



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18th August 2026 at 7.30. pm, at Bridgerule Village Hall.

These minutes are provisional until signed by the Chairman at the next meeting.

Present : Chairman: D. Hale,
Councillors : J. McDougall, K. Bowditch, M. Tape, K. James, J. Trayford, S. Cholwill,
D. Councillor N. Keneally. MOP x 1
In Attendance : Clerk.

3772. Apologies Received : SW, A/L, approved 1st JT, 2nd KJ, all in favour.
Apologies received EH.

Declarations of Interests: None declared.

3773. Council Meeting Minutes : Minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2026 circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and agreed by all present as correct. Proposed 1st, JMD, 2nd KB, all councillors in favour.

3774. Matters Arising : None.

3775. District Councillors report – NK reported that an interim plan had been formed for the wards within the new Devon Coast to Coast council. Some existing wards would increase, Milton and Tamarside taking in Sutcombe and Holsworthy rural would be split into 3 wards. 13 councillors would serve the Torridge area. New planning regulations would take effect from 1st October and KJ would look at the constitution. The NPF plan was published yesterday, a long document. NK has asked the council for more support for farmers currently during the current Bluetongue outbreak, including mental health support as well as financial, for the farming community generally. DH said that he knew of several farms locally where calves had been born deceased and this was a common problem at present. Both KJ and NK agreed that the farming community were facing difficulties at the present time and needed support.

KJ reported that DCC had been considering a judicial review on the proposed LGR plan approved by government. Meetings were being held between current districts, and a JR could be costly. As the leader of TDC, KJ said that the emphasis would be on working on the best options for the proposed new unitary and how it can be of benefit to the area, options included an economic centre, ie Barnstable or Okehampton or if regional hubs would be best and it was a case of working out a solid plan for what is best. Elections will be held in May and will be a forerunner of what will in place in 2028.

Both agreed C. C.H of both TDC and DCC had been doing a tremendous job providing support and information for the farming community, DH wished clerk to write a letter of thanks from the council.

3776. Public Open Question Time : No questions raised.

3777 : Correspondence – received, Warding arrangements from TDC, clerk to circulate next week
New Neighbourhood highways officer for the area, D&C police, Smaller Audit Authority, council need to register for online AGAR submission, will be mandatory from 2029, Community Hub Devon and SWAST regarding a potential data leak. Clerk had been on contact with DALC on several occasions.

3778 : Chairmans report : DH reported that he and KB had been unable to submit responses on behalf of the parish council to TDC for the local plan recently, despite much effort as the link to do so would not work, KJ and NK to feed back to TDC.

3779 : Accounts and Accounts due for payment : Finance sheets had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting, Invoices received this month, SC Garden Services, £120.00, Current account agreed at £6266.51 on the 31st of July. Proposed accepted 1st, JT, 2nd KJ, show of hands, all councillors in favour.

3780 : Planning -1/0398/2026/FUL – Conversion of 5 no: barns, Lodgeworthy, Bridgerule. Application was granted permission.

3781 : New Complaints policy : Councillors approved the new policy with a review date of 1 year, to be published on the website in due course.

3782 : Bridgerule Football Club – MT reported that Bude youth still wish to hire the field for training when the season starts, and the pitch is being inspected and maintained regularly. No illegal use of the pitch had been noted recently. Clerk to forward Football foundation grant details to MT.

3783 : Speedwatch and Highways Update : Speedwatch session held recently at Vicarage Hill recorded 19 vehicles with no speeding. Various sites were being used on a rotational basis. Another session is planned for next week.

Highways, road closures, Monday 24th August to Friday 28th August, Jewells Cross to Borough Cross ,Newacott Cross to Borough Cross, Newacott Cross to Bevills Hill Farm, from 7.00am till 6.00pm for resurfacing. Alternative routes to be signed.

3784: Village Hall/Shop Update : The hall held a successful fundraising event with JC recently and continues to do well. The shop continues to do well, with some very good trading days when weather is good. New seating and a new freezer have been purchased.

3785 : Bridgerule Community Garden update : DH thanked councillors who attended the Afternoon Tea event recently. The group will continue to keep the garden tidy and are looking to plant daffodil bulbs for the spring. New solar panel funding has been successful for the summerhouse roof, to provide limited electricity when required. Two posters will be published in the next Buzz. A fundraising raffle will be held at Holsworthy Golf Club next week.

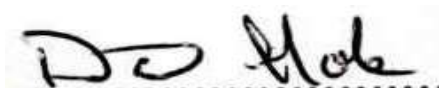
3786 : Clerks report : Clerk had attended the DALC summer meeting on the 31st July. D&C Police were offering a training event on Safety and Security awareness for Councillors and staff via Teams. Registration would be required, DH and JT would like to enrol. Survey from government on Public Recreation Open spaces had been received, clerk received permission to complete. Electoral Register Changes for August were 6 creations and 5 deletions.

3787: Exchange of Information : The defibrillator had been used recently; new pads and a new battery had been placed in the casing. It is routinely checked monthly.

2nd instalment FC grass cutting and maintenance grant- could this be on next month's Agenda, The roundabout in the playpark needs repair, it is noisy. SC is seeking estimates to enable this.

3788 : Meeting closed at 8.22 pm : Date of next meeting Tuesday 15th September at 7.30 pm.

Signed by Meeting Chairman :



Date of signing :

.....15.09.26.....

