TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ORDINARY MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER 2026** at **7.30pm.** The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

PRESENT: - Cllr G Hawkins **(Chair),** Cllr Walker **(Vice-Chair),** Cllrs D Hirt, R Bos, J Murphy, S Wood, A Peters and the Clerk. DCC Cllr Cathy Connor arrived later in the meeting

PUBLIC FIFTEEN MINUTE OPEN FORUM
There was one member of the public present. DCC Cllr Cathy`s Connor`s report which had been emailed to councillors was noted

26/11/01
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
There was none

26/11/02
TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 7TH OCTOBER 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 7th October 2026 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair
Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos

26/11/03
DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA
There were no declarations to declare

26/11/04
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
There were no items to be discussed in Confidential session

26/11/05
FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i.Approval of accounts for the period 19th September – 31st October 2026

NAME OF ACCOUNT	BALANCE
Current (Unity)	£2159.26
Savings (Unity)	£10219.62

ii. Approval of the November 2026 Payment Schedule.

NUMBER	CHEQUE NUMBER/BACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
1	DD	Unity Bank	Sept Bank Service Charge	7.00		7.00
2	DD	Unity Bank	Oct Bank Service Charge	7.00		7.00
3	DD	Unity Bank	Nov Bank Service Charge	7.00		7.00
4	Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax - £85 and Employers Nat Ins £1.21 Oct/Nov 26/27	86.21		86.21
5	Bacs	Employee	Salary Oct/Nov26/27	340.10		340.10

NUMBER	CHEQUE NUMBER/BACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
6	Bacs	ATH Gardens & Landscapes	Grass Cutting Sept	165.00		165.00
7	Bacs	ATH Gardens & Landscapes	Grass Cutting Oct	165.00		165.00
8	Bacs	Talaton Parish Hall	Room Hire	60.00		60.00
9	Bacs	Parish Online	Cost of website service and domain	240.00	48.00	288.00
10	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of cost of Recorder (£19.99); memory stick (£7.99); batteries for defibs £99.58	106.30	21.26	127.56
			TOTALS	**£1183.61**	**£69.26**	**£1252.87**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve items I and ii *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt*

iii. Transfer of funds to be agreed (if any)
It was noted that there was no requirement to transfer funds

iv. Update on closure of Barclays Bank current account
The Clerk had obtained a closure form from Barclays. This was duly signed by those councillors on the bank mandate. The Clerk would return the paperwork to Barclays shortly

v. Result of the mid-term internal audit
Councillors had been advised that the Internal Auditor had reviewed the accounts and was satisfied that there were no issues to report (including the transfer of funds from bank to bank). He did raise a number of points which councillors had seen together with the Clerk`s responses.

26/11/06
CORRESPONDENCE:
a.Items of Correspondence
I EDDC – Planning Forum Event 5th November – Reminder
ii. EDDC - Strategic Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding Round 2026/27
iii. History of Talaton Inn provided by Pat Rice
iv. EDDC- Notification of 'Made' Neighbourhood Plan for Woodbury Parish
v. EDDC – Advising that Eden Serv, are the new publicly owned provider for household recycling and waste services.
vi EDDC - Parish Forum 5th November - Angela King would be speaking about Neighbourhood Plans
vii EDDC – notification of of severe drought in East Devon
The correspondence was noted

b.Items of late Correspondence
There is none

26/11/07
THE MOOR – UPDATE ON TREE TRIMMING WORK AND ANY OTHER MATTERS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS AS APPROPRIATE
i.There had been no further communication received from either Voneus or the Parish Hall regarding the proposed broadband connection
ii.The tree trimming work had been carried out on the Moor . The contractor had requested that the Chair carry out an inspection to ensure she was satisfied with the work, whereupon he would submit his invoice. The Chair confirmed she would inform the Clerk of her findings.

