

DUNSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms on Tuesday, October 6th, 2026

Present: Cllrs P French (Chair), K Morris, R Squire, P Harper, C Parry, A Arnold, B Webber, District Cllr A Swain and the Clerk Lynne Ogden. 0 Members of the Public attended

1. **a) Apologies** – Cllrs Lewis, Anderson and County Cllr Keeling sent apologies. Noted and accepted.

b) Declaration of Interest/ Register of Interests: Cllr Morris item 5.5/Cllr Arnold item 8b.

2. **Minutes of the Council meeting held on August 4th, 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, except for the Clerk to reply to TDC re Active opportunities and to continue supporting Cllrs in the Gov.uk transfer, if necessary. There is still ongoing concern about the digital transfer of landline phones, but the Council has little or no power to stop this.

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 and sent to all Cllrs. District Cllr Swain reported that: - a) Hopefully, bin collections are nearly back on track. Extra staff have been employed to help with this. Agency staff have been used to drive empty lorries to meet with full ones and swap vehicles, avoiding the need for the main collectors to return to depots in between collections. b) Elections are now going to go ahead in May 2027, and the term will be for four years. This is due to the Local Government Reorganisation being paused in Devon. c) CIL match funding was available and explained the basic process

3.4 Housing Working Group – Cllr French reported that he has spoken to Teign Housing, and they have agreed to look into the situation in Dunsford, as part of a larger review of all Housing needs.

Action Cllrs French/Lewis

3.5 Dunsford Emergency Response Team (DERT) – The Emergency Hub box has been collected, and a safe space now needs to be identified in the Village Hall, to store it. Resilience was a large part of the discussion at the Local Leader's Update meeting. The Council discussed the situation of clean water being available, a filter system is needed to use other sources of water.

Action Cllr Morris

3.6 Dunsford Climate Initiative (DCI) – a) A discussion took place about a diversity plan for the Village Green. A plan had been presented to the Council by J Balfour and the Wildlife Warden J Kirkland. The Council agreed that there were a lot of good ideas but that the plan, as a whole, was too much for the space available and that we needed to revisit the original purpose of the Village Green. A list was made of those ideas that the Council thought were possible. b) A meeting has been organised on the 22nd October for those residents who may be affected by the implementation of the Gravel Path along the B3212. This will be an opportunity for them to voice their concerns and share their ideas.

Action Cllr French/Clerk/DCI members

3.7 Reports from other meetings attended by Dunsford Councillors - None

4. Correspondence: - List of correspondence listed overleaf. The Council discussed the following: -
a) October 15th – TDC Community Event 1:30 to 4:30 – no Cllrs are available to attend. **Action Clerk**

5. FINANCE

5.1 C/A - £10,990 as at 20/09/2026 BBI/A - £1,885.94 as at 10/10/26

The Council to resolve to pay the following invoices and to consider any invoices received after the publication of the agenda: -

5.2 Clerk's Salary (5weeks) at new rate, including back pay to April 2026 – Net pay to Clerk £718.40 + £32.49 expenses = £750.89 chq. 1678

5.3 BG - Lengthsman's tasks for September – £100 chq. 1679

5.4 HMRC – Paye Q2 - £486.34 chq. 1680

5.5 Room Hire – VHMC – July/August/September - £41 chq.1681

5.6 DALC – Clerk Attendance at AGM and conference - £72 chq. 1682

5.7 Budget 2027-2028 – The Council continued the discussion. It was agreed that the General repairs figure needs to be higher to cater for maintaining the Council Assets.

5.8 Internal Audit 2027 – The Council approved Penny Clapham as Internal Auditor for 2026-2027
Proposer: Cllr Morris Seconder: Cllr Arnold Vote: Unanimous

5.9 G Dicker – works from November 25 to October 26, inclusive - £990 **chq. 1683**

6. Village Green – a) Cllr Webber had carried out the monthly report, and this had been sent to all Councillors. b) The ROSPA repairs are being carried out by the Lengthsman, and the Clerk has ordered replacement parts from Wicksteed. c) Cllr Webber has been made aware of conditions behind the Village Green fence that need attention. She will revisit this and give feedback on works that are needed. **Action Cllr Webber**

7. Planning: Applications: 7.1 Teignbridge 26/01479/FUL – Land adjacent to Westview Farm – demolition of 1 agricultural building and construction of four dwellings

Decisions: 7.2 Teignbridge 26/01111/VAR – Hillside House, Dunsford EX67AE - variation on condition 2 on planning permission 22/01034/HOU (conversion of roof space to include dormer windows to the front and rear elevations) to raise the ridge height and amendments to windows – Grant of conditional planning permission

7.3 Dartmoor National Park 0138/26 – Barn to the NE of East Down Farm, EX67AL – change of use of agricultural building and associated curtilage to a commercial, business or service use falling within Use Class E or under Class R of the General Permitted Development Order, 2015, – Prior approval has been refused due to access issues.

[Class E – this grants permitted development rights for buildings, enclosures and containers that are incidental to the enjoyment of a dwelling house (sheds, greenhouses etc)] [

Class R – is a specific rural diversification right that allows the change of use of an agricultural building and its land to flexible commercial uses without a full planning application.]

7.4 Teignbridge 26/01195/CLDE – Reedy Meadow Nursery, Dunsford, EX67AB – Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness for implementation of works in respect to planning permission 22/01547/FUL (demolition of an agricultural building and construction of dwelling) - Teignbridge certifies that the works carried out are lawful.

8. Lengthsman – tasks for October were discussed. These included checking drains. There are also outstanding tasks in the Village green. Although Highways have been around the Village, clearing them recently. The bank on the raised path to Butt's seems to be failing. This will be too much for the Lengthsman to deal with. The Clerk will report it to Highways Neighbourhood Officer. The Verge markers have been fixed securely at the bottom of Briton Street Lane. **Action Clerk**

9. Training – a) The Clerk will inform the Council of upcoming training available from DALC. b) the Council agreed to facilitate the Lengthsman attending training at Bicton College in November. **Action Clerk**

10. Matters brought forward by the Chair (for information only /possible addition to next month's agenda including: - a) The Clerk to discuss with Highways – the several dips that do not match up to the criteria for mending – revisit with IS b) Farrant's Hill – already has scuff marks/tyre marks c) The Parish Plan to be put on November Agenda – initially, a group of Cllrs need to meet to decide the various skills needed/ sensible way forward. d) Ivy growth at junction of B3212 and Kingsford Lane is obscuring the view of vehicles pulling out. e) The council has been made aware of noise nuisance in Briton Street Lane. **f) The Council wants to make residents aware of the real possibility of Fuel theft. Residents with oil tanks at the edge of their properties are particularly vulnerable.**

Action Clerk

11. Date of future meetings - Tuesday 3rd November 2026 – 7:30 pm in the Village Hall Dressing Rooms. Also, The Three Parish Meeting, being hosted by Christow PC – 14th October in the TVCH – 6 Cllrs from Dunsford are attending

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 9:45pm

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
- Dartmoor National Park newsletters/forum info
- Community Survey – Fuel and energy crisis in Devon
- Advisory email from Vision ICT about Fake email
- Three Parish meeting info.
- National resilience Campaign from Climate Change Officer TDC
- Devon Campaign for Rural England bulletin
- Teignbridge Community Network event 15th October - Reminder