks.

2025.88 **Committee Reports**

1. Planning

80461 – Welcome Home Barn – certificate of lawful development for use as dwelling now granted.

Cllr Haworth-Booth reported that Pearce has asked for the social housing aspect of the Archipark development be reduced and that Section 106 monies due be revised. The clerk will ask Tracey Blackmore about this.

2. Finance

Accounts balances at 30th June 2025:

Current account £8250.21 Reserve account £10584.42

3. Community Engagement/Glebe Field/Green Team

It was reported that the Party in the Park was a great success and a nice profit was achieved. The wash-up meeting is next week. It was recommended that the electrical supply box be upgraded. It was agreed that Cllr Knill can go ahead if the cost is under £300. Cllr Tyldesley offered grant money towards this.

The new school consultation was well attended – it was decided to re-position the football pitch (Cllr Wadsworth will approach the landowner at the back of the field to see if he would consider making a small area of land available for the parish council. During the building works the car parking area will be used by Morgan Sindall – but it will revert back when building completed. The Devon Air Ambulance is meeting with Morgan Sindall to discuss re-locating their landing site – pressure should be put on Western Power to bury the cables.

Green Team – planting of daffodil bulbs will go ahead, with help from the children from the school. Cllr Haworth-Booth is also meeting schoolchildren in the park to show them the wildflower garden and other works.

More picnic benches are needed – agenda item next meeting.

4. Media.

Community Engagement through Facebook and Village Forum. Cllr Brown suggested that the Council Facebook page could be made more interesting and useful if Cllrs information (photo and Bio) were added. This was agreed.

2025.89

Payments for approval

Clerks Salary	£321.60
Ian Rowsell	£60.00
Robert Parish	£500.00
EDF Energy	£52.62
Julie Snooks Auditor	£250.00

All payments approved.

2024.90

Items to be added to agenda for the next meeting.

Picnic Benches
Community Land Trust

Signed _____

County Councillor Report July 2025

Dear Parish Councillors,

As we move into the heart of summer, I want to thank everyone who has continued to reach out, share concerns, and invite me to local events. It's been a busy and productive month, and I'm pleased to share some updates from across the division and the wider County Council.

Council Finances and Budget Pressures Devon County Council has closed the 2024/25 financial year in balance, but the outlook remains challenging. The Council is facing a £30 million funding gap for the current year, and difficult decisions lie ahead. I'll continue to

scrutinise spending - particularly on external contracts and agency staffing - to ensure we're protecting frontline services and delivering value for money.

Highways Update – Pothole Repair Blitz You may have seen that the Council is trialling a new “pothole repair blitz” as part of an £83 million investment in road maintenance. This includes a more proactive approach to fixing clusters of potholes and improving drainage. I've submitted dozens locations from our division for inclusion in the trial and will be monitoring progress closely. Please keep reporting defects and copying me in - your input really does make a difference.

Hopefully you've noticed an uptick in pothole repairs in your parishes, as I've been out in every single one reporting defects and chasing repairs. We have a long way to go to get the roads into a condition that I'll be happy with.

Mount Sandford Road – Landkey

I recently spent the morning with District Cllr Haworth-Booth talking to residents on Mount Sandford Road, between Landkey and Barnstaple. I couldn't quite believe the speed at which some motorists travel in that 40mph limit. I have even more respect for the Community Speedwatch group that regularly monitor that road. We are pushing for a combined footpath/cycleway to connect Barnstaple with Landkey, to provide a safe walking route for schoolchildren, as well as allowing residents to walk and cycle to the shops. There will be a petition circulating soon.

Improving Outcomes for Vulnerable Children The new Cabinet has launched a 10-year plan to improve outcomes for Devon's most vulnerable children. This includes better early intervention, more support for families, and a renewed focus on education and care standards. As a member of the Children's Scrutiny Committee, I'll be keeping a close eye on how these ambitions translate into real improvements for children and young people in our area.

Bus Gate Enforcement – Old Torrington Road From later this year, the bus gate on Old Torrington Road in Sticklepath will be enforced by new CCTV cameras. This follows the granting of powers to enforce Moving Traffic Offences, previously only handled by the police – to the County Council. The cameras aim to improve road safety and ensure compliance with long-standing restrictions that prioritise buses, cycles, and taxis. For the first six months, drivers caught breaching the

restriction will receive a warning letter; repeat offences or violations after this period will result in a penalty charge notice.

Household Support Fund – Continued Help for Families Despite a huge reduction in government funding, the Council has committed to continuing vital support for households in need. The Household Support Fund remains open, offering help with food, energy, and essential costs. If you know of anyone struggling, please encourage them to apply or get in touch with me for guidance.

Parish Visits and Local Issues I've now attended most of the parish councils in the division and continue to rotate attendance to ensure regular contact. I have committed to attending every third meeting of each council, with a focus on answering your questions and raising

your issues with the relevant departments. Recent visits have highlighted ongoing concerns about speeding, overgrown verges, and drainage. I'm especially incensed by the poor workmanship I've seen on some road repairs. I've raised all your issues with the relevant departments and will keep pushing for action.

Community Events and Engagement It was a pleasure to attend Pesticide-Free Devon Conference this month, as well as take part in the Chulmleigh Open Gardens as the Chulmleigh Allotment Association. I arranged for North Devon Homes to host a clear-up day on Bakery Way in Landkey, which was a great opportunity to meet residents and help improve the area. These events are a testament to the energy and dedication of our local volunteers. I'm always happy to support and promote community events - please do let me know what's happening in your parish.

Resident Casework I've continued to support residents with a range of issues, from housing concerns to school transport queries. If you or someone in your parish needs help navigating council services, I'm here to assist.

Locality Budget There's still funding available through my Locality Budget for community groups, village halls, and local projects. So far I've fully funded a Holiday Club for children in Chulmleigh, and contributed towards the bus service for the North Devon Show in August. I'd love to see more applications from across the division.

In the month ahead, I'll be focused on:

- Monitoring the pothole repair blitz and pushing for improvements in our area.
- Holding the Council to account through the Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee, and the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.
- Helping local groups access funding and support.
- Continuing to build strong relationships with every parish council.

Thank you again for your support and partnership. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if I can help with anything locally.

With best wishes, Cllr Ed Tyldesley