

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11 MARCH 2026 AT 7:30PM
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF BOW VILLAGE HALL

Present: Mr C D Nicks in the Chair,
Messrs R A Cook, P P W Edworthy, R P Edworthy, S A Pengelly, D Pocock
and V Steer.
DCC rep. Cllr J Cairney.
Members of the Public: One (part only)
Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

Apologies: Mr T J Hamilton.

1. **Public Open Forum.**

The Hittisleigh Parish Council road warden introduced himself, a Bow Parish Councillor had invited him to attend. Providing information on Devon County Council's road warden scheme and the Parish road warden role, he confirmed that suitable (demonstrating common sense, relevant skillset etc), prospective wardens were appointed by town/parish councils. Training comprised a short online Highway Safety Awareness course, followed by a two-day course for signing, lighting and guarding ('chapter 8' of the Traffic Signs Manual) at a DCC approved centre (Rackenford), funded by DCC. He commented that DCC dragon patchers were not favoured for pothole repair. For pothole repair, he detailed the materials required with the process involved. More negatively, he said, on occasion members of the public could be verbally abusive to road wardens. Supplies of cold lay tarmac were obtained via DCC and necessary road signage was also supplied by DCC, he added that for larger quantities of tarmac it's storage could be problematic. He expanded on pothole formation – often attributable to surface water ingress, saying that large vehicles in narrow roads contributed to roadside hedge erosion leading to blockage of drainage features, thus with more water on road surfaces new potholes were caused and washing out of previously repaired potholes – many repaired potholes lasted only a matter of weeks which was frustrating to motorists and expensive for DCC. Works involved liaison with the DCC neighbourhood highway officer, DCC generally required risk assessments for works. He added that parishes could group together for pothole repair, thereby potentially saving DCC expense. Bow Parish Council would publicise the road warden scheme, calling for volunteers in the May/June issue of the Bow and Arrow and Cllr Cairney would also publish scheme information. The Hittisleigh road warden kindly offered to assist with setting up a volunteer group at Bow. He was warmly thanked for his attendance, informative talk and offer of assistance. He took his leave of the meeting.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2026, having been circulated in advance, were taken as read. A member requested two revisions, minutes would be re-produced incorporating said revisions.

3. **Matters Arising:-**

Nil

4. **Planning**

APPLICATIONS

Nil

MDDC DECISION

APPROVAL

[25/01470/FULL](#)

Proposal: Erection of four dwellings and one replacement dwelling following demolition of two barns utilising the Class Q fallback position (24/01839/PNCOU)

Location: Blue Violet, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 273157 / 98333

5. **DCC (Crediton Rural Division) Monthly Report.**

Cllr Cairney conveyed some information on DCC's fostering scheme; DCC had been promoting it's fostering scheme for some while and had produced a booklet 'Make a difference to a child's life today' with a website fosteringdevon.org.uk It spoke about becoming a foster carer, types of fostering, the assessment process, etc. Cllr Cairney would also promote the parish road warden scheme in his next submission to the Bow and Arrow.

6. **MDDC (Upper Yeo & Taw Ward) Monthly Report.**

No report to hand.

7. **Bow Conservation Area, Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP).**

Mid Devon District Council had supplied a draft copy of the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan electronically, which the Clerk circulated (email dated 17 February) to Members for their review and comment. MDDC was in the process of bringing forward the Bow CAAMP, Bow had been designated a Conservation Area around 1972 but it had been without an appraisal or management plan, which could help inform interested parties. The draft CAAMP would be subject to public consultation; the formal process for reviewing the document with necessary amendments made thereafter. MDDC intended that public event be held at Bow parish hall, one evening, date and time yet to be confirmed. Members briefly discussed the CAAMP, with some inaccuracies (eg Bow Waterworks public taps had been termed pumps) and inconsistencies highlighted. Members wished to await the public consultation to make their comments.

8. **Automated External Defibrillator (AED), Bow Village Hall.**

A new AED, Cardiac Science Powerheart G5 semi-automatic with CPRD, had been ordered online at £1,230.00 (£1,025.00 + vat) with a new exterior cabinet, Aivia 200 outdoor heated unlocked, at £540.00 (£450.00 + vat), total £1,770.00, from Defib Warehouse. Alex Bowden had been approached, he would wire in the new AED. An application for DCC Locality Budget funding had been prepared for submission, however, without warning, DCC had withdrawn funding for 2025/26 at the end of February, advising funding for 2026/27 would open in May.

