

BUCKFASTLEIGH WEST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th November 2025 at 7.00pm **in Scoriton Village Hall**

Present – Cllrs Brent (Chairman), Feasey , Knowling , Le Marchant and Owen
Dist Cllr Pannell and Clerk - Karen Gilbert.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - A member of the Public attended to bring to the Council's attention the tree removal taking place in Combe and the effect on the Village . She also commented on the perceived opening up of a gateway and use by motorised vehicles

DEVON COUNTY

On Cllr Thomas's behalf , Cllr Pannell gave a brief update on the Local Government review from the Devon County perspective

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL

Thermal Imaging Camera Scheme launched to support warmer, healthier homes

We have officially launched our next iteration of our thermal imaging camera scheme, offering practical support to communities across the district to help residents identify heat loss in their homes and improve energy efficiency.

This scheme is part of our wider commitment to tackling the climate emergency, supporting residents through the cost-of-living crisis, and improving health outcomes linked to cold, damp housing. More information and application form: www.southhams.gov.uk/thermal-camera-hire

Water quality monitoring pilot: making good progress.

University of Plymouth marine technicians have been working on the installation infrastructure for initial four sites (frameworks now installed on the Dart and in Salcombe Harbour). Next installation will be for Sequer's Bridge (R.Erme) over next couple of weeks. Friends of the Dart will be carrying out validation sampling on the Dart as part of the pilot with opportunities for other community groups to get involved. This will feed into a pilot impact report. Digital dashboard is due to launch to public in early 2026.

DNPA

PRINCETOWN VISITOR CENTRE CLOSURE

It is a landmark week for all the wrong reasons: on Friday the National Park Visitor Centre at Princetown closed its doors to the public for the last time. A sad day that has been a long time coming. We successfully lobbied for additional money under the previous Government but that was a 'one off sticking plaster'. While the rent is not a problem the full repairing lease on a Grade 1 listed building has become a massive burden.

RAISING AWARENESS

Over the past year the Health and Safety Executive have become increasingly concerned at the increasing amount of incidents involving walkers and cattle, particularly newly calved cows, across the uplands including Dartmoor. DNP have had several meetings with the HSE, Dartmoor Commoners Council and others, resulting in us working with the BBC across tv, radio and socials to highlight the message, and also new signage which has recently been put up for the autumn calving season.

Online there has been some kickback on the language used as we have moved from our normal direct messaging and used 'stay at least a bus length away from mummy cows and their

babies'. The tone of the comms is aimed to be inclusive and to reach those who are not regular (or first time) visitors to Dartmoor and are not aware that open spaces will have cows present. More information is available on the DNPA website

25/11/01 Apologies for absence - County Cllr Thomas and Cllr Rolls

25/11/02 Approval of Minutes - The Minutes of the regular meeting held on 7th October 2025 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record

25/11/03. Declarations of interest -

Cllr Brent in Planning 0337/25 - as applicant

Clerk as relative of agent in 0337/25 (NB takes no part in decision)

Dispensation requests None

25/11/04- PC admin

a) To consider any Co-option requests and note any publicity of the Vacancy - **NONE**

25/11/05 - Clerks Report

The Clerk advised that the change to the Bank signatories had been completed

IT Policy - currently being amended and will be presented to Full Council in December

New Defib - Cllr Feasey confirmed he had forced several models and would make a decision for the December meeting

ACTION ; IT POLICY/DEFOB TO BE AGENDA ITEMS FOR 12/25

25/11/06- Planning

CLLR BRENT LEFT THE ROOM FOR ITEM 0337/25

0337/25 NO OBJECTION	6, Marl Park, Scorrison, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0HZ	Erection of replacement double
--------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------

0362/25/HRN NO OBJECTION	Hedgerow Removal Notice	Wotton Farm, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0HB
------------------------------------	----------------------------	---

25/11/07 Finance - Approval of cheques - AGREED by all

KAREN GILBERT	CLERKS EXPENSES / STAT 10/25	£41.00
SIMON BRENT	POPPY WREATH	£20.00

b) To consider draft budget

The Clerk presented the spend to date for 25/26 and the estimated spend to the end of the year - 31/3/26 . It was **AGREED** that the previous precept had been correctly set .

The Clerk presented a draft budget to the Council - it having been circulated to all in advance .

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget - all in agreement

It was **NOTED** that there would be an increase in precept from £9400.00 to £10000.00 This represented an increase to a band D property of approx 10p per week.

It was **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2026/27 be set at £10000.00- All in agreement

25/11/08 Councillor reports

- a) **Tree Warden report.** - No report
- b) **Councillors reports from other meetings.** No report
- c) **Footpaths Warden Report.** - No report.

25/11/09 - Village matters

- a) **Highways** -It was **NOTED** that the drainage works at Stumpy Oak were proving effective

- b) **Village Hall** - No update

The POLICE report was briefly discussed

25/11/10. Date/time of next meeting - 2nd December 2025

There being no further business the meeting was closed at. 8.10pm