

# Drewsteignton Parish Council.

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## Minutes for meeting of Drewsteignton Parish Council that took place on Monday the 09th of December at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall.

**Present**, Peter Brennan, Andrew Di Battista, Ian Rowe, Laurance Bennie, Anna Imrie, and Julie Macey.

**Also present**, Lou Butler(clerk).plus 4 members of public

### Business Transacted

#### 1.12.24: Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that an audio recording would be taken from item 1 on the agenda to aid note taking and would be deleted once the draft minutes had been written.

#### 2.12.24 Current Vacancies.

Chair reminded the council of the current vacancy in the Crockernwell ward.

#### 3.12.24: Apologies for absence:

Cllr Redman forwarded her apologies in advance of the meeting due to illness. [Cllr Brennan proposed to approve the apology and Cllr Rowe seconded. All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/50](#)

4.12.24: Minutes of the Last Meetings. Draft Minutes were made available on the website. [Cllr Imrie proposed they were a true and accurate account of the previous meeting held on 18th of November 2024 and Cllr Bennie seconded this. All in favour. Motion carried. RR24/51](#)

#### 5.12.24: Declarations of Interest.

Cllrs were invited to declare any interests they may have in items on this agenda, including the nature of the interest. Cllrs were reminded of their responsibility to keep their Register of Interests property. Therefore, will not be included in the planning discussion.

#### 6.12.24: Public Speaking Time (max. 3minutes/person. Session time: 10 minutes).

Members of the public came to the public forum to discuss the planning application at Dartmoor View caravan park. They raised concerns about lack of communication with the tenants on site and requested that the parish council conduct a site visit before the closing date for the application. Clerk confirmed site visit times had been arranged.

#### 7.12.24: To receive reports (if any) from County Cllr. McInnes & Borough Cllr Guthrie.

Clerk read out the winter update from Cllr McInnes. Attached to the end of minutes.

**8.12.24: Planning (DNPA unless otherwise stated) (Chair):**

[3301/24/FUL Land at SX 678 926 Whiddon Down, Change of use of land for proposed extension to Dartmoor View Holiday Park for 50 holiday lodges together with associated infrastructure and landscaping. Ex 19/12/24 \(West Devon\)](#) the meeting discussed and viewed the proposal from Dartmoor View and arranged a site visit for 9.30am on Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> of December. Clerk noted that the agent for the proposal had been very engaging with the PC.

**9.12.24: Highway matters**

- a) Clerk updated council on the offers from highways for a new bus shelter at the Hittisleigh junction at Whiddon Down. Highways have a budget to support all of the costs of a new shelter with the parish council then being responsible for future upkeep.
- b) A new grit bin has been acquired free of charge and will be located at the entrance to Knowle lane. It will be delivered to the clerks address in the week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> of December and will need collecting with a suitable vehicle.
- c) The snow warden wasn't in attendance at the meeting so this item will be discussed at the next meeting.
- d) Clerk made council aware of a road closure at Spinsters rock May the 6th 2025

**10.12.24 Current and new business**

- a) Chair requested budget considerations for 25/26 from Cllrs. Suggestions were made for renovations to the pc garden in Drewsteignton, bench refurbishment throughout the parish, budget for the bus shelters, reinstating the water pump in Drewsteignton, and a plant allowance for Whiddon Down. (Clerk to contact parishioner.)
- b) The Cllrs discussed the request from citizens advice for a grant towards their public services, Cllr's agreed that the CAB do a fantastic job in the current financial crisis but have currently got a large reserve pot at their disposal and that the PC has limited funds from public monies.
- c) Clerk raised awareness of an allotment space that has become available and has been posted on our Facebook page for further information.
- d) Clerk made Cllr's aware of a 999-text service that had been brought to her attention see poster attached below.

**11.12.24 Annual review of Council Policies & Procedures:**

Chair apologised to council for no policy reviews this month, due to external factors.

**12.12.24: Finance and Consideration for approval of purchases.**

Attached, [Cllrs Brennan proposed the payments and Cllr Di Battista seconded all in favour motion carried. RR24/52](#)

**13.12.24: Confirmation of the next Council meeting:**

Chair confirmed that the next council meeting would take place at Whiddon Down village hall on the 20th of January 25 at 7.30 - Any changes will be posted on the website.

Chair closed the meeting after wishing everyone and Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

# How do I use emergencySMS?

## Register

You will only be able to use this service if you have registered with emergencySMS first.

**Register now: don't wait for an emergency.**

To register, **text 'register' to 999**. You will get a reply – then follow the instructions you are sent.

## In an emergency

### > Text 999

We need to know:

#### > Who?

Police, Ambulance, Fire and Rescue or Coastguard.

#### > What?

Briefly, what is the problem.

#### > Where?

Exactly where the problem is happening – give the name of the road, house number, postcode or nearby landmark, if possible.

