

# MINUTES POUGHILL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Village Hall at 7:30 pm on Thursday 04th September 2025

**Attendees:** Cllr Wellerd (Chair), DCllr Colthorpe, Cllr English, CCllr Keeble

**1. Members of Public:** None

**2. Apologies –** Cllr Wild, Cllr Clark.

**3. Declaration of Interests –** None

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

4.1 Minutes from the meeting held on 03<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 were approved.

**5. Finance.**

5.1 Notification of payments and receipts since the last meeting and current financial status.

The Current Account balance at 11/08/2025 is £4,300.34, plus £1,680.86 in the Instant Access Savings Account.

Date	Details	Interest	Receipt	Payment	Savings Balance	Balance
					£1678.83	£4611.40
3-Jul	A Cheriton			£50.00		
8-Jul	Service Charges			£4.25		
9-Jul	Interest		0.97			
11-Jul	Thornes Farm Shop – Newsletter		£1.34			
11-Jul	CF Community Shop - Newsletter		£4.19			
14-Jul	D Kingdon			£122.09		
6-Aug	A Cheriton	£1.38		£50.00		
11-Aug	Service Charges			£4.25		
11-Aug	Interest	£1.06				
11-Aug	Hedgerow Print – Invoice			86.00		
27-Aug	Balance				£1,680.86	£4,300.34

5.2 Clerks Pay award – The National Joint Council for Local Government Services has reached agreement on the pay award for 25/26. The new hourly rate for SCP7 is £13.69, this is an increase of £0.43. This means that the new monthly gross salary is £157.44 (£13.69 x 11.5). – **Noted**

**6. Governance.**

6.1 The Media Policy V1 has been reviewed and remains unchanged - Noted

6.2 The IT Policy V0.2. has been approved – Proposed Cllr Wellerd, Seconded Cllr English all in favour.

6.3 The Risk Register V5.1. has been approved – Proposed Cllr Wellerd, Seconded Cllr English all in favour.

6.4 The Asset Register V6 has been reviewed and remains unchanged - Noted

6.5 It has been noted the Parish Council has received the Quinquennial Report and agreed on the next actions.

6.6 The purchase of a further 200 daffodil bulbs for the churchyard at a cost of approximately £30 has been approved. Proposed Cllr Wellerd, Seconded Cllr Colthorpe all in favour.

**7. Planning**

7.1 – Ref No: 25/00906/HOUSE

Proposal: Erection of first floor extension

Location: 3 The Glebe Poughill Crediton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 285551/108464

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL HEREBY GRANTS FULL PLANNING PERMISSION FOR THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENT - Noted

7.2 Ref No: 25/00903/HOUSE

Proposal: Installation of ground mounted 14 solar panels

Location: Mill Farm House Cheriton Fitzpaine Crediton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 286497/108129

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL HEREBY GRANTS FULL PLANNING PERMISSION FOR THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENT

7.3 Ref No: 25/00904/LBC - Noted

Proposal: Listed Building Consent for the installation of a Tesla battery and gateway to the rear elevation of the house and connection to existing fuse box

Location: Mill Farm House Cheriton Fitzpaine Crediton Devon

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 286497/108129

MID DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL HEREBY GRANTS LISTED BUILDING CONSENT FOR THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENT - Noted

### **8.1 District Councillor/County Councillor report.**

8.1 District Report – Business Information Point (BIP) are delivering the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) **farm business Support programme** in Mid Devon (for Devon County Council). **Agri Innovation Support** is designed for farmers looking to maximise their potential and productivity through regenerative and innovative practices. **You must be based in Teignbridge, South Hams or West Devon**, and be keen to commit to an intensive programme with a strong focus on clear outcomes.

If you're looking for more general advice on issues you might be facing, our **Farm Business Support** could be just what you need. If you're in **East Devon, Mid Devon & Teignbridge**, you can get expert, tailored advice on a wide range of areas to help strengthen your farm business for the future.

The 145 programme is going ahead. Enforcement action on moving traffic offences, in Exeter there are 5 places, Wonford Road – Bus Gate, Topsham Road, Fore St Heavitree, Cowick Street and the Iron Bridge - Bus Lane. Free Parking at Christmas - St Saviours Way Crediton, Multi Storey Tiverton, Cullompton Station 22.11, 29.11, 06.12, 13.12, 20.12.

8.2 County Report – As attached.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Next meeting – 06<sup>th</sup> November 2025

### **Future dates for the diary.**

Parish Council Meetings:

08.01.26, 05.03.26.



## Cllr STEVE KEABLE July 2025

### County Councillors Report - Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe for:

Bickleigh • Brushford • Cadbury • Cadeleigh • Chawleigh Cheriton Fitzpaine • Coldridge • Cruwys Morchard • Down St. Mary • Eggesford • Kennerleigh • Lapford • Morchard Bishop • Newton St. Cyres • Nymet Rowland • Poughill Puddington • Sandford • Shobrooke • Silverton • Stockleigh English • Stockleigh Pomeroy • Thelbridge • Thorverton • Upton Hellions Washford Pyne • Wembworthy • Woolfardisworthy • Zeal Monachorum

### Mid Devon Councillors Report - Taw Vale for:

Chawleigh • Lapford • Nymet Rowland • Wembworthy

### We have ended the last financial year in balance – but tough choices lie ahead

We have ended the 2024/25 financial year without going over budget, but only by relying on temporary savings and one-off government funding.

