

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, 7th July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Bowden room, Teign Valley Community Hall, Christow.

Present: Cllr G Read, Cllr A Cook Cllr AJ Orme Cllr J Orme,
Cllr H Tucker Cllr R Slack

Also, present Carol Retallick (Clerk) and 0 members of the public

Being that the Chairman was not attending the Vice chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Minutes of the Council meeting	ACTION
1) Apologies and acceptance for Absence	
Received from Cllrs Archer, Green and DCC Cllr Keeling	
2) Declaration of Interest: In accordance with the code of conduct	
None declared	
3) Public Discussion – To allow any questions, reports by members of the public on any matters relating to the agenda of this meeting.	
None present	
4) County, District Councillor's, DNPA Ranger/Representative, Forestry Commission officer, Police and Lengthsman - to receive reports.	
Report from Cllr R Keeling – Circulated to all Report from PCSO T Jordan –For the period 01/06/2026 to 30/06/2026 in the Christow beat area there was 6 Incident Reports (logs) created and 4 Occurrence Reports being raised as a result under the following categories: Theft: 1 Stalking: 1 Public Safety & Concern for Welfare: 2 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 19 th August, 14 th October and 9 th December 2026 1400-1500hrs at The Community Shop Bus Stop. TDC A Swaine – confirmed that TDC is not selling parks etc but are looking to transfer to local parishes or Towns. It was necessary to declare a public notice which did cause rumors LGR estimate end of this month to say what form it will take.	.
5) Minutes – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2 nd June 2026	
These were signed as a true record of that meeting.	
6) Chairmans Business – Information only	
None	
7) Clerks Report - Update on matters arising from the last meeting for information only	
- We have received the annual donation from Christow Show being £204.25 - The donation from the Banter fest has also been paid into the bank £3520.00 - Tarmac has been ordered. - List of queries from show committee – see list	
8) TDC Transfer of Assets including – discussion and decision	
TDC has proved the list of assets that this Parish Council may be interested in taking responsibility for the following areas: - Laynes Field Play Area; - The Green at Smithay Meadow; and - The strip of land adjacent to the river at Laynes Field. It was noted that all areas would continue to require ongoing maintenance. Resolved: Members agreed to express an interest in taking on responsibility for the Laynes Field Play Area and the strip of land adjacent to the river. Cllr Swaine will confirm whether the churchyard is designated as a closed churchyard	Cllr Swaine enquire Re church yard. Clerk to contact TDC and CCLT

and therefore remains the maintenance responsibility of TDC. The Clerk will contact Teign Housing and CCLT regarding the proposed housing development site. Should the development not proceed, the Parish Council will enquire about first refusal on the land and request that the former zip wire area is returned.	
9) Play Area – update	
It was reported that the Parish Council already holds a long lease on the play area, which could be terminated should the Council decide to acquire the freehold. The freehold transfer would be for a nominal sum. As the Council already maintains the site, ownership would enable future improvements, including levelling areas for additional play equipment, subject to pre-planning advice from Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA). The Play Area Working Party met during the previous week to consider improvement options. Resolved: Members agreed to submit a funding bid for £150,000 towards improvements to the play area. The Clerk will book a space at the Christow Show to promote the project.	Submit a grant for £150.000 for play area improvements. Clerk book stand for Christow show
10) Councillors’ inspections of Cemetery, Allotments and Recreational field. – report from meeting	
The following matters were reported: Allotments - Plot 16 was heavily overgrown with weeds and appeared to have received little attention. - Branches remain on the path adjacent to Plot 3 near the cemetery. - The owner of the Telephone exchange has left his van parked in the allotment field as it is no longer roadworthy. Members discussed what action should be taken. It was noted that further damage occurred when branches fell onto the vehicle. - It was also noted that damage had occurred to the owner's car after it had been parked beneath a tree. Members acknowledged that the owner has been reminded annually that parking in this location is not permitted and agreed there is no liability on the part of the Parish Council. - It was further noted that the first allotment plot nearest the road contains a bed of saplings which should not be cultivated. Cemetery - The cemetery was reported to be tidy and in good order, with no issues requiring attention. Recreation Field The following maintenance issues were identified: - The gate at the entrance to the Teign Village Community Hall should be rehung. - Handrails on the steps from the hall to the recreation field should continue to be monitored as repairs will soon be required. - The storage shed doors require repair. - Branches should be cut back along the former BMX track. - A large exposed stone on the BMX track presents a health and safety hazard and should be removed. - The surface covering on one of the skate park ramps is lifting and requires re-gluing. - The litter bin by the noticeboard should be relocated to the fence corner by the gate. - The vegetable display outside the village shop is positioned too close to the cycle rack, restricting access.	Clerk write to the tenant regarding the saplings and tenant of Plot 3 to remove rubbish to allow access for mowing. Write to the village shop ask to move the vegetable display to get access to cycle rack. Ask contractor to cut back the hedges at the bottom of the BMX track. Rehang and repair the gate the entrance to the TVCH by Cllrs AJ Orme and Archer repaired. Monitor the handrails and shed doors. Buy new bin for field.

