

St GILES IN THE WOOD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
on October 8th 2025

789

Present: Mrs L Herniman took the chair, Mr G Hookway, Mr B King Mr P Middleton Mr J Ayre, Mrs S Montague Mr S Dyer and Mrs A Snell (Clerk)
Apologies: Mr A Chamings Mr R Petherbridge Cllr R Lock Cllr T Elliott District Councillor
Cllr C Cottle-Hunkin (County Councillor)
In Attendance: Two members of the public

Time for Public Participation

The members of the public thanked the Parish Council on behalf of the residents of Stevenstone, for the input and concern regarding the recent planning that was submitted for an agricultural shed.

Declaration of Interests – Councillors are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated.

1. The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th September were agreed and signed.

2. Clerk's report i. The Dog fouling issue, it is still an issue, with some owners with dogs on leads are still not picking up, a notice is to be put up informing owners that dog faeces is now being collected for DNA testing to identify owners for prosecution. This has been highlighted as being a real problem in the TDC area

Cllr Hookway has contacted the chairman of the TFH regarding the regular early morning walking of the hounds through the village, this has now ceased with the dogs being walked through the village far less regularly.

3. Chairman's report i. Speeding in the parish, a request is to be made to Mark James the Highway Superintendent to visit and meet some councillors.

ii. The Chairman thanked everyone who helped and worked for the Autumn Show, the profits were in the region of £2000, which will be distributed between the Parish Hall, Church and the Sports Club, an excellent event.

4. Highways,

Port Bridge on the main road has a gap big enough to drive a vehicle through, on both sides this will be reported. There is subsidence in the road in Kingscott this will also be reported.

The hedge has been cut at the Belle Vue junction but not enough to make exiting the junction safe so an extra cut is to be asked for, this was replied to but only the verge was cut not the hedge so the problem still exists.

Park Hill the stones are washing away across the road when it rains, a report will be placed. Pot holes were reported at Beara Farm. The fence at Squirrel Wood is broken for walkers

5). County and District Councillors items.

Please remember to report potholes online on [devon.cc/report-it](https://www.devon.gov.uk/report-it) or telephone 0345 155 1004. Cllr Cottle-Hunkin reported

As you know, my cabinet role has a very broad remit, and as well as everything else it also includes refugees and resettlement. Following the protests which had been taking place outside of the Asylum hotel near Exeter, a visit was arranged for me and the Leader of the council to go inside, meet with the staff and also the local organisations helping the asylum seekers. We wanted to show solidarity and compassion to these people who have experienced so much trauma to get here. We saw mothers and babies and families and were told there are people from more than 20 different nationalities there, and all are either women or families. My own children had made some cards and friendship bracelets for the children there and we are arranging for others to send in cards of support and kindness. It's something very small but these things can make a real difference.

Southwest Ambulance Service came back to DCC's Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee meeting 22nd September and the committee remained extremely concerned. I also spoke against SWAST's decision to phase out the fire co-responder service across Devon and the rest of the Southwest. The County Council are requesting they abandon this decision as we believe it puts lives at risk in rural communities and we urged them to continue with both the firefighters as co-responders as well as volunteers. [Devon fires back: Ambulance trust urged to reconsider fire co-responder phase-out | Mid Devon Advertiser](#)

We have also sent a response to the Post Office green paper, emphasising to central government the importance of our post offices both for the local economy and as a social hub, often the last service left in a rural community. [Could your Post Office change? Devon residents invited to respond](#)

I have been flooded with emails from concerned residents about the lack of NHS dentistry provision locally, particularly with the loss of an NHS dentist in Great Torrington where my dentist has automatically moved people over to private dental care (including children). I have contacted our MP about the situation and have sent a letter to the chair and chief exec of NHS Integrated Care Board as a matter of urgency to find out what can be done locally. [Outrage as Devon families 'removed' from NHS list](#)

We had an incredible day at Farmwise Devon yesterday at Westpoint! The whole event was absolutely buzzing with excitement as children got hands-on learning about where their food comes from — from farm to fork. It was fantastic to see so many young people inspired by farming, food, and the natural world around them. Events like this really show the power of education outside the classroom. At Devon County Council we are calling on government to embed food and farming into the national curriculum — and to see more events like Farmwise happening right across the country. [Farmwise returns to teach children in Devon where their food comes from | News - Greatest Hits Radio \(Devon\)](#) Finally, I really want to emphasise new grant fund we have set up at Devon County Council. Designed by young people, for young people 😊 Please share with your local youth groups. I would encourage them to apply for the £3000 because you never know 😊! It's very easy to apply and has been designed by the Devon Youth Council who designed the fund and they are on the team who sign off the applications (and so am I!). The young people would really like to see new groups and activities being set up if possible so please encourage anyone who you think might be interested. With it being a brand new fund we really want to get the word out there. It doesn't require match funding and it can cover wages if

needed. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/new-grant-fund-aims-to-enrich-the-lives-of-devons-young-people/>

If there are any safety defects or other highways type issues please do report them here: [Report a problem - Roads and transport](#) Grit bins can be requested via [Grit bins and salt bags - Roads and transport](#) Speed concerns can be raised from the "report a concern" link at [Speeding, Speed Limits and SCARF - Roads and transport](#)

Cllr Lock reported on TDC Planning regarding Cranford Cross Farm EX38 7LA – Cllr Lock has spoken to planning support and no applications has been received - none waiting for validation
 1/0631/25/AGR Winscott Barton shed - been withdrawn 1/0550/25 Dodscott woods forestry shed - refused

6. Finance

Approve and sign the following cheques: -General Account.

665	PKF Littlejohn exterior auditor	£252.00
666	Mr B King posts	£84.00

7. Planning

P C recommendations TDC

1/0631/2025/AGR	Erection of Agricultural Shed, Winscott Barton	Withdrawn
1/0550/2025/FUL	Retrospective application for the erection of forestry building for storage/workshop and welfare area, land at Dodscott Wood	Refused

i. Enforcement cases, only update under Cllr Locks report. It was reported that 1/0631/2025 AGR has been withdrawn following numerous objections, but a further application for a smaller shed at a different location within the block of land is to be submitted

8. Police Report I Speedwatch, Cllr Middleton attended a Speedwatch meeting, in conclusion speedwatch signs are not permitted to be erected indicating speedwatch is being undertaken. Advise is to be sought regarding erecting 20 or 30 mph signs, Ladywater has had speeding issues.

9. Recreation Field, Cllr King has purchased two new posts, Cllr King, Hookway and Ayre are to carry out some repair work. Thank you, councillors.

10. Correspondence i. DALC Newsletter ii

Date of next meeting–: **Wednesday 12th November 2025 7.30pm in the Parish Hall**

..... Chairman.....Date

Forthcoming meetings: **Wednesday 10th December 2025 at 7.30pm**