

# ***Goodleigh Parish Council***

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs N Thorne (Chairman), Dr S Ley (via Zoom), Cllr Mr R Gulwell, Cllr M Prowse (NDC), Dr F Underwood, R Underwood, Mrs M Boyle and C King,

**In Attendance:** 3 members of the public, Parish Clerk (FM)

**1. Apologies**

- Apologies were received from Cllr A. Davies (DCC)

**2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025**

- Cllr Malcolm Prowse noted that the minutes should include the statement that the section 106 for the additional 11 houses has not yet been agreed. The outstanding issues following North Devon Council's meeting with SWW are still unresolved including the timescale of any improvements to the sewerage works and the information relating to any issues being faced with the present arrangements.
- The minutes for the previous meeting were then agreed and approved.

**3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

- None

**4. Planning Applications**

- Reference: 80674 Change of use of land, removal of polytunnel and replacement with a timber framed gazebo at Furze Farm Lane To Furze Farm Gunn EX32 7PL – no objections were raised by the Council.

**5. Items from the public**

- It was noted from the public that Pensioners Christmas lunch was much appreciated.
- A resident from the village of Gunn that the Parish Council was lacking a representative councillor from said village and asked whether she could apply for the position. Chairman Neil Thorne proposed that Karen Smith be elected on to the Council with immediate effect; this motion was seconded by Dr F Underwood.

**6. Reports**

**a. District Councillor**

- Cllr Prowse notified the Council that the NDC commercial waste collection department has now ceased due to losses and inefficient resources.
- The County reorganisation is underway with central Government decision expected in April 2026 Parish Councils will be required to provide evidence of details that the district councils own/hold e.g. land, covenants etc. Each community will be required to provide a neighbourhood plan which will enable the parishes to have more responsibility and ownership of the land etc.
- The local plan will draw on local input and will reflect the needs of the community.
- £1.2million has been spent on renovating the affordable housing in the middle of Barnstaple; these will help to keep the rents down.

**b. County Councillor – Cllr Andrea Davies, Combe Martin Division – report attached**

**7. Correspondence Received**

- No correspondence received during the last month.

**8. Christmas Lunch**

- The cost for the lunch totalled £349.10 with £260 received from the raffle and donations, leaving £89.10 shortfall.
- It was commented by one of the pensioners that it was their best Christmas Lunch ever !

**9. Surface Water/Drains/Highways**

- The main road through Gunn does not get gritted – Cllr Andrea Davies, can we look into why not, please.
- There is a speeding issue through Gunn – the Speedwatch team will be assigned when the lighter mornings are here.
- Berry Lane Potholes – can Cllr Davies investigate please?
- An accident at the top of Lake Hill (Willesleigh Road) was due the impaired visibility caused by parked cars on the dotted white lines at the junction. There is also an issue of the cars parking on the entrance to Longlands Close obscuring visibility of the oncoming traffic. The Parish Council need to submit a letter to the Police Crime Commissioner to request the opening of the junctions.
- Cllr Prowse suggested that the Parish Council utilise the spare speed awareness flashing sign to assist with the traffic calming.

**10. Bench & Playground Repairs**

- The Chairman has contacted a builder for the bench repairs and is hopeful that they will have a price ready for the next meeting.
- Dr S Ley advised that there is £873 remaining from the lottery funding that can be used for the playground repairs. Parish Clerk to contact the company that did the groundworks to see if they are able to attend to the repairs. Clerk to send the ROSPA report directly to them.
- The playground entrance gate is too heavy for the springs and won't shut properly. A lighter gate will close better, therefore the springs won't need replacing so often. Suggestion that Mole Valley may have something suitable.

**11. Audio Recording of Meetings**

- There is no further requirement for audio recordings of the minutes.

**12. Matters from the Chairman**

- Honey Hill – what is the situation – Cllr Prowse stated that the entrance has been blocked up and the Council costs have been paid. The further entrance is classed as permitted development. There is an injunction in place for the use of the land.
- Village Hall keys – The Parish Clerk to contact the previous clerk to ascertain whether they have any keys to the hall

**13. Lloyds Bank – update**

- Continue as current with Dr S Ley making the payments from the account with the assistance of the clerk.

**14. Finance**

**Payments**

Goodleigh Village Hall	£33.00
Dr S Ley (pensioners Lunch)	£82.80
Mrs L Thorne (pensioners Lunch)	£11.35

**Receipts:**

Pensioners Lunch Raffle	£260.00
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**15. Items for the next Agenda:**

Online Banking, Benches/Playground repairs,

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 at 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.00 pm.

Signed .....

Chairman

Date .....

Good evening, not a lot to report as the majority of DCC only went back to work yesterday, it has been a busy Christmas season however due to the cold weather, there is uncertainty at the moment about how much, if any snow on Thursday but I will keep you updated if there is anything significant happening in our area.

#### Library Consultation- reminder

A public consultation asking people to help shape the future of Devon's 50 libraries was recently launched, this is to seek views about the future of the library service in Devon.

It will run for 12 weeks and focus on a number of options, including opening hours, the use of technology, and the potential for community-managed libraries. Closing date 22nd February.

The consultation is available online via a Devon County Council engagement platform at <https://devon.cc/devon-libraries-pm>

Visitors will be able to:

- Fill in one of two surveys (one is specifically for young people aged 13 to 17 years)
- View a detailed overview proposal
- View an opening hours document and other information

Printed copies of the survey are also available in libraries and Devon County Council reception areas (County Hall in Exeter, Tav View in Barnstaple)

#### Highway Defects

With the winter now very much upon us, it is more likely there will be defects in the highway network, this includes streetlights and signs.

#### Report a problem - Roads and transport

Weather conditions are being constantly monitored and gritting teams are ready to be called into action when needed. However, preparations started months ago.

Gritting depots across the county are topped up with almost 24,000 tonnes of salt for the start of the season.

Gritting lorries have been serviced and maintained, and five of the 37 frontline gritters have been replaced with newer models to help improve reliability and reduce maintenance costs. All of these newer gritters feature touchscreen controls to enable drivers to adjust salt spreading rates and the position of their plough attachments without leaving their cab, which improves safety.

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](mailto:Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk)

Happy New Year, I look forward to working with you in 2026.

Andrea

County Councillor

Combe Martin Rural Division

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