

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms on Tuesday April 7th, 2026

Present: Cllrs P French (Chair), K Morris , B Webber, R Squire, T Anderson, A Arnold, C Parry, P Lewis and the Clerk Lynne Ogden. 6 Members of the Public attended (1 attended just for item10)

1. Cllr French thanked Cllr Morris for Chairing the last two meetings.

a) Apologies – Cllr P Harper, Dist. Cllr Swain and County Cllr Keeling sent apologies. Noted and accepted. **b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests:** None

2. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on March 3rd, 2026**, had been distributed, were approved and signed.

3. **Progress reports** (on items not covered elsewhere on the agenda).

3.1 Action Points from last meeting- all actions completed.

3.2 Clerk's report – sent to all Cllrs. with Highways report

3.3 Reports from other councillors/ representatives – report received from County Cllr Richard Keeling.

3.4 Housing Working Group – Standing Orders were suspended and members of the public were allowed to speak. Residents still expressed concern about the use of site 1 for affordable housing. Cllr Lewis explained that the development of the land was up to the owners as a 'Planning in Principle' application had already been approved by Teignbridge District Council.

One of the residents had written to the Council with several queries and the response to this is being compiled by the Clerk and will be sent to him as soon as possible.

A lengthy discussion took place which prompted a proposal by Cllr Lewis to send out an information sheet to all residents. This was agreed by the full Council.

Two important notes to be aware of are a) If and when a detailed planning application is submitted, the Parish Council will be happy to facilitate a public meeting which could involve a survey of the residents. b) The parish Council has not organised a public meeting recently because there is no new information to share.

Action Cllrs French/Lewis/the Clerk

3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT) – A meeting will be planned before the Annual Parish meeting. New members will be encouraged to join at the Annual parish Meeting. Cllr Arnold offered to join the group. The Council agreed. **Action Cllr Morris**

3.6 Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI) – The proposed footpath on the B3212 is being discussed this month. More information will be sought from Highways when the Clerk meets with them next week.

3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Councillors - a) Devon Community Resilience Forum in the TVCH on March 26th - Cllr Squire and the Clerk – Cllr Squire attended some of the talks and the Clerk spoke to people manning the stands. Some useful information heard for DERT. National Grid is looking for hubs to use in the event of prolonged outages. They will provide a generator so that heating and cooking areas can be used. This to be discussed with the Village Hall. (Cllr Morris) A small flask was gifted to DERT by NG

4. Correspondence: - List of correspondence listed overleaf - Nothing to discuss.

5. Finance

5.1 C/A - £9406.38 as at 17/03/2026 BBI/A - £1,881.24 as at 09/02/26

The Council resolved to pay the following invoices: -

5.2 Clerk's Salary (5 weeks) – Net pay to Clerk £592.80 + £35.96 expenses= **£628.76 chq 1650**

5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for March – **£50 chq 1651**

5.4 HMRC – Q4 2025-2026 PAYE and NI – **£486.34 chq 1652**

5.5 Date for the Internal Audit will be Friday 8th May 2026

5.6 DALC Training – Good Cllr Course for 3 Cllrs - **£144 chq 1653**

5.7 Playsafety Ltd. – Rospa inspection VG - **£109.20 chq 1654**

5.8 DALC subs - **£286.40 chq 1655**

5.9 Insurance is due to be paid next month. Zurich has sent a renewal of £437 (same as last year). The Council resolved to stay with Zurich.

6. Village Green – a) Cllr Webber had carried out the monthly report and this had been sent to all Councillors. All is well **b)** The ROSPA inspection took place in March. Some minor actions needed were brought to the notice of the Council. Cllr Webber will make sure these are attended to. **Action Cllr Webber**

7. Planning: Applications: 7.1 Dartmoor National Park Authority – 0086/26 – The Cabin, Square Bookhams, Dunsford EX6 7 DL – Replacement Dwelling.

Decisions: 7.2 None

8. Lengthsman – tasks for April were discussed. These include the strimming in the Village Green. The Clerk will also discuss with him taking on the area around the phone box, once it has been set up. He will continue with the regular areas that he monitors, in addition to this. **Action Clerk**

9. Council Transfer to Gov.uk domain– All the paperwork has been completed, and the new website should be up and running soon. The Council can then start using their new emails, once the Clerk has set hers up! **Action Clerk/all Cllrs**

10. Adoption of phone box arrangements - – This now officially owned by the Parish Council. A discussion took place on rules needed and general management of the kiosk and surrounding area. Hannah Smallridge will look at other kiosks in the area to get ideas of managing the project. The Council agreed that it would be useful to have the opportunity to lock the kiosk, if necessary, and agreed to fund this. The Clerk and HS will research this. The Clerk and HS will produce a display for the Annual parish meeting. **Action Clerk/HS**

11. Annual Parish Meeting – A list of actions needed was recorded by the Clerk to be shared with the Council for reference. **Action Clerk**

12. Matters brought forward by the Chair (for information only /possible addition to next month's agenda including: - a) Any pressing Highways issues for Clerk to pass on to Highways' contact – Fulford Road still has potholes that are difficult to avoid. **b)** A Cllr has been reminded that some of the streetlights are still very bright **c)** Smatter will be doing a litter pick along the B3212 whilst the road is closed. The Clerk was asked to contact the residents at Steps Bridge to ask permission to go on their land. **d)** Council has been made aware of danger from a building in the Village. Advice is that it is an Environmental Health matter not the Council's. **Action Clerk**

13. Date of future meetings – a) Annual Parish Meeting – 30th April 2026 – An afternoon of displays and an evening of celebration for all Dunsford residents.

b) Tuesday 5th May 2026 7:30 pm in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms This will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting, followed immediately by the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting .

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9.55pm

Signed as a true record..... (Chair) Date

Email circulation during the past month

- Planning applications and decisions from DNPA and Teignbridge
- Rural Services Network Bulletin plus Funding Digests and weekly newsletters
- DALC newsletters
- Devon Communities Together – various newsletters, including Village Hall's
- Teignbridge District Council newsletter
- Devon County Council newsletter
- Local Leader's Update from Tom Pearce, TDC
- Devon Climate Emergency Newsletter
- Local Government Reorganisation- Briefing from TDC
- Crediton Railway Upgrades info
- 20s Plenty info from Graham Read, Christow PC
- Devon CPRE newsletter (Campaign to protect Rural England)
- Precepts info 2026-2027
- Report of informal meeting with residents written by Cllr Lewis
- Email from Emma Davies, National Grid with regard to back up in emergencies