

# Christow Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs C Retallick, Bagtor Barton, Ilsington, Newton Abbot, TQ13 9RT.

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**Minutes of the meeting of Christow Parish Council held on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Bowden room, Teign Valley Community Hall, Christow.**

Present: Cllr G Archer                      Cllr AJ Orme                      Cllr A Cook  
                     Cllr J Orme                      Cllr G Read

Also, present TDC Cllr A Swaine, DCC Cllr R Keeling, Carol Retallick (Clerk) and 0 member of the public

Cllr Archer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the Council meeting	ACTION
<b>1) Apologies and acceptance for Absence</b>	
Received from Cllrs Green, Slack and Tucker.	
<b>3) Declarations of Interest:</b> In accordance with the Code of Conduct.	
No declared	
<b>2) Public Discussion</b> – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting.	
None present	
<b>4) County, District Councillor's, DNPA Ranger/Representative, Forestry Commission officer, Police and Lengthsman - to receive reports.</b>	
<p><u>Cllr R Keeling DCC</u> – Attached. Cllr Keeling reported in addition that DCC are waiting to discover the result of the consultation for LGR from the minister. But already the authorities are working together South Hams Teignbridge, West Devon, not Torbay at the moment. He spoke about the damaged gas line in South Hams and reported that DCC worked with the gas supplier to contact every household (4600 homes) including giving support to vulnerable homes. He reassured the meeting that DCC has emergency plans for lots of problems and was pleased that the plan worked really well this time.</p> <p><u>Cllr A Swaine TDC District councillor's report - January 2026</u></p> <p>I hope you have had a good holiday. I have an update on our ongoing de-carbonisation plans at Teignbridge.</p> <p>As you may remember over the last few years, we have been working through a project to overhaul many of the buildings in Teignbridge. Systems were in need of renewal and deliberate decisions were made to treat this as an opportunity to decarbonise.</p> <p>The latest figures show over £130,000 of savings per year as a result of these projects. The works included energy efficiency measures, solar panels and air source heat pumps at the council offices and many of the leisure centres. The works have also resulted in increasing leisure centre memberships.</p> <p>We continue to deliver zero carbon social rented housing projects, which provide low cost, cheap to heat homes. More are on the way at Sherborne House in Newton Abbot. Climate action has also underpinned decisions of vehicle renewal. The first phase of fleet electrification has produced direct energy savings of £18,500 with carbon savings outperforming initial estimates by 24%. As previously reported, there are issues with electrifying the waste collection vehicles and work continues.</p> <p>Lib Dem Teignbridge Council is committed to continuing to lead the way and in December 2025 approved its Carbon Action Plan setting out actions to help businesses, groups and residents achieve similar savings.</p> <p>It is always nice to good news, but when environmental projects are so often dogged with concerns about price, it is especially nice to see clear evidence that positive action of this sort does indeed bring financial savings as well as the necessary improvements to sustainability.</p>	<p>.</p>

