

Drewsteignton Parish Council.

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

www.drewsteigntonparish.co.uk.

Find us on Facebook @ [Drewsteignton parish council](https://www.facebook.com/Drewsteigntonparishcouncil).

Minutes for meeting of Drewsteignton Parish Council that took place on Monday the 15th of September 2025 at 7.30pm in The long room, Drewe arms, Drewsteignton.

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

Also present, Lou Butler(clerk) plus 6 members of the public, County Cllr Davies and Borough Cllr Guthrie.

Business Transacted

1.9.25: 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.

2.9.25 Current Vacancies.

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

3.9.25: Apologies for absence:

All in attendance.

4.9.25: Minutes of the Last Meetings. Draft Minutes were made available on the website for the previous parish council meeting dated 21st of July 2025. Cllr Macy requested an amendment for the attendees of the meeting. The clerk asked for the date of the next meeting to be corrected.

[Cllr Brennan corrected the minutes then proposed they were an accurate portrayal of the last meeting and Cllr Hember seconded, all in favour. Motion carried RR25/40](#)

5.9.25: 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. Cllr Di Battista declared that he had pecuniary interest in item 8.9.25 (a) as it was his property.

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

Public Speaking Time was given firstly to the residents of Crockernwell who have attended the previous meeting in July. They had been contacted that day and advised there was no further water quality update. They were enquiring if the customers had enough bottled water. Cllr Brennan shared that he had also been in contact with SWW on the 5th of September and they had found that the water supply to his property in Crockernwell had been restricted to 0.75 bar for at least the last 20 years. The engineer commented that "they are aware there is an issue" (relating to the water quality) "but we don't know how to fix it"

It was noted by all involved that the communication at SWW is hard to understand, although they claim to record calls for training purposes. There is no continuity between departments or staff members from the same department. Each time anyone calls they must explain the situation each time. Even with a case number in place.

The floor was then handed to residents of Whiddon Down, who wanted to discuss issues that had arisen over the last few months at the Post inn in Whiddon Down. They wanted to make the parish council aware of incidents including vandalism of property namely the fence along the front on the building, Drunk and disorderly behaviour from patrons, and violence and swearing. The residents were advised by County Cllr Davies to log all issues with the local police and that she would also make WDBC aware of the residents' concerns.

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

Report from Devon County Council – Drewsteignton Parish Council 15/09/25

I would like to address the following issues:

Local Government Reorganisation – Have your say!

I would like to highlight to councillors and parishioners to have their say on Local Government Reorganisation. The link to the survey is on the DCC website under LGR and is open until 14th October. The scheme preferred by DCC is called "New Devon" or 9-1-1. It is comprised of the two current unitary councils Plymouth and Torbay, and then 9 separate areas within Devon county. Link attached below.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/a-stronger-future-shaped-by-communities-devon-unveils-leading-option-for-local-government-change/>

Pothole Repair Trial

Today a Devon Highways trial was launched to fill all potholes within a 500metre range whilst workmen, materials and equipment is on site and not only those potholes with safety defect markings. Two Devon sites have been chosen including our division of Hatherleigh and Chagford. The trial runs until the end of October. Please remember to report all potholes and road issues on the 'Report a Problem' page. Link attached below.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/pothole-repair-trial-starts-in-devon/>

Fire Service – Co-Responder Scheme

Discussions continue regarding the cancellation of the fire service co-responder scheme and a possible solution in favour of a voluntary community responder scheme. Link attached below.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/scrutiny-urges-ambulance-service-to-stop-plans-to-replace-fire-co-responders-with-volunteers/>

Cllr Sue Davies, Devon County Councillor for Hatherleigh and Chagford has requested that any DCC related issues be reported to herself on the email below.

Sue.Davies@devon.gov

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

- a) [0288/25 Full Planning Permission – Householder Highford, Drewsteignton, EX6 6RD Single storey rear extension and internal modifications to dwelling expires 16-10-2025.](#) Site visit requested by chair date to be confirmed.
- b) [0296/25 Full Planning Permission, National Trust, Castle Drogo, EX6 6PB, Extension to visitor centre at Castle Drogo including a changing place, toilets & accessible activity space, expires 21-10-2025](#) Cllrs agreed a positive response.

9.9.25: Highway matters

- a) Temporary speed restrictions notice 11/11/25 Whiddon down for 5 days for resurfacing.
- b) SWARCO Sign update after a recent visit from Swarco to service the sign the engineer made the clerk aware that it would now be more appropriate to purchase a new unit with solar panels for charging. Cllrs requested more quotes for the next meeting.
- c) Grit bin check will be carried out in October.

10.9.25: Current and new business

- a) Switching Drewsteignton PC to a Gov.uk domain. Clerk made the council aware that it now an AGAR requirement that the parish council have Gov.uk email addresses and website. This is only available via registered companies. The clerk has spoken to 3 that can provide this service, and one came through as the best value for money for what the council needed.
- b) Residents and councillors were reminded to collect apples from the carpark.
- c) Playing field equipment was discussed with a current quote available for a zip wire for the play area in the region of £15k councillors agreed to look at other options for the works and grants available.

11.9.25 Review of Council Policies & Procedures:

DPC 007 Anti-Fraud & Corruption Policy

DPC 008 Lone Worker Policy

DPC 009 Equality & Diversity Policy

Cllrs agreed the policies to be accurate and up to date. Clerk to amend website accordingly.

12.9.25: Finance and Consideration for approval of purchases.

Drewsteignton pc online payment log					
Voucher n	Date	Supplier	Discription	Amount	VAT reclaim
37	15.09.2025	Parish Mag Printers Ltd	Parish post printing	£229.00	N
36	01.10.2025	Source for business	Water Playing Field	£47.85	N
35	01.10.2025	Source for business	Water WC	£160.47	N
34	15.09.2025	Louise Butler	Salaries and expenses	£682.82	N
33	15.09.2025	Stephen Park	Cleaning WC	£275.00	N
32	01.09.2025	EDF	Electric W/C	£15.00	Y
31	01.09.2025	Scribe Accounting (Starboard Systems Limited)	Scribe	£28.80	Y
30	01.08.2025	EDF	Electric W/C	£46.00	Y
29	01.08.2025	Scribe Accounting (Starboard Systems Limited)	Scribe	£28.80	Y

13.9.25: Confidential matters (PART II) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2)

- a) Chair moved the Council into Part II.
- b) Transport plan – a draft proposal discussion was held over parking plan for Drewsteignton with up and coming works on Glebe cottages.
- c) Chair returned the meeting to public session to hear resolutions. Cllrs agreed to wait for further information on National trust plan for parking and contractors site office location.

14.9.25: Confirmation of the next Council meeting:

Chair confirmed that the next council meeting would take place at the church space Drewsteignton on the 20th of October 2025 at 7.30. Any further changes will be posted on the website.