

LITTLEHAM & LANDCROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Littleham Village Hall on Thursday 5th March 2026 at 19.15 hours

Present: Councillors: P Jollands (Chair), N Tregoning, G Smith, P Footman, M Manley, S Read, M Brooks, C Hassall.

Apologies : Councillors: J Gershon, L Batty, G Gray.

Also Present: P Pennington (District Councillor)

In Attendance: *Mike Norton Clerk to the Council*

3046 - The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting and apologies were accepted.

3047 - 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 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).*

District Councillor Phillip Pennington advised the Local Government Reorganisation options were now open to public consultation and the consultation period closes on 26th March 2026. £65m of Torridge DC development was in progress across the district. The Torridge District Council tax had been set for 2026/27 with a 2.99% increase.

The Council reconvened at 19:35.

3048 – It was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes 3031-3045 of 5th February 2026 meeting.

3049 – Matters arising from Minutes.

M2997 One option that was being investigated was the possible use as an exhibition space recording Littleham village and buildings through the ages.

M3010 Parish Plan update- P Jollands reported the sub-group will be meeting again soon and details will be included in the next Parish Newsletter.

M3021 Mobile Phone Signal. The Clerk was requested to circulate the follow-up email for the Connectivity event hosted on 30th January and attended by P Jollands and M Manley.

M3037 Snow Warden/Grit Bins. M Manley advised that all grit bins around the village had been checked and contain adequate levels of salt/grit.

M3038 Post Office/Mobile Banking. The Post Office reply to the Clerk's enquiry (circulated with agenda) was noted.

3050 –Planning

It was noted that the planning application 1/0987/2025/PIP had been refused by Torridge District Council.

1/1034/2024/FUL Members noted the email circulated prior to the meeting and the Clerk was asked to obtain more information about the size of any potential contribution.

3051 – 20 is Plenty

With no updates from Devon County Council it was agreed for P Jollands to investigate the costs of obtaining signage.

3052 – Biodiversity

P Jollands confirmed Biodiversity event planned for 14th March 2-4PM at the village hall. The event will be covered by the parish council's public liability insurance. Members approved expenses (laminating pouches, paper etc.) incurred for the event to be paid.

On 22nd March hedgeline planting around Village Hall/Playing Field will take place with Snowdrops and primroses being given away.

3053 – Community Energy

P Jollands advised that the application had reached the feasibility stage. 361 Energy will progress the application. Major users of energy within the parish would be identified.

3054 – Finance

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

C Hassall noted the bank charges and asked the Clerk to investigate opening an interest bearing account to hold surplus funds.

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

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

3055 – Annual Parish Meeting

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting was confirmed for May 7th at 7PM and a speaker will be arranged to talk about the Parish Plan. The monthly Parish Council meeting will follow at 8PM. P Jollands advised that plans for the Annual Parish Meeting were progressing.

3056 – Policies Review

It was unanimously resolved to accept the policies as adequate and fit for purpose at the present time.

3057 – Parish Clerk’s Report and consideration of correspondence and communications requiring attention.

The Clerk had previously circulated an email from Devon Association of Local Councils regarding Local Government Re-organisation. Councillors recognised there was little clarity on the implications to a rural parish council located 60 miles away from the centre of the new Unitary Council. The Clerk was requested to respond to DALC with the Council’s reservations on the options available.

An email had been received from TDC requesting confirmation that there was to be no Littleham Fete in 2026.

A letter had been received from Torridge District Council confirming confirmation of Tree Preservation order for Land at 2 Red Cottages (005/2025) had been confirmed.

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

3058 - Next Full Council Meeting - Thursday 02 April 2026.

The meeting closed at 20:29.

Signed:

Councillor P Jollands (Chair to the Parish Council)

Date.....