

TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 6th MAY 2026** at **7.30pm**. The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

PRESENT: - Cllrs G Hawkins (**Chair**) K Walker (**Vice-Chair**), A Peters, R Bos; D Hirt; *DCC Cllr Cathy Connor and the Clerk (Mrs C McIntyre) *DCC Cllr Connor arrived during the meeting

26/05/01

ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2026/27 - TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO CARRY OUT A VOTE ACCORDINGLY

There was one nomination for the Chair – Cllr Hawkins. There was a majority vote and it was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Hawkins as Chair

26/05/02

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE CHAIR – (FOLLOWING THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF S83 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE PERSON ELECTED TO BE THE CHAIR OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL SHALL MAKE A DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE IN THE PRESCRIBED FORM BEFORE THE CLERK)

The Chair (Cllr Hawkins) made her declaration of acceptance of office in the presence of the Council and the Clerk. She signed the Declaration which was witnessed by the Clerk

26/05/03

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2026/27 – TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO CARRY OUT A VOTE ACCORDINGLY

There were two nominations for the Vice-Chair– Cllr Walker and Cllr Peters. However Cllr Peters was of the view that Cllr Walker should be solely considered for the position.

There was a majority vote for Cllr Walker and it was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Walker as Vice-Chair

26/05/04

TO NOTE FORMER CLLR LENEHAN’S DECISION TO RESIGN AS A PARISH COUNCILLOR AND THE PROCESS FOR CO-OPTION RE THE CASUAL VACANCY CREATED

It was with regret that the Council had received Cllr Lenehan`s resignation. She was regarded as an invaluable member of the Council and her time as Chair and councillor spanned eleven years. She was thanked for her time and contribution. The Clerk advised that Cllr Lenehan`s resignation had created a casual vacancy. There was a process to go through which would mean the vacancy could not be officially advertised until the end of the month.

26/05/05

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Wood

26/05/06

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present

26/05/07

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 1st APRIL 2026 AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE CHAIR AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting of 1st April 2026 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt

Initials.....

26/05/08

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none

26/05/09

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED) TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

No items were required to be discussed in Confidential Session

26/05/10

TO REVIEW THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES

- i. Financial Regulations**
- ii. Financial Risk Assessment**
- iii. Standing Orders**
- iv. Allotments Risk Assessment**
- v. Chairmans Allowance**
- vi Scheme of Delegation**
- vii Email, Internet and Computer use policy**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the aforementioned documents (those with no amendments and those with amendments) *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

26/05/11

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY CHAIR OF SEALED ENVELOPE CONTAINING ALL PASSWORD INFORMATION RELATING TO THE CLERK'S LAPTOP

The Chair acknowledged receipt of the envelope and would secure it in a safe place.

26/05/12

TO REVIEW THE COUNCIL'S INVENTORY OF LAND AND OTHER ASSETS

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the Inventory without amendments *Proposed by Cllr Peters and seconded by the Chair*

26/05/13

TO REVIEW ALLOTMENT RENTS AND ALSO THE ALLOTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

It was **RESOLVED** not to increase the allotment rents at this time *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos.* It was further **RESOLVED** that the proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations were approved. *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos.*

26/05/14

TO CONSIDER QUOTES FROM INSURERS FOR THREE YEAR INSURANCE TERM AND TO MAKE A DECISION ACCORDINGLY

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quote for a three year term wef 1st June 2026 with the present insurer Community First. *Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by the Chair.*

26/05/15

TO REVIEW AND CONFIRM THE COUNCIL'S SUBSCRIPTIONS TO VARIOUS BODIES

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks ('SLCC') £116 (inc Vat). *Proposed by Cllr Hirt and seconded by Cllr Bos.* However with regards to the Devon Association of Local Councils subscription it was **AGREED** that the Clerk research the benefits the Association provided; whether the benefits justified the cost and whether smaller councils were continuing to subscribe in view of the increased costs. The item to be reconsidered at the June meeting
Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Peters

26/05/16

CONFIRMATION OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF ALL ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL UP TO AND INCLUDING THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

The following dates were noted and **AGREED** by the Council for 26/27:-

Initials.....

