

TALATON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL** held on **WEDNESDAY, 14th MAY 2025** at **7.30pm**. The meeting was held at the **PARISH HALL, TALATON EX5 2RG**

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

25/05/01

ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2025/26 - TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO CARRY OUT A VOTE ACCORDINGLY

There was one nomination for the Chair – Cllr Lenehan. There was a majority vote and it was

RESOLVED to elect Cllr Lenehan as Chair

Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Wood

25/05/02

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 Lenehan) 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

25/05/03

ELECTION OF THE VICE-CHAIR OF TALATON PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2025/26 – TO RECEIVE NOMINATIONS AND TO CARRY OUT A VOTE ACCORDINGLY

There was one nomination for the Vice-Chair– Cllr Hawkins

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

Proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Wood

25/05/04

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Bos and EDDC Cllr Jefferies.

25/05/05

PUBLIC FIFTEEN MINUTE OPEN FORUM

There were no members of the public present

25/05/06

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF 2ND APRIL 2025 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 2ND April 2025 be approved as a true and correct record. They were signed by the Chair

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Hirt

25/05/07

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none

25/05/08

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

Initials.....

25/05/09

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**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the aforementioned documents* with the proposed amendments and the Scheme of Delegation to remain unamended

Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Wood

25/05/10

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. She would ensure the previous envelope and its contents were destroyed

25/05/11

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

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

25/05/12

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 Walker*. It was further **RESOLVED** that the Rules and Regulations did not require amendment at this time. *Proposed by the Cllr Peters and seconded by Cllr Hirt*

25/05/13

CONFIRMATION OF THE COUNCIL'S CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSURANCE COVER IN RESPECT OF ALL INSURABLE RISKS

It was **RESOLVED** to confirm the present insurance arrangements without amendment

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by the Chair. The Clerk advised that next year the Council's three year fixed rate deal would end

25/05/14

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

It was **RESOLVED** to pay two subscriptions to:- 1. the Devon Association of Local Councils ('DALC') £238.02 (inc vat) and 2. the Society of Local Council Clerks ('SLCC') £110 (inc Vat)

Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Peters

25/05/15

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 25/26:-

Ordinary Parish Council Meetings

14 May 25; 4 June; 2 July; 3 September; 1 October; 5 November; 3 December; 7 January 26; 4 February 4 March; 1 April; 6th May 26

Informal Drop-Ins

26 April 2025; 26 July; 25 Oct; 31 Jan 2026 - 10.30am – 12 noon

25/05/16

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

Initials.....

25/05/17

TO APPROVE THE FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 24/25

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for 24/25

Proposed Cllr Hirt and seconded by the Chair

25/05/18

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 25/26 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 £75 as a gesture of thanks. It was further **RESOLVED** to agree to the Auditor remaining as the Council's auditor for 25/26 subject to his consent

Proposed Cllr Hirt and seconded by the Chair

25/05/19

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

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 24/25 Annual Governance Statement in the following manner - Statements 1 – 8 to state `Yes` and Statement 9 - `N/A`. The Annual Governance Statement was duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Walker

25/05/20

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

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 24/25 Annual Accounting Statements which were duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Walker

25/05/21

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

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the 24/25 the Certificate of Exemption from Audit which was duly signed by the Clerk/Chair

Proposed by the Vice-Chair and seconded by Cllr Walker

25/05/22

TO CONFIRM THE DATE FOR DISPLAYING THE PUBLIC RIGHTS NOTICE – (3RD JUNE 2025 UNTIL 14TH JULY 2025)

The dates for displaying the Public Rights Notice (3rd June – 14th July 2025) were noted

25/05/23

FINANCE: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF ITEMS I – III

i.Approval of accounts for the period 1st – 30th April 2025

NAME OF ACCOUNT/PETTY CASH	BALANCE
Community (Current)	£983.35
Business Premium (Reserve)	£14,476.48

ii. Approval of the May 2025 Payment Schedule

NUM BER	CHEQUE NUMBER/ BACS	PAYEE	DETAILS	COST	VAT	TOTAL
1	Bacs	HMRC	Income Tax	£82.20		£82.20
2	Bacs	Employee	Salary April/May	£329.64		£329.64
3	Bacs	Cllr P Lenehan	Repayment of costs of refreshments for annual parish meeting	£44.20		£44.20

Initials.....

