

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Littleham Village Hall on Thursday 2nd April 2026
at 19.15 hours**

Present: Councillors: P Jollands (Chair), N Tregoning, G Smith, P Footman, M Manley,
J Gershon, M Brooks, G Gray.

Apologies : Councillors: L Batty, S Read, C Hassall.

Also Present: M Barry (County Councillor)

In Attendance: Mike Norton Clerk to the Council

3059 - The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologies were accepted.

3060 - Declarations of Interest

[DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Councillors are invited to declare any declarable interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether any items within their Register of Interests should be updated].

No declarations of interest were made.

The Council RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders and adjourn the meeting at 7:18.

Public Open Question Time

No questions from members of public.

Report by County and District Councillors *(Allowance should be made for the District and County Councillor to speak later in the meeting should they be unable to arrive in time).*

County Councillor Mark Barry had circulated a report ahead of the meeting. At the meeting topic covered included 20 is Plenty, Internet and Mobile coverage (including the importance of identifying households requiring fibre connection), SEND debt and potholes.

The Council reconvened at 19:34.

3061 – It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes 3046-3058 of 5th March 2026 meeting.

3062 – Matters arising from Minutes.

3062 (orig. M2997) The potential use of the telephone box as an exhibition space was being investigated. P Jollands advised that old photographs of Littleham village were being sought to be copied and mounted on outdoor quality laminated boards.

3063 –Planning

There were no planning applications to be considered at the meeting.

P Footman advised that she had queried the timescales for an “open space provision” contribution from 1/0122/2022/FUL with District Councillor Pennington.

3064 – Biodiversity

P Jollands advised that the Biodiversity event planned held on 14th March was attended by approximately 70 people. The hedgeline planting event around the village hall and the playing field on 22nd March had been successful and the new planting was growing well.2

3065 – Parish Plan

P Jollands reported that the sub-group had met and were now at the stage of holding a parish meeting in the process. A poster was circulated for the parish plan to be presented at the Annual Parish meeting on 7th May. The Parish Clerk was asked to check that the parish council could provide refreshments at the Annual parish meeting.

3066 – 20 is Plenty

With Devon County Council not progressing the 20 is plenty programme due to cost constraints some example signage had been circulated with the agenda for review. It was decided to bring it back to a future meeting when designs, costings and locations could be agreed.

3067 – Community Energy

P Jollands advised that the Government had published the Local Energy Plan. E4All were now co-ordinating the feasibility study funded by GB Energy for Littleham and Parracombe. The next steps were to identify major energy users in the area. The Community Energy Scheme will be published in the next parish newsletter.

3068 – Finance

The Cashbook dated 23rd March 2026 and the payments/income since the previous meeting were noted.

(The document is an attachment to and forms part of the Minutes)

Payments Wivell £460, Littleham Village Hall hire £468, DALC membership £230.05, Littleham Mens shed £30.40 and Biodiversity event expenses £45.25 were presented for approval.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve the documents and the payments as presented.

3069 – Interest bearing account

At the March meeting the Parish Clerk had been asked to investigate the possibility of placing surplus funds into an interest bearing account to offset bank charges. The Clerk reported that it was possible to place obtain a better return on funds and gave examples including from HSBC

and Hinckley & Rugby Building Society. The clerk was asked to further investigate ethical options and report to the June council meeting.

3070 – Annual Parish Meeting

The content and format of the Annual Parish Meeting for May 7th at 7PM was discussed.

3071 – Parish Clerk’s Report and consideration of correspondence and communications requiring attention.

The Clerk reminded councillors to complete their updated Register of Interest forms either on paper or electronically.

The Clerk advised that council’s auditor had advised there was a £5 increase to his fee and requested that the parish council confirm his appointment.

It was RESOLVED unanimously to approve Parish and Town Auditing Services as Council Auditor at a cost of £170.00.

The Clerk also advised that the de-fibrilator application to British Heart Foundation had been unsuccessful and the Landcross de-fibrilator was soon to be put in it’s new location and there would be an invoice for the costs on installation.

No other urgent items had been received beyond items already circulated to councillors by email.

3072 - Next Full Council Meeting - Thursday 07 May 2026 at 6PM

The meeting closed at 21:00.

Signed:

Councillor P Jollands (Chair to the Parish Council)

Date.....