

# IDEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall

**On the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7pm**

Present:	Cllr T Hill - Chair Cllr A Carter-Woodwark vice-chair Cllr D Fox Cllr J Gardner	Cllr M Batting Cllr C Hill TDC Gearon DCC Peart
In Attendance	Wildlife Wardens – Dominic Morby Rob?	1 member of the public

Item (a)	Discussion and Decisions (b)
124/24	<b>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> The Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone. Apologies were received from Cllr H Bellamy and the clerk, Mrs Clarke
125/24	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:</b> Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 will be viewed, approved and signed at the next meeting when they are available.
126/24	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:</b> Cllr. T. Hill in relation to the Insurance matter and the Millennium Green. Cllr. Carter-Woodwark declared an interest as a Ideford Hall Trustee
127/24	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:</b> None
128/24	<p><b>REPORTS:</b></p> <p><b>128.1 Cllr. Peart (Climate Change/Environment):</b> Various organisations are hosting woodland events during National Tree Week and winter (details on the National Tree Week website and partners' social media). The Emergency Tree Fund (ETF), concluding in December, it has funded 40,000 trees and supported the Devon Tree and Woodland Strategy. The ETF piloted carbon offsetting and engaged 1,000+ volunteers. While free trees are currently oversubscribed, communities planning for next year should contact the Woodland Trust and/or Devon Wildlife Trust. Devon's canopy cover is 14.7% but aims to reach 16.5% by 2050. Funding will enable planting of 27,000 more trees by next March, bringing the DCC total since 2019 to 77,000. In response to Cllr. Gardner's question, Cllr. Peart confirmed the parish council's role as consultee regarding planning reforms and biodiversity. The district has 300 defibrillators remaining; online CPR training was mentioned.</p> <p><b>128.2 Cllr. Gearon (District Councillor):</b> Only one full council meeting has taken place. No significant updates for the parish council.</p> <p><b>128.3 Neighbourhood Beat Manager:</b> No crime statistics for October.</p>
129/24	<p><b>PARISH MATTERS:</b></p> <p><b>129.1 Insurance:</b> The council combined its insurance with the Millennium Green's (MG) via AJ Gallagher's, resulting in a £580 cost reduction. Public, employer's, and trustee liability are covered. The MG has a committee and trustees operating under its deed. Cllr. Carter-Woodwark noted the Village Hall's separate insurance arrangements. Questions about liability were raised, and the chair suggested consulting the broker. Cllr. C. Hill clarified that trustees, not insurance, determine liability. Concerns about governance of outdoor equipment were raised, and the chair noted the need for a policy review. The council agreed to the cost reduction and requested a mechanism for clarifying policy aspects. Cllr. Gardner questioned the impact of the completed building on the joint policy and MG asset maintenance. The chair stated additional insurance will be considered post-building completion. The council agreed MG should report planned changes affecting insurance to the PC quarterly.</p> <p><b>129.2 Snow Warden:</b> Julian Hull is the current snow warden, but his continuation is unconfirmed. Anthony French and Cllr. T. Hill are deputy wardens. The council will confirm Rob Coombes's availability and explore potential overlap with Will Vooght.</p> <p><b>129.3 Roadworks/Highways/Parking/Potholes:</b> Buts Lane requires resurfacing. The chair requested pothole reports with photographs. Cllr. Gardner will report the issue with photographs.</p> <p><b>129.4 Sustainable Ideford (SI):</b> A meeting discussed a joint open gardens event with the Village Hall in early June, focusing on wildlife-friendly gardens. Parish news articles were discussed. There is no progress on street lighting. Car share schemes were suggested in the parish news. Rob Gillett</p>

	<p>resigned from SI; Cllr. Gardner will manage the handover. Biodiversity on the MG was mentioned; SI offered assistance with MG projects.</p> <p><b>129.5 Wildlife Wardens:</b> The biodiversity plan aims to create a database of parish flora and fauna by compiling existing observations and local expertise. A "bio blitz" event was suggested, possibly at the church. The garden bird watch had limited response on Facebook; earlier notification was suggested. Devon Wildlife Trust will host a tree hub in the village in January/February (dates pending).</p>									
130/24	<p><b>PLANNING:</b></p> <p>130.1 24/01735/HOU - Homefield , Ideford, Chudleigh, Erection of two storey side extension The owners had invited the council to have a look. A discussion over elements of the application took place and all councillors are in support of this application.</p> <p>130.2 There were no new planning decisions</p> <p>130.3 Planning Appeal - 24/00057/REF Appeal against the refusal of 23/02168/FUL Retention of driveway entrance, piers and gate Further to the previous comments submitted there is nothing to add.</p> <p>There was some confusion as the Appeal documents appeared to contradict the September PC agenda / minutes, which had noted that '24/01361/CLDP Homefield, Ideford - The proposed new gate, piers and flanking walls are permitted development'. It was suggested that as significant steps were proposed to reduce the height of the walls, following the Council's earlier neutral comments the Council should now submit a comment supporting the Appeal. As some biodiversity damage had been caused by the retrospective application, this was rejected by five votes to one in favour of submitting a comment simply noting the Appeal</p> <p>130.3 Enforcement update: Cllr Carter-Woodwark indicated there was nothing to report.</p>									
131/24	<p><b>CONCERNED RAISED BY PARISHIONERS TO COUNCILLORS</b></p> <p>On Haldon Lane, the chair was met by off road scrambling bikes, he mentioned this is not a byway and they left. Cllr Batting the hedgerow from Longthorne to the top of Church Road is overgrown. Haldon Lane has been trimmed. The byway area, Hamblecombe Lane was trimmed by private contractors, did the whole lane.</p>									
132/24	<p><b>CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE:</b></p> <p>132.1 Budget proposal</p> <p>132.2 Balance of accounts £15,530.09 (end of November) and the bank reconciliation for November 2024 was approved.</p> <p>132.3 Approval for payments made since last meeting -Scribe accounts,</p> <p>132.4 Budget - regarding the grants and insurance. The grant to MG is now irrelevant as in the insurance. A grant for the hall £500 had been mentioned and everyone was in agreement. Nic update has been provided and NALC have clarified that each council paying less than 5k are not liable for the amounts accumulated elsewhere, therefore it can be excluded from the budget. Finalise the budget when the clerk is here and confirm the totals at the next meeting.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Clerks Paye and expenses.</td> <td>£336.24</td> <td>Staff Costs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>£7.80</td> <td>Staff costs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scribe</td> <td>£14.40</td> <td>Accounts.</td> </tr> </table>	Clerks Paye and expenses.	£336.24	Staff Costs	HMRC	£7.80	Staff costs	Scribe	£14.40	Accounts.
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133/24	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025.									
134/24	The Chair closed the meeting at pm									

Signed: .....

Dated: .....