DRAFT

26/11/08

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO DECORATE THE TELEPHONE KIOSK – KNIT AND NATTER WISH TO DECORATE THE TELEPHONE BOX

It was **RESOLVED** that Knit & Natter be permitted to decorate the telephone kiosk for their Christmas display.. The theme being the twelve days of Christmas. The telephone kiosk would be decorated as "Four Calling/Colly Birds". It was understood that the decoration wouldn`t interfere with the phone box library. *Proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by the Chair*

26/11/09

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW UPDATE

It was noted that Melanie Wellman EDDC`s Director of Governance (Monitoring Officer and Returning Officer) had recently written to parish councils with an update on the Local Government Reorganisation. The Government had confirmed that its proposed decision on local government reorganisation (LGR) in Devon had been withdrawn and was now under review. This meant that government was going back to review all of the proposals that were put forward for Devon and to test them against the original criteria to inform decisions on future structures. The (Parish) Council was of the view that the process to date had been a complete waste of time and money

26/11/10

APPROVAL OF TENDER PACKS FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the tender packs for the two three year contracts – one for the verges and the other for the village green. *Proposed by the Vice Chair and seconded by Cllr Murphy*

26/11/11

DEFIBRILLATORS – UPDATE ON FUNDING STREAMS AVAILABLE `AS AND WHEN` REQUIRED

The Clerk advised that when the two defibrillators required replacing, funding may be available from the following sources:-

- AED Donate
- Community Heartbeat Trust
- Locality Fund – DCC County Councillor – possibly £500 in total towards the cost of 2 x defibs
- Horton Solar Farm Fund
- British Heart Foundation (BHF)
- National Lottery Community Fund

The information was noted by the Council

26/11/12

SAND BAGS – APPROVAL FOR ACQUISITION OF SAND

Cllr Peters offered to purchase a bag of sand for the sandbags which the Council agreed it would re-imburse him the costs of

26/11/13

CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS AND TO MAKE DECISIONS ACCORDINGLY

It was **RESOLVED** to make the following grants:-

- Tale Valley Trust - £250
- PCC - £100
- Trip Community Transport Association - £100

and to earmark £500 for any urgent grants that may be required during the year
Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos

DRAFT

26/11/14

SOLAR FARMS UPDATE INCLUDING REPORT FROM HORTON SOLAR FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

It was reported that the meeting held on 3rd November 2026 at Clyst Hydon Village Hall - was attended by the Chair, Cllrs Bos and Peters and the Clerk and other representatives from Clyst Hydon and Clyst St Lawrence parish councils. There was no representation from Whimple Parish Council. Chairing the meeting was Matt Young CEO from Grantscape and Anna Romcke Hoiseth- Community Engagement & Communications Manager from Aurapower. Various matters were discussed. Each parish council desired to be allocated the sum of £3,000 each year. There would be an additional amount of £8000 for the parishes to be used for larger projects. All the beneficiary parish councils would be contacted by Anna following the meeting, with further proposals for the administration of the Fund.

26/11/15

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

i.4 Hillside – EDDC had advised that the property would need to be referred to a panel for discussion before any further decisions could be made. As this enquiry related to a void property, any future enquiries would be best directed to repairs@eastdevon.gov.uk, where the team would be able to ensure the Council`s correspondence was forwarded to the most appropriate officer for a response. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk contact EDDC Cllr Richard Jefferies about this property and the vacant Lashbrook property to see if he could progress both houses being brought back into occupancy as a matter of urgency

ii. The Clerk had reported the lack of road markings at the junction opposite the pub, to Ed Polding DCC Highways Officer and also on the DCC Portal as requested by two concerned parishioners

iii. Other road issues – the pothole filled outside Steven`s Cottage had sunk; Blackpit Lane was in a poor state of repair;

iv. Water leaks outside Stoney Court and Cllr Bos`s property – These were continuing despite regular reporting to SWW

v. The `Slow` sign on the road was now in situ but was pointing in the wrong direction when approaching Beacon Cross

26/11/16

PLANNING MATTERS

<u>i.Update re planning condition for screening re App 21/2045/FUL Go Kart Track at Escot Park - Devon County Pursuits</u>