A report presented to cabinet, 25<sup>th</sup> June, showed that DCC managed to stay within its £637.5 million budget and ‘balance the books’ despite growing demand for services like social care and support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Exceptions had been to overspend by nearly £4 million in November but managed to avoid this through a mix of short-term measures, including delaying some projects, not filling vacant jobs, and using a one-off grant from government.

The report also showed that £40 million in planned savings were delivered across council services, though this fell short of the £50 million target.

#### Councillor James Buczkowski, Cabinet Member for Finance, said:

“This isn’t a moment to celebrate, but it is a moment to be honest. Officers have worked incredibly hard to help balance the books, and that deserves recognition.

“But let’s be clear: this balanced position was only achieved by using temporary fixes. “It’s not a sign that everything is fine. We’ve inherited a fragile financial position, depleted cash balances and a special educational needs deficit now over £169 million.

Our new administration is committed to rebuilding trust and making services more sustainable, by working differently, being open about the challenges, and focusing on what really matters to people.”

### Council to trial pothole repair blitz - £83 million road maintenance programme

While approving an £83 million programme of capital funded highway maintenance schemes, our Cabinet heard from Councillor Dan Thomas, Cabinet Member for Highways, who stated that the condition of Devon’s roads is not up to scratch because the county is “grossly under resourced by central government”.

Councillors backed proposals to trial areas where all potholes would be filled, rather than just dealing with safety defects. Although the exact details are still to be agreed, this pilot would be used to establish the budget implications of changing maintenance procedures.

Councillors also agreed that a task group from the Audit Committee should be formed to review the previous Cabinet’s decision from last November on the future delivery model for highway maintenance.

The Cabinet at the time resolved that a procurement process should get underway for a Term Maintenance Contract to deliver core highway work such as safety defect repairs, gully emptying and winter service, supported with smaller “Framework Contracts” for additional patching, surfacing, drainage and other improvements.

It was also agreed to examine the costs of accelerating the remarking of white lines across the county.

#### Councillor Dan Thomas, Cabinet Member for Highways, said:

“We have a repair backlog of around £390 million, and to keep us in a steady state it costs around £102 million a year. We don’t have that, so whatever we do under the current funding formula, we’re not going to solve the problem.



## **New DCC Cabinet vows to improve the outcomes of our most vulnerable children through new 10-year plan**

In a bold move away from the council's previous preference to commission, rather than directly deliver, residential places for children in its care, councillors, on 25 June, agreed to an ambitious multi-million investment programme to establish 12 new children's homes; 20 specialist foster places; and up to four new therapeutic schools, over the next 10 years.

'Growing Futures: Homes for children and young people in care in Devon' aims to provide new homes, support, residential therapeutic care, education and treatment for children with complex psychological, emotional and behavioural needs.

Our plan will be delivered through a strategic partnership worth up to £156 million and aims to address deficiencies in current care arrangements.

We are required to provide suitable homes for children in care; but nationally an over-reliance on for-profit providers has contributed to rising costs and poor value for money. In Devon for instance costs have almost doubled in five years amid rising demand.

There has been a 29 per cent increase in Devon children in residential homes since 2020 and many of those are not in the county.

The new strategy will aim to reduce costs and improve long-term outcomes for children through more stable, local, and therapeutic housing and education options.

**Councillor Richard Jefferies, our Cabinet Member for Children's Social Care said:**

"It's not fair that so many children are living far away from their support networks, their friends and family; they want to be looked after by people who are nurturing and friendly, and they want to be close to activities and their school and they want to be able to make friends."

**[steve.keable@devon.gov.uk](mailto:steve.keable@devon.gov.uk)**

## **Mid Devon District Council**

### **Tiverton homes appeal won by developers**

A controversial plan for up to 100 homes in Mid Devon on land at a historic house has been approved by a Government Planning Inspector in spite of a wave of opposition. The proposal for Tidcombe Hall, Tiverton was rejected for a second time by Mid Devon District Council's planning committee last year, with the plan attracting around 170 letters of objection.

Councillors have blamed the decision on Central Government's recent increase in housing targets, which raised Mid Devon's annual requirement by 65% — from 346 to 571 homes. They say the change has left local authorities powerless to stop unsuitable developments.

Cllr Luke Taylor, Leader of Mid Devon District Council, said: "This devastating decision is a direct consequence of the recent adjustment to housing targets. We had a five-year housing land supply and robust local plan policies, but the 65% increase has fundamentally undermined our position. These changes are eroding local democracy and forcing unwanted development on communities that have clearly said no."

Cllr Steve Keable, cabinet member for planning and economic regeneration, said: "The Planning Inspector has disregarded the strong planning policies this Council has worked tirelessly to uphold. The new housing targets introduced six months ago mean that Mid Devon must achieve 571 new homes with planning approval every year. This is a charter for developers to secure permissions, land-bank sites, and delay building until market conditions suit their profits. This approach does not solve housing needs. These target adjustments systematically undermine local democracy, and the cost of defending these appeals falls to the local taxpayer. We will continue to fight inappropriate development wherever possible within this unfair system."

### **Major Poolside Upgrades Completed at Crediton and Tiverton Leisure Centres -**

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/major-poolside-upgrades-completed-at-crediton-and-tiverton-leisure-centres/>

### **Copplestone, Road Closure & Cross Hotel Update -**

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/road-closure-and-cross-hotel-copplestone-update/>

### **Tiverton Work Hub completed & management operator appointed -**

<https://www.middevon.gov.uk/operator-appointed-for-tiverton-work-hub/>

**[skeable@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:skeable@middevon.gov.uk)**