<p>TDC increased by the maximum of 5% council tax as they would be penalised if not. <u>PCSO Tina Jordon</u> for the period 01/12/2025 to 31/12/2025 in the Christow beat area there was 1 Incident Report (log) created and 0 Occurrence Reports being raised as a result.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Team continues to provide a visible presence in the community offering advice and reassurance in the form of our “Talk with Your Local Police Team” drop-ins. Further drop-ins have been scheduled for January and February at The Community Shop, the Bus will be there later in the afternoon at this time around.</p>	
<p><b>5) Minutes - to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2025.</b></p>	
<p>These were signed as a true record of that meeting.</p>	<p><b>approved</b></p>
<p><b>6) Chairmans Business – Information only</b></p>	
<p>Cllr Archer reported that the padlock at the allotment field went missing, a new lock has been purchased to replace the missing one.</p> <p>The Grit bins at Stafford Close, Wet Lane, Dry Lane and Smithy Meadows may need refilling as they have been used. It was noted that the grit is being covered far too thickly. Councillors will refill the bins this weekend.</p>	<p><b>Cllrs to fill grit bins this weekend.</b></p>
<p><b>7) Clerks Report - Update on matters arising from the last meeting for information only</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed Closure of Torquay Police Station Custody Centre – email circulated would the councillors like to comment? – no comment</li> <li>• The goal post at the recreation field have been repaired but still need to rubbed down and painted. The contractor has not invoiced the council yet for this reason, it is hoped that the work will be completed over the next month.</li> <li>• As promised, below is a snip of the DCC adoption map for the location in Christow that we were discussing on the phone. The roads in brown are the adopted highways and any other roads not highlighted brown are not Highways adopted roads and as such the district council are not responsible for litter clearance or litter bins in these areas, I’m afraid. We would therefore not be able to re-site a bin in the location you mentioned, or at least not a bin that the council would be able to empty at our expense</li> <li>• Following the recent AGM the Treasurer recommended the following increase in hire charges to take effect from 1 June 2026. The Bowden Room will be £12 per hour The Main Hall will be £17 per hour The Whole Building will be £29 per hour</li> <li>• The fireworks were another huge success, and the event went without a hitch. Thank you from all of us for your continued support. We would like to donate another £500 to the Parish Council and will transfer the funds soon.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>8) Cemetery and Allotment tidy - update</b></p>	
<p>Cllr AJ Orme and the clerk have visited the field and measured out the area for improvement. The work needed to tidy up the area requires knowledge of the underground water pipes along with equipment to make the area level. Local contractors have been contacted to supply quotes. These will be reviewed and the council agreed to approve the contractor with the most knowledge and equipment for the work needed within the councils’ financial regulations. Cllr G Read proposed this, and Cllr J Orme seconded</p>	
<p><b>9) Parish award and Annual Parish meeting – Confirm date and content of meeting</b></p>	
<p>We will be advertised in the February Unity for an April meeting. The councillor agreed Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm in the Bowden room for the annual Parish Meeting following the familiar format as usual with cheese and wine – local organisations will be invited to supply annual reports.</p>	<p><b>Book Bowden room</b></p>
<p><b>10) Recreation field improvement to entrance and other matters. – discussion and decision</b></p>	
<p>Cllr Archer informed the meeting of surface damage at the pedestrian gate entrance to the recreation field. The council have matting that could be laid to improve the surface there as it does get a lot of use. Councillors will arrange to view the site and make</p>	

<p>arrangement to carry out a repair.  A request has been made for Christow Palace to hold several matches in the next few months. The councillors approved this request.  The clerk explained that the online calendar has not yet been added to the website but hopes it will be soon.</p>		
<b>11) Planning</b>		
<p><u>Grant of Conditional Planning Permission –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0343/25 &amp; 0344/25 Removal of oil boiler and tank; replace with air source heat pump plus external plant store, Barn End, Christow, Exeter, EX6</li> </ul>		
<b>12) Finance</b>		
<p><b>Expenditure:</b></p> <p>Clerk's salary for December = £ 664.14  HMRC = £ 438.27  HP Instant Ink, December = £ 10.99  TVCH Annual rent = £ 276.00  SW Grounds Maintenance = £ 1260.00  Jake Jackson = £ 738.00  Viking Direct – stationary = £ 117.01  Bank Charges = £ 8.25</p> <p><b>Bank Reconciliation and Statement:</b> The Chairman has checked invoices and bank statement against the reconciliation statement. Reconciliation and bank statement circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr G Reed proposed to accept the payments and details on the bank statements this was seconded by Cllr A Cook</p>		<b>Authorised and agreed</b>
<b>13) MEETINGS ATTENDED:</b> to receive reports from councillors who have attended meetings on behalf of this council or actions from the previous meetings		
None attended.		
<b>The next Council meeting is Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026, at 7.30pm in the Bowden Room at TVCH.</b>		

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.42pm

Signed..... Date.....

Position.....