

Drewsteignton Parish Council.

Clerk: Louise Butler, clerk.drewsteigntonpc@outlook.com/ 07764683412

www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk.

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Minutes for meeting of Drewsteignton Parish Council that took place on Monday the 21st of July 2025 at 7.30pm at Whiddon Down Village Hall.

Present, Peter Brennan, Andrew Di Battista, Ian Rowe, John Redman, Laurance Bennie, Sue Hember and Julie Macy.

Also present, Lou Butler(clerk) plus 16 members of the public and 2 representatives from Jackson stops.

Business Transacted

1.7.25: 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.

2.7.25 Current Vacancies.

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

3.7.25: Apologies for absence:

On apology for absence was noted for Cllr Imrie, who had sent her apologies prior to the meeting as she would be away of holiday. [Cllr Rowe accepted the apology and Cllr Di Battista seconded, all in favour. Motion carried RR25/37](#)

4.7.25: Minutes of the Last Meetings.

Draft Minutes were made available on the website. [Cllr Di Battista proposed they were an accurate portrayal of the last meeting and Cllr Hember seconded, all in favour. Motion carried RR25/38](#)

5.7.25: 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 responsibilities to keep their register of interests updated. No interest was declared at this time.

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

Public Speaking Time was given to the 16 members of the public that had joined the meeting. Everyone attending was there to discuss topics on the agenda. 8.7.25 (b) and 10.7.25 (a) the minutes for these discussions can be found in the relevant sections.

7.7.25: To receive reports (if any) from County Cllr. Davies & Borough Cllr Guthrie.

Email communication received from Cllr Davies requesting dates for future meetings and confirmation she will be attending the September meeting. She also clarified her awareness of the speeding issues in Crockernwell, and the timescales involved in the Glebe cottages rebuild.

Cllr Guthrie attended the meeting; and discussed grant opportunities that are currently ongoing in the area, including a community halls fund and an Art and activity grant. All details available on the WDBC website. Cllr Guthrie also requested that parishioners engaged with the community event at Okehampton oca centre about the devolved council. This is an opportunity for local people to be

given the details of changes to local government. The government assessment period ends for this on the 30th of November 2025.

8.7.25: Planning (DNPA unless otherwise stated) (Chair):

- a) There were no new planning applications for consideration this month.
- b) Presentation by James from Jackson-stops for Heritage homes, appointed principal developer at the site at Whiddon Down. The site is currently at pre app planning stage. This is so the developer and the DNPA can discuss what would need to be done to get a successful planning application in the future. When the details of this are confirmed then a full public consultation will be arranged.

Heritage homes are an A-rated developer that design carbon neutral building with a rated energy efficiency. The current plan for the area in Whiddon down (which is subject to change) will include 26 homes of which 12 would be affordable. With 6 business units with the idea being that once they have been built the business will come. The site will have a 5-meter nature buffer around the perimeter from all hedgerows. This was the request from DNPA ecologist. With separate entrances for the commercial and residential properties. The surface water from the site will be held in the bottom corner of the development in either large underground tanks or as a pond. (design not yet confirmed) this will not include foul waste which will be fed into the existing foul waste system. Open space has been included on the site, which has the capacity to house a children's play area if the national park and the parish council request one.

To summarise the outcome of the pre app will determine a lot of the final details and once the verdict is back from DNPA then Jackson stops will return and have further discussions at a future DPC meeting.
- c) Enforcement information is still not available for 2 sites in the Drewsteignton parish, which have been flagged at previous meetings.
- d) Crockernwell methodist chapel going to final appeal stage on 25th of July with the plan from planning for it to be agreed after 2 years of DPC support.

9.7.25: Highway matters

- a) Hedgerows Venton straight and Harepath straight were reported to the clerk for her to follow up as they have become overgrown this year. They will be reported to Highways England.
- b) Abandoned vehicles update from the last meeting. Both vehicles have now been removed, and a sign has been added to the Drewsteignton carpark to remind users that overnight stays are prohibited.
- c) Pothole reporting, a request from Devon highways for people to continue to report potholes as soon as possible [Report a pothole - Devon County Council](#)

10.7.25: Current and new business

- a) Domestic water supply Crockernwell, residents of Crockernwell came to the parish meeting to discuss a foul smell and taste to the water of some properties in Crockernwell. This has been an ongoing issue for over a year and with numerous tests carried out, with very little response from southwest water. Before the meeting the clerk contacted southwest water for information on the ongoing investigation. They couldn't discuss the situation directly with the clerk due to data protection. But requested that the residents concerned needed to contact them ASAP advising that the department was open till 10pm on week day and that they could receive a favourable update.

On further discussion with the residents this has been the ongoing theme from SWW and when they do get through (which can be an hour wait on the line) it is sent back to testing again. These residents have been provided with drinking water for the past 12 months

which they feel is an admission of a problem from SWW. They are asking if any other members of the parish are experiencing the same issues to report it at their earliest convenience. By calling 03443461010 or going to the Southwest Water website and following the links to report a problem.

- b) Adopt a kiosk scheme is now complete and Drewsteignton parish council have now paid a pound and signed the contracts for the phone box in Drewsteignton.
- c) AGAR and Internal audit have been completed and sent off for external review and audit. The internal auditor praised the use of the financial reporting system the council has in place making it efficient and streamlined.

11.7.25: Finance and Consideration for approval of purchases.

Payments considered and approved by Cllr Brennan and seconded by Cllr Di Battista RR25/39

Drewsteignton pc online payment log July					
Voucher	Date	Supplier	Discription	Amount	VAT reclaim
27	21.07.2025	Louise Butler	Salaries and expenses	£395.27	N
26	21.07.2025	Parish Mag Printers Ltd	Parish post printing	£195.00	N
25	21.07.2025	Whiddon Down Village Hall	Hall hire	£84.00	N
24	02.07.2025	Scribe Accounting (Starboard Systems Limited)	Scribe	£28.80	Y
23	06.07.2025	EDF	Electric W/C	£46.00	Y
22	30.06.2025	BT	Adopt a kiosk	£1.00	N

12.7.25: Confirmation of the next Council meeting:

Chair confirmed that the next council meeting would take place at The Drewe arms long room on the 21st of September 2025 at 7.30. Any further changes will be posted on the website.