

Goodleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7pm at Goodleigh Village Hall

Present: Cllrs N Thorne (Chair), Ms L Boyle, R Gulwell, Dr S Ley, C King, Dr F Underwood and R Underwood.

In Attendance: 3 members of the public, Cllr A Davies (DCC), Cllr M Prowse (NDDC) Parish Clerk.

2026/09/1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr K Smith.

2026/09/2. Approval of Minutes of meeting held 4th August 2026

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

2026/09/3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None

2026/09/4. Planning Applications

None

2026/09/5. Items from the public

A member of the public purchased a pew from the Church and enquired whether the Skittle Alley would like to loan it from him. They were advised to contact the Skittle Alley committee members.

2026/09/6. Reports:

1. District Councillor – Goodleigh

Cllr Prowse reported the following:

- To ensure that North Devon were updating the new Local Plan there were meeting being held every 6 weeks.
- The Neighbourhood Plan is in progress with Phase 2 to be adopted by the new 'Devon Coast & Countryside' council – guidance manuals will be sent to all Parishes.
- The pedestrian link is now open in the regenerated section of Barnstaple with a ceremony expected to take place to name the link 'Tom's Walk'. Central Car Park is working well. Homes England have assisted with keeping the rents affordable with the Council retaining the properties and actively encouraging the housing of homeless people within the properties.
- An on-site meeting with the Planning Dept and Acorn Homes to be arranged before the end of September.

2. County Councillor Report

- Cllr Davies mentioned that the Police will be carrying out spot checks in the village over the next few weeks.
- LGR – 4 areas have been designated in the new organisation for Devon:
 - Greater Exeter
 - Greater Plymouth
 - Torbay
 - Rest of Devon – Coast and Countryside
- Warding Elections will be carried out in May – Bratton Fleming Ward is proposed to merge with Marwood, East Down, Shirewell and Bittadon with the two councils running concurrently until 2028.
- The money has been released for the purchase of the Speed Awareness Camera
- Specific sites have been located for the erection of the camera – Cllr Davies to advise.

3. County Councillor Report from Ed Tydesley is published on-line.

- 2026/09/7. Correspondence**
- FOIA Request was acknowledged by the applicant and two further emails were sent to ensure that the Council had provided all the information requested. The Clerk replied to both ensuring that all was in order.
 - Community Emergency Planning – It was agreed that the Parish Council should draw up a new plan utilising the Devon Communities Together services. Cllr Dr S Ley to attend an online meeting on 1st October
 - An email was received following the delivery of the letters to Nos 4 – 8 Coombe Close about the hedge cutting and the Skittle Alley Fundraising Event. This was actioned promptly by the Skittle Alley Committee Chair.
 - The Chairman formally acknowledged the good work that residents of Coombe Close had carried out in tidying the close in preparation for the Ball-Drop event. It was very much appreciated by the Council and contributed to a very successful event.
- 2026/09/8. Surface Water/Drains/Highways**
- The road for Northleigh to Chelfham is overgrown. Chairman to contact Chelfham Mill to see if they can arrange for it to be trimmed back.
 - The hedge by the raised footpath has overgrown.
 - The water leak on Lake Hill has been repaired.
 - Blue Markings have appeared on the roadway opposite the Acorn Homes site entrance. Clerk to contact Acorn Homes to ascertain what they are for and to request cutting of the hedge opposite Coombe Cottages.
 - Cllrs R & F Underwood are concerned that effluent was leaking from the sewage storage works into Coney Gut. This has also been noted on the www.sewagemap.co.uk website. Clerk to write to MP noting the Council's concerns.
 - https://www.sewagemap.co.uk/?asset_id=SBB00498&company=South+West+Water
- 2026/09/9. Parking**
- The Councillor Advocate Scheme was postponed this month due to holidays and absence. It is set to re-convene in September.
- 2026/09/10. VAS and Speedwatch**
- The funds of £4000 have been received with Cllr R Underwood volunteering to choose and maintain the new sign.
- The Speedwatch team noted 1 out of 44 cars speeding through Goodleigh Village on their latest observation.
- 2026/09/11. Bench Repairs**
- The bench located by the raised walkway opposite Lake Hill lane is in a very poor state and should be removed. It was agreed by all that it should be replaced. Cllr R Gulwell to source quotes.
- 2026/09/12. Pensioners Christmas Lunch**
- The Village Hall is booked for Saturday 12th December 2026
Please can we let Cllr Dr S Ley know of any new eligible arrivals in the village.
- 2026/08/13. Matters from the Chairman**
- The Chairman suggested that the Covenant on the playing field land requires specialist investigation. The Chairman offered to contact a solicitor for advice on how to proceed. All Councillors were in agreement.

2026/08/14. Finance

1. Payments

Goodleigh Village Hall	£ 33.00
Clerk’s Salary & Expenses	£120.00
HMRC	£ 30.00
Resourceful Bookkeeping Service	£ 4.00
Parish Online Web Services	£378.00

2. Receipts

Devon County Council	£ 4000.00
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2026/08/15. Items for the next Agenda:

Benches, Christmas Dinner, Acorn Homes, Parking, Community Emergency Planning

2026/08/16. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th October 2026

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

Signed
Chairman

Date