

Goodleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 7.00pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Thorne (Chairman), Dr S Ley, Mr R Gulwell, Dr F Underwood, R Underwood, C King, K Smith, Cllr A Davies (DCC)

In Attendance: 1 member of the public, Parish Clerk (FM)

1. Apologies

- Apologies were received from Cllr M Prowse (NDC), Cllr M Boyle

2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 6th January 2026

- The minutes for the previous meeting agreed and approved.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- None

4. Planning Applications

- Reference 81259 Eastacott Goodleigh EX32 7NS – retrospective planning for installation of a ground mounted stand alone solar array – consultation end date 19/02/2026 – No objections were raised
- Reference 81276 The Old Rectory Goodleigh Barnstaple EX32 7NU – cconsent for works to trees covered by a TPO for crown reduction to Cypress and Alder and removal of 2 x Ash - No objections were raised

5. Items from the public

- None

6. Reports

- **District Councillor** - In his absence Cllr Prowse sent the following notes:
We have chased up South West Water for a formal response with regard to the progress and timescales for the planned improvements - it is now over 3 months since we met with various officers from SWW. I hope that the delay implies they are looking seriously at the possibility of bringing the works forward from the 2030+ date, as soon as I have any update I will share. Hence there is little movement to report on the extant planning applications at the moment.
I slightly misunderstood the situation with the ongoing enforcement and prosecution at Honey Hill, Snapper as I thought the District's costs had been met this is not the case. Below is an extract from the senior enforcement officer who is dealing with the case.

'They are no longer residing on the land.

They have removed some of the buildings including the subterranean dwelling which I served a separate enforcement notice on.

However, they have not completed the works to reinstate the land to its former condition where they created the access. They still need to remove one of the remaining buildings. I provided this evidence at the hearing to Judge Walsh on the 18 December 2025.

The new access that's been created on the bridleway is not part of the court proceedings but we intend to resolve.

It was agreed that the sentencing would be adjourned to 24 March 2026 and all outstanding matters of non compliance with the enforcement notice 9754 must be completed by 18 February 2026.'

I have raised the question of the speed awareness sign and will hopefully get a response at the PC meeting later this month.

Yesterday the Strategy & Resources Committee agreed to continue with the North Devon Council's Trade Waste collections, reversing its previous decisions and those of full Council!

Also yesterday the budget was agreed with a proposed 2.99% increase in Council Tax - but I must stress North Devon District levies just 9% of your total bill - so we must see what DCC, the Police and Fire come in at.

- **County Councillor – Cllr Andrea Davies, Combe Martin Division – report attached**
- **County Councillor – Cllr Ed Tydesley, Chulmleigh & Landkey – Highways update attached**

7. Correspondence Received

- Correspondence from ROSPA received with regard the playground inspections being carried out by the Parish Council – this would negate the need for an assessor to attend – FM to explore this further.

8. Surface Water/Drains/Highways

- It was mentioned that the road closures are occurring without due notice to the residents. Cllr Davies explained that these closures had been for emergency repairs following the recent storm and as such the utilities companies were unable to provide fair warning.
- Cllr Davies continues to encourage the Parish to use the website to notify the district council of highways and drainage issues.
- It was agreed that the Council should encourage the residents to attend the next meeting to discuss the issues with the parking along the main round and obscuring the splays at Lake Hill, Northleigh Hill, Longlands Close and along by The Church at Gunn.

9. Bench & Playground Repairs

- The estimates for the bench repairs in the village are £950 for two benches to be replaced with hardwood slats which will last longer than treated softwood. The council were in agreement that this should go ahead.
- FM is waiting for Alvion to return the quotes for the playground repairs.

10. Matters from the Chairman

- None

11. Finance

Payments

Goodleigh Village Hall	£33.00
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14. Items for the next Agenda:

Playground repairs, Devon & Cornwall Police Speed enforcement, Village opinion with regard parking

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

Signed

Chairman

Date

Goodleigh Parish Council County Councillors report February 2026

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, Taw View in Barnstaple)

Exmoor National Park Housing need survey

I know Goodleigh isn't in the National Park!

I want to raise awareness of this survey as I'm trying to reach people who have a connection with the National Park.

The survey is a collaboration between Somerset and North Devon Councils, as local housing authorities, and Exmoor National Park Authority. Somerset Council will be analysing the responses and, later next year, they will prepare a summary report with information on housing need for each Exmoor parish.

A letter with information about an online housing need questionnaire, has been sent to households in Exmoor National Park. The letter includes a link and QR code to the survey which is designed to be simple and easy to complete. The information provided through the survey will be dealt with in strict confidence. It will be vital to those considering housing need and provision and will help inform the future [Exmoor Local Plan](#) review. The survey is aimed at those who might be finding accommodation in the local area unaffordable, whose home no longer meets their needs, or who wish to own their own home through a self/custom build project.

The letter to Exmoor residents also asks that the survey be shared with people who have moved away and want to return, local workers who live away and travel into the National Park to work or who live on Exmoor with family or others because of the cost of local housing. Anybody wishing to set up their own home, e.g. young people approaching adulthood, is encouraged to complete their own survey separately.

Parish surveys have been the starting point for almost 120 homes with a local need occupancy tie, achieved in Exmoor's communities through conversions and new build and as self-build.

Please continue to report defects on the highway.

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](#)

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

Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk

Dear Parish and District Councillors,

Further to my Jan/Feb report, I have been in Contact with Cllr Dan Thomas – the Cabinet Member for Highways. This update is to draw attention to the impact of the recent weather patterns on the condition of Devon's road network and other associated assets and steps the Service is taking in response.

Through January and into February, Devon has been impacted by 3 named storms. These storms alongside the previously reported freeze/thaw weather pattern is incredibly damaging for the carriageways and has led to severe structural damage and a significant increase in pothole numbers.

Whilst we have recovered access to all communities across Devon after a large number were cut off for days, we are becoming more aware of the significant impact of the 3 named storms on the minor network. This is becoming more evident as flood water recedes and the team continue to widen their inspections of the network and we receive more information and feedback from the public and local communities.

There are currently 2,900 safety defect potholes outstanding with a further 1,600 reports received so far this week which we are endeavouring to inspect and repair at the earliest opportunity. We are currently assessing more than 600 reports a day.

The impact of the most recent storm on the A379 Slapton Line has been particularly significant with a loss of sea defence and road structure. We are currently working with South Hams DC, the EA and Natural England to understand and assess the impact and consider short term and longer-term recovery options.

To ensure we can react as swiftly and effectively as possible we have paused programmed works. This has made available 5 jetters and 6 gully emptiers across the county which will be working into the weekend and through the next week to address reported drainage issues. We have 50 gangs committed to the support of the recovery operation who have been working around the clock, not only to clear the impact of the storm but to also undertake winter service treatments to ensure the safety of road users when temperatures have dropped significantly. Many of these teams continue to work additional hours on Saturdays and Sundays to keep the network as safe as possible.

The rest of the council has been working hard in the budget setting process. It is very clear that during the current financial year (2025/26) we have been working to a budget set by the previous administration. It severely under invests in highway infrastructure and preventative maintenance. Over the next few weeks we will be announcing our first budget for the upcoming financial year (2026/27) and I hope you will be as pleased as I am about the changes being made.

I understand and share the frustrations of you and your residents over the state of the roads. DCC has neglected them for far too long.

Any questions, drop me a message.

All the best,
Ed

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