PUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Parish Clerk: Suzanne Childs, Greenlea, Puddington, Tiverton, EX16 8LN

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**Minutes of the Annual Puddington Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 6th May 2025.**

**In attendance:** Chairman Cllr. R Price (RP), Cllr. S Brick (SB), Cllr. S. Folland (SF), Cllr. R Keeble (RK), Cllr. H Tuffin (HT), Clerk Mrs S Childs (SC) and 2 Members of Public.

1. **Elections:** RP stood down then re-elected by SB, RK and SF. RP reported that KK is happy to stay on a vice-chairman – all in agreement.
2. **Public Session:** One member of the public brought up the ongoing historic issue of the lineage at Puddington Cross junction as there have been several near misses and something needs to be done about it urgently. Discussed under item 7.2. Another member of the public asked if there has been any headway with the potholes near Smiths Farm and the state of the roads generally in and around Puddington. RP confirmed it had been reported to DCC and advised that members of the public can also report any such matters on the DCC website. ACTION - HT to chase DCC via email.
3. **Apologies: -** Cllr. Kevin Keatley, Cllr. Mark Jenkins
4. **Declarations of Interest not declared in the Register of Interest:** - Cllrs. S Brick and R Price declared an interest in item 7.1, the Shipping Container.
5. **Minutes**: - The minutes were approved and adopted by all Councillors.
6. **Correspondence:** - Circulated electronically.
7. **Matters arising from previous minutes: -** 
   1. Shipping Container: - No communication has been made by MDDC and no further information was available once again. The implication is that as this is a court matter no information can be given. ACTION – HT to chase up again.
   2. Puddington Cross Junction: - Again, as this is has now become a serious safety issue, the councillors discussed buying our own signage while we wait for highways to come and paint the white lines on the junction. There is still over £500 in the signage fund from the 20 is Plenty campaign. Decisions need to be made on what the signage needs to say and where to site them. ACTION – council members and interested members of the public to meet at Puddington Cross junction on Sunday 11 May at 9.30am to look at possible locations. RP to write to head of DCC highways again to chase the issue.
   3. Grant update – Wild About Devon Grant Scheme 2024 – agreed to drop this from the Agenda.
8. **To receive the following reports: -** 
   1. County – no report.
   2. District – HT reported the passing of Cllr. Frank Letch MBE, Chairman of the MDDC, on 8 April 2025. A book of condolence is open at Phoenix House or messages can be left using an online form.

HT reported that the Government has passed a Bill which will make it easier for Councils to get planning.

HT reported that the latest Section 106 Funding Reports are now available, but councils would need a project to apply it to. This information has already been circulated to council members by SC.

HT reported that the recycling collection rate was very good for our district, coming 12th out of 197.

HT reported that MDDC would be raising the Union Jack at Phoenix House to commemorate the 80th VE Day on 8 May.

HT reported that training programme courses are available.

HT to circulate information to all councillors on the above.

* 1. Parish – KK reported that all footpaths had been very muddy but are clear now.

1. **Planning** – Planning application 25/00330/PNCOU. Prior notification of an agricultural building to 2 dwellings under Class Q at The Oaks (received 6 March 2025). PCC had not been notified of this application. RP had written to MDDC for their response, but at the time of the meeting there had been no response. ACTION – HT to chase up.
2. **Parish Clerk’s laptop** – Clerk’s laptop very slow and too small. Agreed to purchase a new laptop with faster operating system, bigger screen and separate mouse out of contingency up to a maximum of £350.00
3. **Current Business** – Current financial situation noted.
4. **Date of next meeting** – Parish Council Tuesday 1 July 2025 at 7.30pm

Meeting Closed at 20.40hrs