

Goodleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th October 2025 at 6:30pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Thorne (Chairman), Ms L Boyle, Dr F Underwood, R Underwood and C King, Cllr M Prowse (NDC), Cllr Mrs A Davies (DCC)

In Attendance: 15 members of the public, Parish Clerk (FM)

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dr S Ley and R Gulwell.

2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 2nd September 2025

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

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

The stones have been removed from the roadside outside the new building on the way into Goodleigh from Gunn, although a few centimetres of the protruding metal rods securing the low wooden barrier are still there. It was noted that the owner of the property is leaving them there as a deterrent from road users damaging the verge and they are within the boundary of the property.

4. Planning Applications

80659 – Conversion of redundant rural building to dwelling at Dean Cross, Goodleigh Rd, Gunn
The Planning Committee has refused this application.

APP/X118/W/25/3373131: Land to the rear of Chestnut View Goodleigh

It was agreed that the Parish Council would uphold their original decision to object to this application, a further letter to be written re-sending the original objections and highlighting the fact that the builder's traffic survey was conducted out of school hours. Cllr R Underwood is able to collate the latest 'Speed Watch' survey which will show evidence of how busy the roads are during term time.

The Chairman requested that a record be made that there is no option for affordable housing to be built on the playing field at Northleigh Hill.

5. Items from the public

The residents of Gunn expressed their thanks to the Parish Council for addressing the issue of the stones in the roadway at the new build on the road into Goodleigh.

6. Reports

a. District Councillor

- Cllr Prowse explained that the applications for the changes and additional properties requested by Acorn in their application 77068, 77143 and 80579 have been 'called' and he has insisted that a copy is available in the public domain which is not available as yet.
The Council Solicitors have been looking at the 106 agreement as the council require a 'water-tight' investigation. This will ideally result in a completely new 106 to include the community benefits. Cllr Prowse suggested that we as a community should not accept private drainage for the additional 11 houses. The haulage of waste is not cost efficient going forward.
- Cllr Prowse also stated that the policy for the 'removal of holiday let status' is out of date and the new planning policy will address this – the community needs to be able to provide long term accommodation for its residents.
- LGR – one larger authority is not the best for North Devon.
- SWW have extra permitted development rights so it is more difficult to challenge the 'waste storage facility' from a planning perspective.

b. County Councillor

**Goodleigh Parish Council
County Councillors Report
October 2025**

Illegal money lending arrests in North Devon.

A man and a woman were arrested on suspicion of illegal money lending following an operation in North Devon on Wednesday September 24.

[The England Illegal Money Lending Team \(IMLT\)](#) works in partnership with Heart of the South West Trading Standards Service to investigate and prosecute illegal money lenders.

The suspects, both aged 23, were arrested at an address in Barnstaple and were taken into custody to be questioned by IMLT investigators. Two mobile phones were seized.

There are up to 1.08 million people in debt to loan sharks in England, according to figures from the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ).

Many illegal money lenders are well known within their communities and are often introduced to borrowers through friends or family members. They are unregulated and give loans with no paperwork, charging extortionate interest rates. They often resort to threats, intimidation and even violence if repayments are not made.

Anyone who has been affected by illegal money lending should call the Stop Loan Sharks 24/7 Helpline on 0300 555 2222 or access support online at www.stoploansharks.co.uk. Live Chat is available on the website from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Local Government Reorganisation in Devon

[A stronger future shaped by communities: Devon unveils 'leading' option for local government change - News](#)

I have linked the press release above. Decon County Council will submit their preferred option for Devon by the 28th December, the final decision about what that will be will be made by the Devon County Council cabinet in November.

Enquiry re the 654 bus

Having checked the bus punctuality after the September meeting when this was raised, it does appear that the service has arrived into Barnstaple on time, albeit being a couple of minutes late through Goodleigh. What I did find out from looking into the matter for the August days was that unusually the 654 worked off the back of the 322 service due to holiday cover – this is a tighter connection and likely explains why the service may have operated a little later than usual on these weeks, This has been raised with the operator to ensure that it is not repeated in the future.

Looking into what could be achieved to give residents more time in Barnstaple to do all the essential things we need to do; post office seems to take forever these days for example, I have managed to get longer time negotiated, but this has to go through and be approved by the Traffic commissioner, so it is likely be December before that can happen. The return trip on the 654 will hopefully become 14.20 instead of 13.00.

Highway Defects

With the winter fast approaching it is more likely there will be defects in the highway network, this includes streetlights and signs.

[Report a problem - Roads and transport](#)

The DCC website is very useful for reporting problems and the reports go straight to the contractor. Alternatively the highway contact number is 0345 155 1004

If it's a river flooding the environment agency can be contacted on 0345 988 1188

Please do get in touch if you think I can help with anything; Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk

Andrea

County Councillor

Combe Martin Rural Division

7. **Correspondence Received**
- Request for Information from the Insurance Company – Chairman and FM to meet to complete the required information.
 - Letter from Savills Estate Agent – the land at Goodleigh Glebe is no longer available to be marketed as the current tenants have been located and are not wishing to relinquish their tenancy.
8. **Audio Recording of Meetings**
With Cllr Gulwell not available at this meeting, this has been postponed to next month.
9. **Playground**
The inspection has been booked and a report will be available when completed.
The spring on the gate has become loose – this needs tightening.
10. **Surface Water/Drains/Highways**
Crow Hill still an issue – remind Andrea.
11. **DALC Membership**
DALC website details are to be circulated and training to commence when possible.
12. **Bench Repairs**
There are now two benches that require mending. It was decided that the Parish Council’s own insurance would cover the benches, if necessary, when they have been repaired. Chairman to obtain quotes.
13. **Community Bus**
See point 6.b above
14. **Christmas Lunch**
The fliers have been produced by Cllr Dr Underwood and were ready to be distributed around the village on Wednesday 8th October.
15. **Matters from the Chairman**
New meeting time of 7pm for the Parish Council was unanimously agreed.
Tree Felling for Village Hall and Northleigh to be carried out by the National Grid – Chairman to chase.
16. **Lloyds Bank – update**
Cllr N Thorne and Dr S Ley are currently the only signatories to have access to the online banking system.
Discuss at the next meeting as to how to address this and allow the clerk to have access.
17. **Finance**
- 1. Payments**

Goodleigh Village Hall	£ 33.00
Parish On-line	£378.00
North Devon Tree Services	£120.00
18. **AOB**
It was queried by Cllr Dr Underwood that the minutes were circulated outside of the parish council prior to them being signed off. It was agreed that this is acceptable once the first email had been seen by the Cllrs and any changes addressed if necessary.
19. **Items for the next Agenda:**
Online Banking, Benches, Christmas Lunch, Recording System
- Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date