Two parishioners had raised serious concerns regarding one of the planning conditions specified in the planning consent in relation to planting which appeared not to have been complied with by the applicant. Steven Sartain EDDC`s Planning Enforcement Officer had carried out investigations and had reported :-

I had a site visit last week and whilst they have let the hedge grow up, they are reticent about planting further tress along the boundary due to the solar farm planned in the fields beyond it. The application for this is in at the present time. Also from the highest point in the field the only house that could be seen is at the top of the hill, and that was partially obscured. From the road the field can seen from a couple of gateways and from the roadside entrance to Talaton Farm Barns, but I don't believe there is much, if any, view from the properties themselves as they are much lower. That said we have advised the agent that they will need to submit a VAR application to adjust the condition if they wish to vary the planting. Hence we are awaiting a submission from them in respect of this. He had also advised in relation to any noise issue that the parishioners should email EDDC`s Environmental Health department whereby they could open a case and provide noise monitoring equipment as necessary. In the meantime we await the Variation application and will chase up DCP on this if one does not arrive in a timely manner (approx. 6 weeks). If it is subsequently refused, subject to any Appeal they will have to implement the planting as instructed.

<u>ii.Planning Applications</u>

<u>APPLICATION - 26/2108/DEM</u>

Applicant: Philip Skinner

Property: Springfield Farm Talaton Exeter EX5 2RX

Proposal: Demolition of stand alone building

The Clerk had raised with EDDC the fact that the site notice displayed did not show the correct date. It was dated 2025 instead of 2026. the Principal Planning Officer for the area responded "This is clearly a typo and so I'm not too concerned."The photos provide sufficient evidence that the site notice has been displayed and provided it remains in place for the required consultation period (21 days) then I don't think

any prejudice to interested parties would arise. I think we can be satisfied that the publicity requirements of Part 11 of Schedule 2 to the GPDO would be substantially complied with."
As this was a Prior Notification Application and not a planning application it was **RESOLVED** not to have a site meeting and the Council`s comments to be submitted to EDDC were `*As this is a Prior Notification Application, Talaton Parish Council has no comments to make on the application*` *Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Bos*

APPLICATION 26/2109/PDQ
Applicant: Philip Skinner
Property: Springfield Farm Talaton Exeter EX5 2RX
Proposal: 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

As this was a Prior Notification Application and not a planning application it was **RESOLVED** not to have a site meeting and the Council`s comments to be submitted to EDDC were `*As this is a Prior Notification Application, Talaton Parish Council has no comments to make on the application*`
Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt

26/11/17
TO REPORT ANY DELEGATED DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL (INCLUDING PLANNING)
25/2182/FUL
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Will and Robynne Leigh-Firbank
Property: Larkbeare Dairy Farmhouse Talaton
Proposal: Proposed agricultural calf isolation building with office
(Amended site/elevation plans to indicate that the building has been re-sited because of ground conditions encountered on site)
The Council`s delegated decision was `*Talaton Parish Council supports the revised re-siting of the building*`
The delegated decision was noted by the Council

26/11/18
BITTERY CROSS ROADS JUNCTION UPDATE
It is understood that the re-marking of the junction lines would now be treated as a priority by DCC and the contractor had been instructed to undertake the works asap, weather permitting. The Clerk had been updating parishioners on Talaton Talk with email exchanges she had had with Ed Polding - DCC`s Highway Officer for the area regarding the junction, which contained the contact details of Ed Polding. However, DCC Councillor Cathy Connor had instructed her that Ed`s contact information should be removed. Cllr Connor had confirmed she was happy to have her contact details published and for any member of the public to contact her direct.

