

# *Goodleigh Parish Council*

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 March 2025 at 6:30pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs N Thorne (Chairman), Ms L Boyle, S Clarke, Dr F Underwood and R Underwood.

**In Attendance:** 7 members of the public, Cllr Mrs A Davis (DCC), Parish Clerk.

**141. Items from the public**

A parishioner had received a letter from National Grid regarding the trimming of trees that were growing into the power lines. It was agreed to seek more information.

**142. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Gulwell and Dr S Ley

**143. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 4 February 2025**

The Minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed as a true record.

**144. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no Matters Arising.

**145. Reports**

**1. District Councillor**

None – District Councillor not present.

**2. County Councillor**

**Road from Collard Bridge Cross to Chelfham Cross, Goodleigh**

Patching works. As you know I have been lobbying for the road to have the surface refurbished and some was done last year. 31<sup>st</sup> March- 4<sup>th</sup> April 07.30-18.00. This will be inconvenient and I do apologise for the disruption.

**DCC Budget 2025-2026**

There will be a 4.99 percent increase in council tax in Devon for the coming financial year: 2.99 percent for general services with an extra two percent for adult social care.

The annual council tax for an average Band D home will rise by £85.59 – or £1.64 a week – to £1,801.26.

There will be increases in spending of

- 8.2 percent on adult services and
- 5.5 percent for children's services.
- Reductions in other departmental spending and increased income will mean an overall rise of 5.9 percent in the budget with a total spend of over £784.1 million.
- An extra £4 million to boost highways and repair potholes since the target budget was set last month.
- Additional £5 million for children's social care to provide a range of services to allow vulnerable children to be cared for closer to their families and communities.
- An extra £500,000 to support the work of district councils and homeless organisations which brings Devon County Council's homelessness budget up to £1 million.

The extra cash has come from the new additional council tax being levied on second homes.

Council leader James McInnes sharply criticised the Government's decision to end the Rural Services Delivery Grant which helps councils with the extra cost of providing services in rural areas. This had cost Devon over £10 million, he said, with funding switched to more urban areas.

In addition Devon had received the lowest financial settlement of all 21 county councils.

**Peninsula Transport Strategic Implementation Plan Consultation**

We are very reliant on our visitors in the local economy, therefore how they get to us is of interest, even more is the connectivity we have to other parts of the region and further afield. Employment, healthcare and leisure increasingly involves longer journeys.

Please take a moment to read the Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) from Peninsula Transport sub-national transport body (STB); and complete our [short survey](#).

The SIP is part of the Peninsula Transport Strategy, focusing on:

- Easier Journeys
- Going Electric
- A Connected Peninsula
- Completing the Transport Network

Working with our partners, Peninsula Transport aims to improve connectivity, resilience, and sustainability across the region; which in turn will deliver economic, environmental and social improvements that aim to improve the quality of life in the Peninsula.

While we do not directly deliver projects, we influence and advocate investment in freight, rail and road schemes, transport infrastructure, and Net Zero goals.

Your feedback is invaluable in shaping these efforts. Please submit your response by 3rd March 2025.

Read the SIP here: [Peninsula Transport Strategic Implementation Plan 55307 Pr8](#)

You can also read the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the SIP here: [SEA Peninsula SIP Environmental Report\\_V1.0\\_120225](#)

#### **146. Planning Applications**

79836 Erection of a dwelling and associates works. Land to the rear of Chestnut View Goodleigh Road Barnstaple

Concerns were expressed over the poor access to the site, along a narrow lane with no footpath, which is used by school children.

Highways had objected to a previous application, citing the increase in the volume of traffic entering and leaving the county road through an access that did not provide adequate visibility from and of emerging vehicles, with consequent risk of additional danger to all users of that road and interference with the free flow of traffic. Councillors considered that the danger still existed, and indeed had been heightened by the building of more dwellings on the road.

It was felt that there were already too many dwellings on the narrow road that was already inadequate to cope with the existing properties.

It was unanimously agree to recommend refusal.

79889 Removal of conservatory and erection of single storey side extension with terrace and internal changes. Green Valleys Goodleigh Road Barnstaple.

There were no objections to the application

#### **147. Play Area**

The bark had been removed. Unexpectedly another layer of bark was found under the membrane, which needed to be removed.

It was agreed to arrange an opening ceremony when the work was complete.

#### **148. Correspondence Received**

A request had been received from Acorn Homes for a meeting with the council to discuss their plans for the site opposite the village hall. The meeting would also be attended by the planning officer. It was agreed to enquire what dates the representatives would be available.

An email had been received from a parishioner regarding the speed of traffic through the village. The comments made were noted.

NDC - Emergency Planning Parish Forum – 12 March. Noted.

NDC - Correspondence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. Noted.

#### **149. Surface Water/Drains/Highways**

It was agreed to obtain a price from a contractor for clearing the water tables., with the possibility of adding other work.

**150. Grass Cutting**

The agreement for the new contractor was signed by the chairman.  
It was noted that there were moles on the Playing Field. It was decided not to take any action for the present time.

**151. Matters raised with the Chairman**

It was agreed to make enquiries with the Village Hall Committee regarding hiring charges for organisations such as the parish council.

**152. Finance**

**1. Payments**

Goodleigh Village Hall	£ 33.00	Cheque No. 1097
North Devon Homes	£ 7.50	Cheque No. 1098
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£ 68.12	Cheque No. 1101
HMRC	£ 16.20	Cheque No. 1102
AM Dennis – hedge cutting	£108.00	Cheque No. 1103

The five accounts were approved for payment.

**153. Items for the next Agenda:**

None.

**154. Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 1 April 2025

Cllrs Clarke and Ms Boyle tendered their apologies for the next meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....