

# Christow Parish Council

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

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**Minutes of the meeting of Christow Parish Council held on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.30pm in the Bowden room, Teign Valley Community Hall, Christow.**

Present: Cllr G Archer                      Cllr B Green                      Cllr AJ Orme  
                     Cllr A Cook                      Cllr G Read                      Cllr R Slack

Also, present Carol Retallick (Clerk) Cllr A Swaine and 0 member of the public  
 Cllr Archer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of Annual Council meeting	ACTION
<b>1) Election of Chairman:</b>	
a) Invite nominations and elect a chairman for the year. Cllr AJ Orme nominated Cllr Archer and Cllr B Green seconded the proposal. b) Receive the Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Chairman. Cllr Archer signed the acceptance of Office.	
<b>2) Election of Vice Chairman.</b>	
a) Invite nominations and elect a Vice Chairman for the year. Cllr T Archer proposed Cllr Reed this was seconded by Cllr B Green , Cllr Read accepted the Office.	.
<b>3) Appointment of signatures for cheque payments</b>	
Cllrs Archer, AJ Orme, B Green, R Slack and J Orme were appointed.	Approved
<b>4) Appointment of Committees and working parities</b>	
Finance Committee – Cllrs Archer, Slack and the Clerk Personnel Committee – Cllrs Cook, Green and Read Complaints & Appeals Committee – Cllrs Archer, AJ Orme and R Slack Lenghtsman (working party) – Cllrs Archer, AJ Orme, J Orme, Slack and Clerk Skate & Play Park weekly checks (working party) – Skate Park – Cllr Archer Play Park Cllr Tucker.	
<b>5) Appointment of Representatives to attend meeting of Outside Bodies</b>	
Allotments - Cllrs Tucker, Archer                      Christow community shop – Cllr Tucker CCLT – Cllr Archer                      Dartmoor National Park Forum – Cllrs Cook and Slack Teign Valley Community Hall – Cllr Tucker Teign Valley Museum Trust – Cllr Cook Wellmoor Checkmate, Health All – Cllr Reed Teign Tennis Trust – Cllr J Orme    Teignbridge DC/meeting of parishes – Cllr Read	
<b>6) Council Meetings – to confirm dates of meeting till May 2027</b>	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026                      Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026                      Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2026 Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2026                      Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2026 Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027                      Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2027 Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2027                      Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2027 Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2027	<b>Approved</b>
<b>7) Council Policies and Terms of Reference for the committees – Review and adopt</b>	
Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Internal Control Policy, Publications Scheme, Grant Awarding Policy, Code of Conduct, IT Policy. Terms of reference for all above committees. Cllr AJ Orme proposed to adopt these policies and documents; Cllr B Green seconded the proposal will all in favour.	<b>Reviewed and Adopted</b>
<b>COUNCIL MEETING</b>	
<b>1) Apologies and acceptance for Absence</b>	
Received from Cllr R Keeling, Cllr J Orme and Cllr H Tucker.	
<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>3) Declaration of interest</b>	
None declared	
<b>4) County, District Councillor's, DNPA Ranger/Representative, Forestry Commission officer, Police and Lengthsman - to receive reports.</b>	
TDC Cllr A Swaine – A Local Leaders meeting has been arranged for 3 June. Teignmouth Lido has confirmed it will open this year and will be community run. Work is continuing on the Carbon Action Plan, including buildings, electric vehicles and financial payback considerations. The NPPF has now been released and includes updated house building targets. If the district does not meet the target, planning powers may be taken away. The new target has increased to 1,088 homes, which will be difficult to achieve. As Christow lies within the National Park, planning policy restricts building within the park area. Cllr Read provided Cllr Swaine with information from Wellmoor Checkmate. Cllr Swaine reminded members about his locality fund, which may support community projects.	.
<b>5) Minutes - to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April 2026, and the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026.</b>	
Cllr Tucker's name was removed from the list of attendees. The Minutes were then approved and signed as a true record, including the notes from the Annual Parish Meeting.	
<b>6) Clerks Report - Update on matters arising from the last meeting for information only</b>	
<p>The Clerk has booked to attend the Local Leaders meeting on 3 June. Recreation field bookings have been confirmed, including the school sports day and recent football use. St Basil's event scheduled for 7 June. Wedding booking noted.</p> <p><b>Surface Dressing Programme 2026</b></p> <p>As part of the annual maintenance programme, surface dressing works will be undertaken within the Chudleigh &amp; Teign Valley Division. Residents will receive leaflets from the contractor, Kiely Bros, shortly before works begin. Due to weather conditions and the nature of the process, dates may change. Stakeholders with queries regarding dates or access will be referred directly to Kiely Bros.</p> <p>The sites for 2026 are:  B3212 Farrants Hill, Dunsford  Church Hill, Tedburn St Mary  Road past Slonscombe Farm, Moretonhampstead  B3344 Station Hill, Chudleigh  B3344 Millstream Meadow to A38 off-slip, Chudleigh  B3193 Teign House Inn to Bridford Bridge junction, Bridford</p>	
<b>7) Play Area – Update</b>	
<p>Cllr AJ Orme reported that recruitment for the play area group has been successful, with 17 members now involved. It was suggested that the group be given time to develop plans before further action is taken, with a meeting likely to take place after the next Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that the original agreement was for the group to meet independently and report back to the Council to avoid overcomplicating matters in the early stages. The Clerk mentioned Sutcliffe Play equipment, and possible funding opportunities from local organisations, including the fireworks group. Members suggested that the group should begin fundraising and develop a plan alongside this work.</p> <p>Send out a notice to maintain community interest, with the Parish Clerk as the point of contact.</p> <p>Cllr G Reed to prepare a note for publication in Unity.</p>	<p><b>Cllr AJ Orme to meet with the group and Clerk to prepare an article for Unity and seek donations from local businesses. Add to next agenda</b></p>