Ordinary Parish Council Meetings 7.30pm

6 May 26; 3 June 26; 1 July 26; 2 September 26; 7 October 26; 4 November 26; 2 December 26;
6 January 27; 3 February 27 3 March 27; 7 April 27

Annual Parish Meeting 7.00pm

21st April 2027

Informal Drop-Ins 10.30am – 12 Noon

25 July 2026; 31 Oct 2026; 30 Jan 2027; 24 April 2027 -

26/05/17

APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMITTEES (IF ANY) IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDERS

It was **AGREED** that no committees at this stage were required by the Council

26/05/18

TO APPROVE THE FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 25/26

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for 25/26

Proposed Cllr Hirt and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/19

TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT AND TO AGREE A GIFT CARD AMOUNT (AS A GESTURE OF GOODWILL) AND AGREE TO THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S APPOINTMENT FOR THE 26/27 AUDIT

The Internal Audit report was noted (there were no issues). It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a gift card for the Auditor in the sum of £100 as a gesture of thanks. It was further **RESOLVED** to agree to the Auditor remaining as the Council's auditor for 26/27 subject to his consent

Proposed Cllr Hirt and seconded by the Chair

26/05/20

TO CONSIDER, APPROVE AND SIGN (CHAIR/CLERK) SECTION 1 - THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 25/26 Annual Governance Statement in the following manner - Statements 1 – 8 to state 'Yes'; Statement 9 - 'N/A' and Statement 10 to state 'Yes'. The Annual Governance Statement was duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by Cllr Bos and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/21

TO CONSIDER/ APPROVE AND SIGN (CHAIR/CLERK) SECTION 2 -THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 25/26 Annual Accounting Statements which were duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by Cllr Bos and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/22

TO CONSIDER/APPROVE AND SIGN (CHAIR/CLERK) THE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FROM AUDIT

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 25/26 Certificate of Exemption from Audit, which was duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by Cllr Bos and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/23

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR DISPLAYING THE PUBLIC RIGHTS NOTICE – (3RD JUNE 2026 UNTIL 14TH JULY 2026)

The dates for displaying the Public Rights Notice (3rd June – 14th July 2026) were noted

26/05/24

FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i.Approval of accounts for the period 1st – 30th April 2026

NAME OF ACCOUNT/PETTY CASH	BALANCE
Community (Current)	£664.97
Business Premium (Reserve)	£13,993.22

Initials.....

ii. Approval of the May 2026 Payment Schedule

NUM BER	BACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
1	Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax - £85 and Employers Nat Ins £1.21 April/May 26/27	£86.21		£86.21
2	Bacs	Employee	Salary April/May26/27	£340.10		£340.10
3	Bacs	Npower	Electricity costs for the telephone box - 1/4/25 - 31/3/26	£90.34	£4.52	£94.86
4	Bacs	Talaton Parish Hall	Room Hiring Jan-March 26	£80.00		£80.00
5	Bacs	DALC	Annual Subs	£210.00	£31.56	£241.56
6	Bacs	DALC	AI Training Fee	£35.00	£7.00	£42.00
7	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Reimbursement of cost of flowers for Chair	£35.00		£35.00
8	Bacs	A Hazeldine	Grass Cutting	£165.00		£165.00
9	Bacs	Community First Trading Limited'	Insurance Premium	£262.67		£262.67
TOTALS				£1,304.32	£43.08	£1,347.40

iii. Proposed Transfer of funds (£2000) from the Business Premium to the Community Account

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Items i-iii
Proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/25

ON-LINE BANKING ISSUE

After much discussion it was **RESOLVED** that in view of the anticipated difficulties in updating the bank mandate with Barclays, that the Council close its accounts with Barclays Bank and open new accounts with Unity Trust Bank which specialised in local council and charity accounts. The rate of interest on a Unity Trust savings account was higher than Barclays and although there would be a monthly charge of £7, the interest accrued would more than cover the charges plus there would be a surplus. It was further **RESOLVED** that the Vice-Chair and Cllr Hirt would be authorised to make on-line payments with the Clerk setting the payments up and accessing statements. It was **AGREED** that other councillors could be added to the mandate `as and when` required

