

## Minutes of the Hittisleigh Parish Council held at Hittisleigh Village Hall on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2026.

Present: Chair Cllr Beryl Watson, Vice Chair Chris Dack, Cllrs Darrell Chidley, Madelaine McDonald, Andy Shervington, Cathy Wetherden, Mike Tootell and DCC Cllr J Cairney, MDDC Cllr Martin Binks.

There were no members of the public present.

Attending J. Clark. Parish Clerk

1. **Open Forum** – nothing raised.
2. **Apologies and reasons for absence for approval.** Cllr C. Wetherden, noted and approved.
3. **Declarations of interest.** Cllrs Watson and Shervington declared an interest in item 4.
4. **Planning. 26/00218/ Proposed non-material amendment PROPOSED NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT to 25/00724/FULL.** Land and Buildings at NGR 273469 95437 (The Barton Farm) Hittisleigh. The council are happy to leave the decision to the local authority.
5. **Reports from Devon County and Teignbridge District Councillors.** DCC Cllr Cairney updated the council on the Local Government Review. MDDC Cllr Binks reported that the precept request for Hittisleigh was considerably below the average precept request.
6. **Reports from Hittisleigh Parish Councillors.** The Chair expressed her sadness at the passing of the Ruth Curtis who served as the parish clerk for many years.
7. **To approve the minutes of the January 2026 meeting as a true record.** The council resolved unanimously by a show of hands to approve the January minutes as a true record.
8. **To discuss and agree the priorities for the council for the coming financial year for publication.** Following a discussion, the council agreed the following three priorities to be the focus of the parish council during the 2026-2027 financial year.
  - To support the Road Warden Scheme
  - To maintain the Voluntary Emergency Telephone Service and raise awareness among Hittisleigh and Binneford residents.
9. **To consider if the parish wishes to participate in Cllr Chenore's suggestion for a community award scheme in the area.** The council does not wish to participate as Hittisleigh is a very small community and it was felt such a scheme was inappropriate for the parish. Clerk to let MDDC Cllr Chenore know. **CLERK TO ACTION**
10. **To update the council on the response to queries raised at the previous meeting and subsequent correspondent with regard to the governance of human waste injected/spread on land within the parish and any further action required by the parish council.** Following a discussion the council resolved unanimously by a show of hands to

raise another complaint about this with the Environment Agency. The clerk noted the main concerns and Cllr MacDonald is to draft a detailed response with background and further information for approval by the Chair and Vice Chair. Clerk to forward to Environment Agency once approval confirmed.

**CLLR MACDONALD AND CLERK TO ACTION.**

**11. To consider how the parish council will identify and report flooding associated with highways, ditches and gullies.** Despite reporting problems with water in the village, there is often an inadequate response with the many of the issues being resolved by local farmers and residents. The council will take no action at present but will monitor the situation.

**12. Correspondence.** Nothing to add.

**13. To review the Volunteer Emergency Telephone System and how to raise awareness generally and how to inform people who have moved to the area in the past year.**

The information sign has been updated.

Cllr Watson has informed new residents of the emergency system.

Cllr Dack is holding a training and information session at the village hall.

**14. Bank reconciliation update.** Not available at present as new clerk does not yet have access to the parish council bank account. This is being addressed.

**15. To approve payments.**

Beryl Watson, reimbursement for 'thank you' gift. £30.00

Jane Clark 58 hours over 3 months £806.54 inc. and home office allowance/phone allowance.

HMRC Clerk's PAYE £201.60

***Date of next meeting Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026. The parish assembly will be held on the same day at 7 pm. This is an annual event where everyone is invited to catch up with the parish council activities and raise any questions. Only registered electors are allowed to vote, if a vote is required. If you have anything you wish to raise with the council, then please attend and the council will be more than happy to respond.***