4	Bacs	Cllr P Lenehan	Repayment of gift voucher for resident's 100th birthday	£50.00		£50.00
5	Bacs	ATH Gardens & Landscapes	Maintenance of grass verges	£157.50		£157.50
6	Bacs	Community First Trading Ltd	Insurance Renewal Premium	*£198.07		*£198.07
7	Bacs	SLCC	Clerk's annual subscription	£110.00		£110.00
8	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of cost of paint for telephone box	£43.20	£8.64	£51.84
9	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of costs of A4 paper; cardboard storage boxes; marker pen; plastic file boxes; staples	£52.77	£10.55	£63.32
10	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment cost of three ink cartridges	£23.16	£4.63	£27.79
11	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of cost of annual anti virus - Norton	£16.66	£3.33	£19.99
12	Bacs	Vision ICT	Certificate Renewal	£50.00	£10.00	£60.00
13	Bacs	DALC	Annual Subs	£207.00	£31.02	£238.02
14	Bacs	Mrs C McIntyre	Repayment of cost of defib sign	£6.28		£6.28
			TOTALS	£1,370.68	£68.17	£1,438.85

**The Clerk explained there had been a slight reduction to the insurance premium as two assets had been sold (the projector and screen) which had resulted in lowering the premium*

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

25/05/24

DCC CLLR CATHY CONNOR

At this point in the meeting DCC Cathy Connor arrived and introduced herself and explained her intentions during her term of office. She explained that she had 23 parishes in her area and she hoped to get to as many Talaton council meetings as she was practicably able to do so. Her first DCC meeting was on 22nd May. She then left to attend the Payhembury PC meeting

25/05/25

CORRESPONDENCE

a. The following correspondence was noted by the Council

- i.EDDC - Newton Poppleford Multi Agency Resilience Event Change of Date – 20th May
- ii.DCC - Changes to Devon Bus Services
- iii.DCC - Road Closure- Road from Aunk Cross to Talaton Cross – 13th August 1 day – Highway Cover repair works SWW

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

- i.Request from Craig Davies from South West Alternative Provision as to whether his youngsters could 'reinvigorate the wooden bench at Beacon Cross'. The Clerk had thanked him for his generous offer but advised that the Council had already instructed a contractor to carry out the work shortly
- ii.Harry Channon had sent a letter of thanks to the Council for his 100th Birthday gift voucher

Initials.....

25/05/26

**RESPONSES TO ISSUES RAISED AT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON 23RD APRIL 2025
(ERECTION OF FENCES ON THE MOOR TO ENSURE SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND CLAY PIGEON SHOOT QUERY)**

The Clerk advised that the Council's lease, stated that the permission of the landlord had to be obtained before any structures (fences) could be erected on the Moor. The Council did not wish to progress this further at this time. Cllr Hirt advised that he had engaged with the Head of the Wildings School re the clay pigeon shoot (which operated next door to the school). Both parties would continue to liaise with one another to ensure they were happy with all proposals for any use by the school during the times the shoot operated

25/05/27

UPDATE RE VONEUS WAYLEAVE AGREEMENT AND ANY CURRENT MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- a. The Council's solicitor had advised re the wayleave agreement with the PC *`Just to keep you in the loop, I am still chasing engrossments. I have threatened to increase costs in a bid to get them moving`*.
- b. There had been issues with some parishioners in the village concerning broadband which were ongoing. The Clerk had received a communication from Voneus to update parishioners as to the situation which stated:-

I wanted to take this opportunity to clarify Voneus' position regarding the connectivity situation in Talaton, as there seems to be some confusion within the community. We have recently completed the decommissioning of a portion of our Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) network in the area. This step was necessary due to infrastructure constraints, and we have taken every possible measure to minimise disruption and limit the number of customers affected. At the same time, we are pleased to share that we have upgraded parts of our network in Talaton to full fibre. These upgrades provide a significantly more stable and reliable broadband service for our customers. Despite our best efforts, there are two properties that we are unable to provide connectivity to due to physical and logistical limitations. Please be assured any customers who are affected have been contacted. If anyone does have any questions, they can email our customer service team helpdesk@voneus.com or call them on 0333 880 4141.

