



**Minutes of the Cheriton Bishop Parish Council meeting held at 7.00 pm on  
Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2026 at The Spalding Hall, Cheriton Bishop.**

Present: Chair Peter O'Neil, Vice Chair Cllr Roger Marshall, Cllrs , A. Fry and C. Royle. One member of the public present. Attending. Parish Clerk – J Clark

- 1. To receive and accept apologies.** DCC Cllr J. Cairney and MDDC Cllrs S. Chenore and M. Binks.
- 2. To receive Declarations of Interest.** None
- 3. Public Discussion:** A member of the public raised the issue of the financial pressures on the Spalding Hall. They asked if the council could make a regular commitment to supporting the viability of the hall to remain in use. The Chair requested the Spalding Hall Committee to supply a report supported by figures and send to the clerk. Clerk to place on the February agenda. **CLERK TO ACTION**

They also shared their concern about a muddy section of the Crooky Dip footpath. The Chair responded that the footpath is a Dartmoor National Park (DNPA) responsibility. The Council will contact the DNPA to find out who is responsible for the upkeep and see if action can be taken to improve this section of the footpath.

**CLERK TO ACTION**

They also asked if a footpath from the village to the proposed site of the new farm shop close to Woodleigh Junction can be considered. The clerk to contact MDDC AND TDC Planning to obtain further information as to whether this is an option and what needs to be considered and report back to council.

**CLERK TO CONTACT MDDC PLANNING**

They also asked if the parish council would give consideration to enhancing the village Christmas decorations , such as a Christmas tree on the memorial cross area, more lights, etc. The council felt this may be considered once the s106 money received. No action to be taken at this time.

**4. Planning**

**4.1**

**25/01698/PIP Permission in Principle for the erection of 1 dwelling**

**East of Hill View Cheriton Bishop**

Following a discussion the council agreed that as the site falls within the development boundary the council had no objections in principle but wants strongly to emphasise that it should not set a precedent for further development outside the development boundary. The council resolved unanimously by a show of hands to support the application with the caveat outlined above.

**4.2**

**25/02773/FULL Removal of condition )b) of planning permission 88/03049/FULL relating to an agricultural occupancy tie.**

**Crossways Farm Cheriton Bishop.**

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the council felt no need to comment.



#### 4.3.

**25/01780/HOUSE**

**Erection of two-storey side extension following demolition of single storey lean-to and timber shed**

**Oak Tree Cottage Hittisleigh Exeter.**

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the council felt no need to comment.

#### 5. Planning Decisions.

Notification of intention to remove 1 Sycamore tree; reduce height of 1 Horse Chestnut Tree by 3m; pollard 3 ash trees in garden and 1 ash on boundary within a Conservation Area.

Dudshall Cottage, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop.

**Granted by MDDC**

- 6. To consider the draft minutes of the December Parish Council meeting as a correct record.** The council resolved to approve the minutes of the December meeting as a true record unanimously by a show of hands.
- 7. To receive reports from MDDC Councillors** - for information only. Received and noted.
- 8. To receive a report from Devon County Council (DCC)** - for information only. Received and noted.
- 9. To discuss communication issues when dealing with DCC Highways.** Over the previous two months, both The Chair and The Parish Clerk have written to DCC Highways asking for a response to previous emails regarding the scheduled 20mph limit extension (which is in response to significant safety concerns), replacement of Cheriton Bishop village gateway signs to include the missing 30 mph sign and permission to replace a damaged finger post, but once again no response has been received.

The parish council has sought input from DCC Highways on several occasions regarding Highways matters and has had unhelpful or incorrect responses. In 2024, during a project to improve the Memorial Cross area in the village, which had already been verbally approved by the local Highways officer, work was halted without notice by DCC Highways. The interruption not only caused inconvenience but increased the overall cost of the project. Prior to the work being completed, the Parish Council had requested input from DCC Highways but again there was no response. In the end work had to go ahead without Highways input because there were safety issues to be addressed as part of the work included the rebuilding of a wall. Despite several attempts by the council to find out why the work had been stopped, again there was no response, so the parish council went ahead and completed the work.

As a result, the Council asked the clerk to write to the Leader of DCC explaining these problems and particularly stressing the parish council's safety concerns about the delayed 20mph limit extension and the missing 30 mph sign which could invalidate the speed limit both on the main road and in the area of the 20mph extension. Speeding is a serious local concern and Cllr Marshall reported that the results from the vehicle activated speed signs in the village show clearly that close to half of the vehicles driving through the village are breaking the speed limit. **CLERK TO ACTION**



**10.** To agree parish council's priorities for the financial year 2026-2027. The Chair shared the previously published list of priorities and councillors discussed the actions to be taken to support the council's priorities for 2026-2027. The council agreed the following priorities for the financial year 2026-2027 as follows:-

- To seek to have the village gateway signs replaced by Highways.
- To organise the implementation of the new 20 mph speed restrictions.
- Focus of provision of allotments by identifying suitable and available land for the purpose within the parish boundary.
- To work with parties involved to scope the possibility of putting a pathway from the village to the proposed new farm shop close to Woodleigh Junction.
- To seek to raise the profile of parish council and the work it does and to encourage new members as the current council comprises only 4 out of a possible 7 members.
- To engage with the community to identify suitable projects for the community funding that will be available as a result of the Church Lane housing development.

The Chair asked councillors to review this list and consider if any other projects should be considered and report back at the February meeting with a view to approving the parish council priorities for the coming year and asked the clerk to place on February agenda. **COUNCILLORS AND CLERK TO ACTION**

**11.** Repairs & Maintenance – to consider any repairs and maintenance needed for PC assets. Cllr Marshall reported that the finger post repair is in hand.

**12.** To receive and approve monthly income and expenditure report and bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2025. The council resolved unanimously a show of hands to approve the bank reconciliation.

**13.** Accounts - to approve the following payments. The council resolved unanimously a show of hands to approve the payments.

**14.**

	Service		AMOUNT	VAT	TOTAL
Mrs Jane Clark	Clerk's salary		£410.79	No	£410.79
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE		£105.80	No	£105.80

**15.** To receive reports from Councillors: for information only. Cllr Marshall reported that the speed signs data shows 46% of vehicles speeding. Cllr Marshall to share results with the clerk for inclusion in the letter to the leader of DCC and copy to Highways. (See above). **CLLR MARSHALL AND CLERK TO ACTION.**

Cllr O'Neil reported he had met with the owners of the Village Green with a view to extending the area but it was agreed that the council is unable to take the matter further.

**16.** To receive report from clerk: for information only. Nothing to report.

Meeting closed at 2015

Dates of next three meetings (second Monday of the month) at Spalding Hall,  
9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026.