Proposed Cllr Hirt and seconded by the Vice-Chair

26/05/26

DCC CLLR CATHY CONNOR

Cllr Connor arrived at this point in the meeting. She spoke about road wardens; council reorganisation; locality budgets (she had £10,000 in grants available to her 23 parishes) and other DCC matters

26/05/27

CORRESPONDENCE

a. The following correspondence was noted by the Council

- i. Jonathan Price – National Highways advising that wef 1st Oct the day to day responsibility for the A30/35 would transfer to National Highways
- ii. Hannah Dwane Clyst Hydon Parish Council - had asked whether the PC wishes to set up a meeting with them re the Community Benefit Fund
- iii. DCC Cllr Cathy Connor had requested details of any road warden that Talaton had (the Clerk advised that we didn't have one!)
- iv. Voneus has asked whether the PC would like them to attend a PC meeting to discuss the support they could offer residents and businesses and how they could continue to work with Talaton positively
- v. EDDC – Details of Premises Licence for Beautiful Days Escot 19.8.26 – 24.8.26
- vi. Two road closure orders re Road from Venns Cross to Rockwell Farm, Talaton (TTRO2669189

Initials.....

- vii DCC Cllr Cathy Connor – annual parish meeting report; monthly report plus Devon Highways handbook
- viii EDDC – Dave Whelan - Noise Action Week 11th -15th May 2026
- ix. Letter from MP Richard Foord to NHS Devon concerning the future of local minor injuries services, for your information
- x Letter of thanks for flowers and card from Trish Lenehan

b. The following item of late correspondence was noted by the Council

There was none

26/05/28

NOTICEBOARDS AT NEWTOWN AND LASHBROOK

The noticeboard at Lashbrook had been repaired. A Lashbrook resident had sent an email of thanks to the Council for carrying out the repair. However the Council had not carried out the work and had no idea who had done so. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk place a note of thanks in the Calendar to the anonymous carpenter! It was further **AGREED** that the other noticeboard at Newtown would be replaced in due course

26/05/29

PLANNING MATTERS

i. Reference 25/2396/FUL

Address Wildwood Escot Park Ottery St Mary EX11 1LU

Proposal Construction of beaver translocation and rehabilitation building. To consider Amended plans and Heritage Statement

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk arrange a site meeting with the applicant in order that the Council was fully understanding of the amendments to the original application, in order to make a decision

ii. The Clerk advised that application .25/2097/OUT (Mr Cyril Emmett Land South Of Lees Farm Talaton Outline application (with all matters reserved except for access) for the construction of up to 4 dwellings and creation of new access) had been refused by EDDC

26/05/30

TO REPORT ANY DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL (INCLUDING PLANNING)

The following delegated decision was noted

Planning application 26/0574/PDQ

Applicant: P Skinner

Property: Springfield Farm Talaton Exeter EX5 2RX

Proposal: 26/0574/PDQ Notification for prior approval of change of use of agricultural buildings to 4 no. dwelling houses and associated operational development under Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q(a) and (b) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015

The comments submitted to EDDC by the Council were:- *‘As this is a Prior Notification Application, Talaton Parish Council has no comments to make on the application’*

26/05/31

PARISH MAINTENANCE: ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION AND AN UPDATE ON ITEMS REPORTED AND TO AGREE ANY FINANCIAL PROVISION (IF APPLICABLE)

i. The Chair had carried out an inspection of the Moor (Village Green) to record the condition of it and to assess if any works were required (in accordance with the Council’s Village Green Policy). She had discovered that a number of trees had dead branches which required removal. The Clerk and Chair to make a decision between them under the Council’s delegated authority and to appoint a contractor as soon as possible

ii. The defective public path sign at Newtown (the wording had disappeared) had now been replaced with a new sign with visible wording

iii. Ed Polding – DCC Highways Officer had confirmed that he had personally carried out drainage works which should ensure that the new road surface should not be undermined if there was extensive rainfall

iv DCC had advised that all the requests by the Clerk to deal with a number of potholes in the parish were being assessed

Initials.....

