

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Littleham Village Hall on Thursday 02 October 2025 at 19.15 hours

Present: Councillors: N Tregoning (Chair), G Smith, P Footman, M Manley, J Gershon, C Hassall..

Apologies : Councillors: P Jollands, G Gray, S Read, M Brooks, L Batty.

Also Present: M. Barry (County Councillor).

In Attendance: Mike Norton Clerk to the Council

2976 - The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologies were accepted.

2977 – The Chair read a letter of thanks from the Council’s previous Clerk David Edwards.

2978 - 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 7:20.

Public Open Question Time

No members of the public were present.

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).*

Devon County Councillor Mark Barry: discussed the topics included in his written report (*that forms part of these minutes*). Topics covered included 20 is Plenty, Unitary Council update, pothole repair trial, increased developer contributions to education and SEND. The next DCC meeting will discuss parking on pavements, food wastage from supermarkets and smartphones in schools.

A Report had been submitted and forms part of the Minutes

The Council reconvened at 19:30.

2979 – It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes 2963 – 2975

2980 – It was noted that a response was awaited to Minute 2968 Hedgerow removal.

2981 –Minute 2972 Parish Grants Scheme (now Joint Village Project)

Jonathan Gershon and Martin Manley updated the meeting following their attendance at the Village Hall Committee meeting held 1st October. It was reported that the Village Hall Committee would welcome the idea of a joint project (possibly a bandstand/pavilion on the playing field) with the Parish Council and there was a suggestion that a Parish Councillor should attend Village Hall Committee meetings if the project were to move forward.

2982 – PLANNING - HELAA

The Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (not yet finalised) for the parish that had been circulated with the agenda was discussed. Jonathan Gershon suggested that a Neighbourhood Plan would help. The Parish Clerk was asked to write to Torridge District Council to establish what stage the HELAA was at and at what point would input from the parish consulted on it.

2983 – PLANNING – Application 1/0701/2025PIP

Norma Tregoning advised that a previous application to develop this site had been refused in 2022. It was noted that the site was identified in the draft HELAA. The previous reasons for refusal were reviewed and data on sewage spills for September was circulated. Christopher Hassall advised on planning rules for rural settlements and the site was not within a development boundary. Following discussion it was agreed that Norma Tregoning would provide the Parish Clerk with an email detailing the Councils basis for objection for refusal to be put on the TDC Planning Portal as a consultee comment before the deadline.

2984 - FINANCE

To Approve the Cashbook dated 19 September 2025 and note the bank balance of £8,436.06. Members noted the papers supplied with the agenda. Councillor L Batty (the independent verifier was not present at the meeting and would be checked after the meeting. Jonathan Gershon questioned whether the level of Reserves were appropriate-it was decided to put this on the agenda for the next meeting ahead of discussions on setting the budget for the next year.

Note: Payments/Income since previous report. (*The document is an attachment to the Minutes*) *The above documents form attachments to the Minutes.*

It was RESOLVED to approve the documents and the information as shown.

2985 - To discuss any action the Council can take to support its policy for reducing the Carbon footprint and improving the bio-diversity in Littleham and Landcross.

Community Energy. Jonathan Gershon updated the meeting with the Village Hall Committee on 1st October. The potential scheme was well received by the Village Hall Committee.

2986 -To consider correspondence & communications requiring attention.

The Parish Clerk verbally updated the Council on the response received to the letter sent to the owners of Sunset View and Hillside Barn regarding lighting of the property. The Clerk reported that he had attended the DALC Annual Conference at Exeter on 1st October. The Clerk confirmed that it was best practice to BCC his communications for reasons of GDPR and to reduce unnecessary email volumes in mailboxes. Guidance received at the DALC Conference also suggested that all Parish Councillors should be using a .gov.uk email rather than personal email addresses as at present-this may be included as a requirement for next year's Annual Governance and Accountability Return. Jonathan Gershon asked whether he was able to attend the DALC training course on Writing Grant Applications and Sources of Funding on 15th October.

N Tregoning proposed and P Footman seconded and it was **resolved that :- Jonathan Gershon attend the DALC Course with costs being met by the Parish Council.**

The items circulated were noted.

2987 - Items for next meeting and Next Full Council Meeting - Thursday 06 November 2025.

To consider the future of the village phone box

To consider the Visibility at Moorhead Crossroads

To consider the appropriate level of Parish Council Reserves

The meeting closed at 20:45.

Signed:

Councillor P Jollands (Chair to the Parish Council)

Date.....