

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held at 6:00pm on Monday 2nd February 2026

Parish Councillors present: Cllr Mott, Cllr Kaczanow, Cllr Horn, Cllr Southcott,

Also present: A Horn (Clerk) Cllr J Grainger DCC 15 Members of the public

2025.7 The Chairman welcomed those in attendance.

2025.8 Questions received prior to the meeting

None

2025.9 To invite the public to raise any matters of interest.

1. Could a copy of the legislation that made the Parish Council responsible for the closed churchyard and not the PCC be provided.

The Clerk would provide this.

2. It was asked as the Clerk cost about 50 percent of the precept if the council would consider reducing the clerks' hours.

A member of the public asked for it to be minuted that the Clerks hourly rate was determined nationally as part of the Clerk's contract and that the council did not have a say in when the clerks hourly rate was increased and that reducing contracted hours was not simple, consultations had to be done and that the clerks wages were not for the parish to discuss.

3. Why was the Council tax increased people were struggling financially, and this was a large increase.

The budget had been discussed at several council meetings before it was set in January. The draft budgets were all published on the website so that a breakdown of council spending was available and a monthly budget monitoring document was also published.

4. Could the number of vacancies on the parish council be clarified 2 or 5.

It was clarified that there were currently 2 vacancies on the parish council, the 3 West Devon Councillors had been co opted to the council therefore they were full members of the council that their seats would follow the normal election/co-option procedures when they resigned.

5. What was the procedure if you thought one of the dangerous gravestones in the closed are of the churchyard belonged to your family.

The Clerk would confirm the procedure with the member of the public.

6. Was laying the dangerous gravestones against the wall an option.

The Clerk reported that any work done to a headstone first had to have a faculty from the diocese and to be allowed to do any work the Diocese had to agree to it. They council was working with the PCC to make the application for the faculty successful and at the lowest cost to the parish for the work done. The Diocese could come back and say that all stones had to be repaired rather than a third buried in the ground which was an option the Parish Council was hoping to use on some stones which would significantly increase the cost the Council.

7. Where the verges had been cut back there was a lot of litter could something be done about this?

The Council was trying to form a volunteer group which would be meeting in March with the Village Hall doing bacon baps.

8. The Village Hall carpark and track needed repair

The Parish Council and the Secretary to the Commoners were trying to get this repaired future liability was an issue. If residents and the Village Hall Committee wanted to send the Parish Council an email about the state of the carpark and track it would help give the Parish Council evidence that it was a concern.

9. The dog bin at Prewely is full

This could be reported on West Devons website with a photo. It was easier if the person who found the issue reported it as they would know exactly where it was.

2025.10 Cllr Mott closed the meeting at 7:05pm.

Signed as a true record of the Assembly.