26/05/32

HORTON SOLAR FARM UPDATE

Following the public meeting held on 23rd April at the Parish Hall Chloe Hood -Head of Communications & Engagement at Aura Power had sent further updates and also Alison Griffiths Clerk to the Clyst St Lawrence Parish Meeting had sent a full report. All this information had been emailed to councillors. Dates had been suggested by Chloe – (6pm meeting - Monday 6th, Tuesday 7th or Wednesday 8th July) to discuss the community fund but no venue had been mentioned. It was **AGREED** that 7th July would be the preferred date. It was likely the venue would be Talaton Parish Hall

26/05/33

ALLOTMENTS UPDATE AND TO MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE

The Vice-Chair agreed to carry out a risk assessment of the allotments

26/05/34

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES AND OTHER HIGHWAY ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED

a. At the Drop-In it was suggested that a notice be placed in the Calendar asking people to be respectful of speed limits; setting up a Speedwatch group was also re-considered but the Vice-Chair advised that there would need to be at least twelve members in the group to ensure there was sufficient cover for absences etc . It was **AGREED** that the Clerk advertise for participants in the Calendar. It was further **AGREED** that the Clerk contact the Dulford PC Clerk to source information about their speed restriction signs – supplier and costs etc.

`b. A parishioner had emailed the Clerk complaining about the pot holes outside 3 Highridge and Bankside, Talaton. HGVs were travelling through the village at speed (sometimes late at night) bouncing over the potholes and causing vibration to the property. The Clerk advised that this matter would again be referred to DCC Highways`

c. The Clerk had contacted ED Polding – DCC Highways Officer about the hatched lines at the Fairmile junction on which vehicles were now parking and also asked him again about prioritising the white line re-marking at Bittery Cross . Ed has provided the following responses to these two matters which had been circulated to councillors – `

The broken hatched area is not enforceable so the person is correct that nothing can be done about vehicles parking there. However, they still should not be parking within 10 metres of a junction, and if vehicles are doing so and making a dangerous situation with lack of visibility then it will be a police matter to enforce the Highways Act rule 243: “DO NOT stop or park: opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space” The only option to prevent this long term would be to add double yellow lines for 10m from the junction. That would require support from the Parish, the councillor and then it must go on the list of sites through our HATOC process so it would not be implemented for a few years. I would be happy to support this though if it is causing issues here`.

The Council **RESOLVED** that yellow lines should be added at this location *Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by the Chair*

Ed advised that with regards to the white lining at Bittery Cross, `I do share your frustration however it is one of many rural junctions that have faded. I have emailed the team who deal with junction markings to make sure that they are aware of it. The team that does the remarking work in an area doing all the junctions, moving systematically through the county to make it economically viable, as getting the required machinery and traffic management on site is very expensive. This is one area that has really suffered due to the decreasing budgets that we have faced`.

26/05/35

TRAINING COURSE FOR NEW CHAIR

DALC was running an on-line course for new Chairs on 13th July from 6.00pm. The Chair indicated that she would be willing to attend the course and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the expenditure of £36

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt

Initials.....

26/05/36

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA: (INCLUDING DEFIBRILLATORS AND REPORT OF APRIL DROP-IN MEETING AND FOLLOW UP OF MATTERS REPORTED AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING) FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR FOR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

The defibrillator at Newtown had been checked and was in good working order. Cllr Bos agreed to carry out monthly checks on the defibrillator at the Community Shop.

26/05/37

MATTERS OF URGENCY: ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE CHAIR'S DISCRETION

The Chair advised that a parishioner had been upset by the dog fouling she had discovered in the churchyard. It was understood that a dog off lead had caused the issue. It was agreed that a notice be placed in the Calendar requesting dog owners be responsible for their dogs, by ensuring they were kept on leads in the churchyard and that they bagged up their dog's excrement and properly disposed of it

25/05/38

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

3rd June 2026.

25/05/39

CLOSE OF MEETING

9.10pm

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

Initials.....