9. **D.C.C. Highways Matters.**

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS). Current costs of VAS including associated elements, from Westcotec, had been established. Westcotec had supplied a link to their full range of portable Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), Westcotec no longer supplied lithium batteries due to their charge patterns and their susceptibility to discharging beyond a recoverable level, however, if Parish Council felt that to be a deal-breaker the upgrade would be £780.00 + vat. Speed signs (incl. spare lead acid battery) were approx. £3,300 + vat, lithium battery £780.00 + vat, portable solar kit £650.00 + vat, speed data collection feature £379.00 + vat, extra set of brackets for second location £52.00 + vat, set (2) of padlocks £21.00 + vat, dual coloured display £270.00 + vat, total approx. £5,500/£6,000 + vat. Delivery time 6-8 weeks. The 20-30-40 sign had been previously agreed by Parish council so had formed the basis for the application and risk assessment, in 2024, which DCC approved. Members, however, commented on some recently installed local signs and wished to re-consider all available devices. VAS had become more sophisticated over the past couple of years – a Parish Councillor produced a photograph of a sign in west Cornwall which incorporated automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) technology, submitting that would be a significant additional deterrent. Members favoured checking other suppliers with available devices and costs, requesting that brochures be obtained. One post, on A3072 at western approach to Bow, had been installed in readiness for the VAS.

Other Highway matters. No matters raised.

10. **Monitoring of Services**

D.C.C. Service satisfactory – comment would not be submitted.

M.D.D.C. Service satisfactory – comment would not be submitted.

11. **Correspondence**

MDDC, Covid 19 National Day of Reflection <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/national-day-of-reflection-covid-19/>

MDDC, Press Release, Active Mid Devon's spring (March & April) initiative rewarding members.

MDDC, Press Release, new electric vehicle charge points at Tiverton pannier market.

MDDC, Press Release, pool pod lifts for swimmers with reduced mobility, coming to Active Mid Devon's pools.

MDDC Press Release, Active Tiverton (Exe Valley) and Active Crediton (Lords Meadow) being considered for padel courts.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, cyber-crime, botnets ('zombie' networks hiding in devices), advice and warning.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police Community Surgery, 6 March 2026 at Tesco, Crediton.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, reporting fraud and cyber-crime (suspicious texts, emails & websites), info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Saturday night transport (Torquay, Plymouth, N Devon & Exeter) service, views sought.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, cyber attack warning for businesses (promoting Cyber Essentials, Government-backed certification scheme).

Devon and Cornwall Alert, spotlight on horse road safety: sharing the road, staying safe (collection of short films).

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police Community Surgery, 19 February 2026 at Crediton library.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, online dating/romance fraud, fictitious romantic relationship, warning.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, from April 2023 to March 2025, the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 delivered improvements to 176 off gas, low income households across Devon.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, the warning signs of coercion and control about which every parent needs to be aware.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, cyber-crime, the six golden rules for online passwords.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police Community Surgery, 10 February 2026 at Cullompton.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, Cold Callers offering gardening/maintenance services, warning.
Devon and Cornwall Alert, [OUR NEWS](#) (March 2026) newsletter.
DCC, Devon Climate Emergency, [March newsletter](#).
Publications: Clerks and Councils Direct, DALC E-bulletin, NALC newsletter, NALC chief executive bulletin, NALC Events newsletter, and DCC news round-up Connectme.

12. **Finance.**

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £8,189.14, Current a/c £31,902.73
ACCOUNTS AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT
Defib Warehouse (Cardiac Science Powerheart semi-auto G5 + CPRD AED £1,230.00 + Aivia 200 cabinet £540.00)
£1,770.00
Bow Village Hall (to hire of meeting venue, October 2025 to March 2026 inclusive) £46.90 (BACS)
Bow Village Field (grass cutting incl. play area 2025 annual grant) £1,400.00 (BACS)
EDF Energy (electricity for DAAT community landing light) £22.31
Clerk (salary £749.00 + admin/expenses £133.11 qtr. ending 31/03/26 £882.11
H.M.R.&C. (P.A.Y.E. income tax, Jan-Mar 2026) £187.25

13. **Any Other Business.**

No matters raised.

14. **Date of Next Meeting (Annual Assembly).**

Wednesday 15 April 2026 at 7:30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall.

This completed the business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:20pm.