The Clerk had posted the aforementioned on Talaton Talk and had also posted details whereby affected parishioners could contact their MP or the Communications Ombudsman if parishioners were still unhappy with Voneus

25/05/28

GRIT BIN UPDATE

ED Polding DCC's Highways Officer had advised *`With regards to the grit bin, I was going to arrange for the bin to be moved by the same gang that would fill the bin when it is empty, so no additional charges would be incurred. Following the discussion with my manager it was decided that it was not appropriate use of public money to reattend to move the bin again. If the parish would like to arrange for this work to be done then please feel free to do so.* After some discussion the Council **AGREED** to review the matter in August/September

25/05/29

DALC SUMMARY RE DEVOLUTION AND POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

Information from DALC has been e-mailed to councillors. The information was noted

25/05/30

NOTICEBOARD AT NEWTOWN

The Clerk advised that she was finding the lock difficult to open on the Newtown noticeboard but had now managed to open it with the aid of a small screw driver. It was suggested if there were further issues that Andy May should be contacted as he may be able to assist

25/05/31

PLANNING MATTERS

A planning application had arrived after the agenda had been published. The details were:-

Mr O Boles c/o Mr J Boles- Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to joinery workshop and associated workshop storage (no retail use) Location: Rydon Farm Talaton Exeter EX5 2RP

Initials.....

It was **AGREED** that Cllrs Walker, Wood and Peters (and possibly the Vice-Chair) would attend a site meeting with the applicant on Thursday 15th at 10.00am. Following the site meeting, comments would be e-mailed to the Clerk (under the Council's delegated authority) for her to submit to EDDC

25/05/32

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

It was noted that undercoat paint for the telephone box had been purchased in between meetings, as the decorator did not have the correct type and needed to get on with painting the telephone box asap. The cost of the paint was £43.20 plus vat

25/05/33

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

- i. It was noted that the decorator had carried out an excellent paint job to the telephone kiosk. However there were substantial quantities of undercoat and gloss paint left over. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would advertise the paint on the Community Clerks website and DALC to see if she could sell it on. The Chair would advise the Clerk of approx. quantities of paint left in the tins
- ii. ED Polding advised re trench near phone box:-
*Devon County Council won't be able to fund the installation of a new pipe here. As you can see from the picture below from 2009 google street view, the trench was an existing feature that got buried over time and is necessary for the road drainage to function properly. The limited funds we have are to maintain or repair existing assets. This verge is not part of a footpath or public right of way so I'm a little confused why anyone would choose to walk through or near to the trench. It was **AGREED** that the Council would review the matter in August/September after SWW had carried out repairs to a water cover nearby which may/may not have improved the situation*
- iii. In response to a parishioner's request for the removal of a road closure sign at the end of Orchard Hill opposite the pub (warning of closure of road to Bittery Cross in March) - Ed Polding had advised *'he would attend this week to take a look'*
- iv. Ed Polding) had collected a 30mph road sign from Cllr Hirt some time ago
- v. The chevron sign near the railway bridge required replacement
- vi. The skid signs by Ivy Cottages required removal
- vii. Cllr Peters mentioned that a resident had contacted him about a letter the resident had received from DCC advising he needed to carry out clearance of a ditch. He questioned why DCC was no longer carrying out this work. The Clerk explained that due to reduced budgets DCC could no longer carry this work out as a favour to landowners (as it had done so in the past) and it was now the landowners responsibility to deal with it.
- viii. A pothole was reported opposite the drive to Ivy Cottages
- ix. The small oak tree was still growing out of the railway bridge. The Clerk would report the matter again to Network Rail

25/05/34

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR DISCUSSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA: (INCLUDING DEFIBRILLATORS AND REPORT OF APRIL DROP-IN MEETING)

At the 'Drop-In' the potholes at Rosemary Lane were raised again. The Clerk would report the matter again to DCC. A parishioner was concerned that older residents may require assistance ie collecting prescriptions etc. The defibrillators had been checked and were in good working order. A resident was removing a retaining wall forming part of her property. The Chair had advised her that if a road closure was necessary then this would have to be applied for from DCC. A permit for the work to the wall had been applied for

25/05/35

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

A resident had asked for the rope swing to be reinstated on the large tree on the Moor. There was much discussion mainly about the health and safety implications if this was to go ahead. The Clerk suggested that it would be advisable to seek advice from the Council's insurers in the first instance and it was **AGREED** that she should progress this

Initials.....

25/05/36

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4th June 2025. It was noted that the Chair would be absent and the Vice-Chair would chair the June meeting

25/05/37

CLOSE OF MEETING

20.51

SIGNATURE OF THE CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

Initials.....