26/11/19
ALLOTMENTS – APPROVAL OF REVISIONS MADE TO THE ALLOTMENT RULES AND ANY UPDATES/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CONSIDERATION
i.It was **RESOLVED** to approve the proposed amendments to the allotments rules. *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt*

ii. A notice has been placed in the Calendar and on Talaton Talk regarding the future of the allotments. The Landlord of the allotments and allotment plot holders had also been advised. The Clerk had requested feedback by 31st December, which the Council would then consider at its January meeting

iii. Plot 4B had a new tenant – who had already started cultivating her allotment

v. The Landlord of the allotments had raised various concerns in respect of some of the allotment holders demands for improved facilities on the site and the fact that he had had to speak to one allotment holder regarding the removal of plastic sheeting and tyres on the track . He also mentioned people parking on the track whilst on the allotments which was becoming an issue as he was making more use of the new shed in the yard behind the treatment plant. The track needed to be kept unobstructed in order for him to get his tractor through. However he advised that the area by the log pile was hard standing and parishioners

were welcome to park there. The Council discussed the issues the Landlord had raised at length. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk write to all allotment holders and advise them that any matters relating to the allotments must be referred to the Clerk or any parish councillor and not the Landlord. It was the Council in its capacity as tenant that should speak to the Landlord, on behalf of the allotment holders, regarding any allotment issues. The Clerk would let the Landlord know of the action taken. In addition, the Clerk to arrange for a sign to be erected on the allotments, that the access was to be kept clear at all times.

26/11/20

DCC CLLR CATHY CONNOR

Cllr Connor advised that she would be undertaking Road Warden training. She enquired whether Talaton had a warden. It was explained to her that from time to time the role was advertised in the Calendar but no parishioners had come forward. The Clerk would advertise this voluntary role in the Calendar and on social media again. Cllr Connor advised that she had Locality Budget funds available. The Council suggested that the cost of the tree trimming on the Moor be considered for this funding. Cllr Connor would make enquiries in view of this being a retrospective application

26/11/21

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – TO CONSIDER ANY EXISTING POLICIES THAT REQUIRE REVIEW

The Co-option Policy and application form had been reviewed by councillors. However it was **RESOLVED** that no amendments were necessary. .*Proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

26/11/22

PARISH CHRISTMAS TREE AND LIGHTING EVENT – TO MAKE DECISIONS ACCORDINGLY (INCLUDING APPROVING THE COUNCIL`S RISK ASSESSMENT AND VOLUNTEER`S POLICY)

The Clerk has accepted the quote for the Christmas tree from Connetts - £150 plus vat on behalf of the Council. It was understood that Andy May was going to erect the tree and he and Jan would decorate it Councillors had received a copy of the Volunteers Policy and Risk Assessment with amendments. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the amendments *Proposed by the Chair and seconded by the Vice-Chair*

The Council **AGREED** that Trish Lenehan should be the MC (in her capacity as shop manager) at the switching on ceremony on Friday 4th Dec at 6.00pm There would be carol singing in the pub and Trish had spoken to the landlady about this. Any councillors involved in marshalling duties would need to wear hi-viz vests. Trish would be able to lend vests from the shop if necessary

26/11/23

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY (TO INCLUDE CHECKS OF DEFIBS; UPDATE FROM THE CALENDAR AND ANY MATTERS RAISED AT OCTOBER DROP-IN) OR FOR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

i.Three parishioners attended the Drop-In on 31st October to discuss the Horton Solar Farm Community Fund meeting and issues to be raised

ii.Simon Spencer had advised that the Calendar would cease being published if no one stepped forward to take it over

iii.The Clerk reminded councillors that the usual scam emails were doing the rounds which were specifically targeted at councillors. She suggested that if anyone was affected that they simply blocked them on their email account

iv.It was noted that the church flag was in shreds which was disappointing particularly as the Council had provided a grant last year to the PCC towards the cost of the flag. It was understood that the flag was being left out in all weathers which had contributed to its poor condition

v.Both defibs had been checked and were found to be operational

vi.There were a number of drains in the Parish which required to be cleared. The Clerk was asked to insert information in the Calendar, regarding land owner responsibilities in this respect

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26/11/24

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

There were none

26/11/25

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2nd December 2026

26/11/26

CLOSE OF MEETING

9.10pm

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

DRAFT