## What happens next?

The emergency service will either ask for more information or will tell you that help is on the way.

Don't assume that your message has been received until the emergency service sends a message back.

It will usually take about two minutes before you get a reply. If you don't get a reply within three minutes, please try again or find other ways of getting help.

## Hatherleigh & Chagford Winter Update 24/25

It is difficult to believe Christmas is nearly here, where has the year gone. Life is very busy on the County Council at the moment, with a new Government bringing in new policies and changing the Local Government Finance model.

You will see a lot of road works around the Hatherleigh & Chagford Division, this is because we put in an extra £12 million into roads, drainage and white lining. Not going to improve everything over night, but it is a start. Storm Bert caused a lot of damage to trees and road surfaces, snow and so much rain. Highways staff did a great job in very difficult circumstances. All salt routes were salted, some three times in a few hours. We are lightly to see an increase in pothole because of the weather please report a pothole at the below link.

[www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/](http://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/)

The Devon and Torbay Devolution Deal is progressing. The Devon & Torbay Combined County Authority will come into being in February 2025. As I have explained before, this is a Strategic Authority that will take on additional powers from Central Government in the areas of the Economy and Adult Training, Strategic Transport Infrastructure, Housing, working with District Councils and Homes England. This does not change the status of Devon or Torbay.

Our People Services remain under pressure. In Adult Services we are seeing high demand and extra costs for DCC and our Care Providers, because of the 30<sup>th</sup> of October Budget. In Childrens Services we are seeing fewer children in care, which is good, but placements costs are rising, putting more pressure on the service. Special Educational Needs and Disability is the biggest issue the Council faces. Like Councils across England, we are seeing increased demand. We are making progress with our SEND Transformation Program and reducing the backlog of Education Health & Care Plans, but this puts further cost into the system. This is an issue that needs national attention.

Over the years I have been able to help many projects with the Locality Budget. There is still a little left in the pot, if you have a project please apply here: [Locality budgets - Democracy in Devon](#)

Let me know if you're interested. Because of the County Election next year applications will need to be in by the end of January 2025. This money needs to be used.


Always happy to help, come back at the below email address.

James McInnes  
Hatherleigh & Chagford Division  
[james.mcinnnes@devon.gov.uk](mailto:james.mcinnnes@devon.gov.uk)

**Drewsteignton Parish Council  
Reserves Balance  
2024-2025**

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<u>Reserve</u>	<u>OpeningBalance</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>CurrentBalance</u>
<b>Earmarked</b>					
Reserve 1	14,700.00		808.32		13,891.68
Reserve 2	4,482.61		371.05		4,111.56
<b>Total Earmarked</b>	<b>19,182.61</b>		<b>1,179.37</b>		<b>18,003.24</b>
<b>TOTAL RESERVE</b>	<b>19,182.61</b>		<b>1,179.37</b>		<b>18,003.24</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>					<b>8,534.27</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<b>26,537.51</b>

  
 P. SHENMAN 9/12/2024  
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**Signed**

1063

**Dated**

Signed

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Dated

**Drewsteignton Parish Council**  
**Monthly breakdown of Receipts and Payments**  
 All Cost Centres and Codes (Between 01/04/2024 and 31/03/2025)

	Budget	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	Variance
<b>PAYMENTS</b>															
<b>Payments</b>															
Staff Costs	5,665.00	376.34	671.00	275.39	556.85	809.80	452.66	601.88	377.81					4,121.73	1,543.27
Staff Expenses & Traini	350.00	44.12			106.00	27.15								177.27	172.73
Subscriptions & Membe	1,500.00	98.00	256.99		12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	52.00					466.99	1,033.01
Insurance	550.00		553.03											553.03	-3.03
Utilities	2,250.00	202.94	224.33	43.81	84.00	53.46	109.69	100.83	82.14					901.20	1,348.80
Communications (Phon	850.00	74.00	740.00	74.00	74.00	148.00	88.30	74.00	186.00					1,458.30	-608.30
Admin (Stationery, Print	200.00		26.00	14.00		14.50								54.50	145.50
Audit & Professional Fe	100.00													100.00	100.00
Elections									86.98					86.98	-86.98
S.137	50.00				25.00									25.00	25.00
Loan Repayment															
Open Spaces	1,705.00				21.74	246.00		20.98	180.00					468.72	1,236.28
Reserves 1	2,000.00				308.32	500.00								808.32	1,191.68
Reserves 2	2,250.00	113.99					30.00		227.06					371.05	1,878.95
Other/Miscellaneous						30.00		40.41						70.41	-70.41
<b>Receipts</b>															
Precept															
Grants/Donations															
Bank Interest															
VAT Refund															
Other Income															

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
 F. BARNHAM  
 9/12/2024