11) Tree inspection at allotments		
Members were informed that a limb had broken from a beech tree, causing damage within the allotment area, and that another limb was overhanging Valley Road. Cllr Archer inspected the site and confirmed that an urgent tree inspection was required. Green Trees have undertaken an initial assessment and will carry out a climbing inspection on 13 July , taking any immediate action necessary to make the tree safe. The climbing inspection is estimated to cost £75 plus VAT , with any additional works to be quoted following inspection.		Members unanimously agreed inspection and any necessary safety works should proceed due to health and safety considerations
12) Phone Box adoption – update		
Members noted that the telephone kiosk has now been formally adopted by the Parish Council. The telephone equipment has been removed, while the electricity supply remains connected. BT has been informed of the Council's intention to install a public access defibrillator within the kiosk. The purchase of a defibrillator and an associated maintenance plan will be included on the next agenda. Resolved: - First responder would be able to take responsibility for an additional defibrillator. Also ask if there are inspection records and where they are retained if necessary. - The Clerk will seek advice from the parish clerks' network regarding inspection and maintenance arrangements adopted by other councils. - The Clerk will also confirm insurance requirements.		Check our 1st responder can cover another unit. Add to next agenda to ratify purchase of another unit.
13) Cast Iron Signposts - Dartmoor National Park Highway Heritage Project – discussion and decision		
Members requested further information regarding the financial contribution required before making a decision.		Clerk contact DNPA
14) Recreation Field – Update		
Members noted: - The wedding booking in September has revised its timings, with use of the recreation field now commencing at 12.30 pm. - The Tag Rugby group has made donations covering this year and next year's use of the recreation field. All relevant dates have been entered into the Council calendar.		
15) Planning: Applications received after this agenda is published may be discussed.		
Temporary Camping at Teign Valley Golf Club (Application 0187/26/BC) Members expressed concern that the Parish Council had not been consulted on the application. It was agreed that insufficient information had been provided to enable informed comment. Members were particularly concerned regarding: Increased traffic; Potential environmental impacts; and whether the proposed camping area is located on land previously designated for biodiversity. Resolved: The Parish Council objects to the application on the grounds that: The Council was not notified or consulted; Insufficient information has been provided to enable proper consideration; and There are concerns that the proposal may represent an indirect attempt to secure a use of the site that has previously been refused		Clerk to contact DNPA re golf club app
16) FINANCE		
Expenditure: Clerk's salary for June HMRC	= £ 674.99 = £ 509.42	Payments approved.

HP Instant Ink, June	= £ 6.49	
BT Payphone (transfer of ownership)	= £ 1.00	
SW Grounds Maintenance	= £ 480.00	
J Jackson Farm – Lengthsman	= £ 420.00	
C Retallick – refund for Microsoft 365 renewal	= £ 84.99	
Bank Charges	= £ 4.25	
Bank Reconciliation and Statement: 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 AJ Orme proposed to accept the payments and details on the bank statements this was seconded by Cllr G Read.		
17) Correspondence received		
- Review Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy – Consolation deadline 7th August 2026 - Update on P2 Layne Fields Christow - Parishioners’ emails various subjects – noted - Christow show – emailed with several queries – these were discussed and a response will be sent.		
18) MEETINGS ATTENDED: to receive reports from councillors who have attended meetings on behave of this council or actions from the previous meetings		
Clerk had attended an SLCC conference where clerks received as presentation about Martyn’s Law, while the regulations are not mandatory at the moment it was greed to include this new regulation within the T&C’s for field hiring.		
The next Council meeting is Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Bowden Room at TVCH.		

There being no other business the meeting closed at 20.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Position.....