<b>8) New Litter Bin – discussion and decision</b>	
Members discussed possible locations for a new litter bin; however, no final decision was made.	<b>Next months agenda</b>
<b>9) Phone Box adoption- Cllr Green to report</b>	
Cllr Green updated members regarding the phone box on Dry Lane. Responsibility currently rests with the landowner, and BT has advised that the landowner must approve any application for community adoption. Cllr Green suggested the box could be used to house a defibrillator. Offers have already been received from parishioners willing to renovate the box. It was agreed that: The landowner should write to the Clerk confirming approval. The Council can then proceed with the application to BT to adopt the box for community use. A defibrillator should be installed within the box.	<b>Approved to adopt the box.</b>
<b>10) Matters arising from annual parish meeting – discussion.</b>	
Members discussed the proposed Energy Club scheme. A local resident had expressed interest in initiating the scheme, and Cllr Green confirmed he was keen to be involved. Cllr Read advised that information from other parishes could be shared. Cllr Slack agreed to contact him for further information.	<b>Cllr Slack contact for more info on energy club</b>
<b>11) End of Year Accounts and Annual Report</b>	
a) Review the End of Year Accounts and approve for publication. b) Internal Audit report c) Approve the Annual Governance statement d) Approve the Accounting Statement	<b>These will be considered next month agenda.</b>
<b>12) Planning</b>	
<u>CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULNESS OF PROPOSED USE OR DEVELOPMENT</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0081/26 Permitted development single storey rear extension, Sanford, Butts Lane, Exeter, EX6 7NN</li> </ul>	
<b>13) Finance</b>	
<b>Expenditure:</b> Clerk's salary for April = £ 675.19 SW Grounds Maintenance = £ 252.00 A T Weaving Hedge cutting = £ 576.00 Devon Maintenance Plus Ltd – skip hire = £ 300.00 Devon Maintenance Plus Ltd – Labour to remove play equipment = £ 300.00 MTD Accountancy (PAYE) = £ 223.20 Insurance = £ 883.26 HP Instant Ink = £ 31.99 Lengthsman = £ 312.00 <b>PAY</b> Bank Charges = £ 5.25 <b>DD's:</b> ICO – subscription = £ 47.00 <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 R Slack.	<b>Authorised and agreed</b>
<b>14) Meeting Attended</b>	
Cllr Read attended the Wellmoor Checkmate – the group is to recognise and work towards preventing suicides within rural communities he brought leaflets to share within the community perhaps in the shop, pub and doctors' surgery. Add information to our website and to unity.	
<b>The next Council meeting is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026, at 7.30pm in the Bowden Room at TVCH.</b>	

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.13pm

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

Position.....