

Draft
Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
10th Jul 2025 in the Village Hall, Shirwell

Present

Cllr J Friend (chairman)
Cllr J Watts (vice chairman)
Cllr E Abretti
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine
Cllr Mrs Parkhouse

Officer

G Dwyer

Also In Attendance

County Councillor Mrs A Davis and one member of the public

National Trust Presentation

Prior to the meeting commencing there was a presentation from The National Trust on the draft proposals for the Old Lake at Arlington.

It was noted that the object of the presentation was to inform the Council of the history of the lake and the proposed solution to an ongoing problem of 'silting up' of the lake, it was not to consult with the wider community or the Council.

Part of the proposed scheme was provision for salmon and eel access to upstream areas.

A Councillor asked the Trust representative how they intended to cope with the natural recolonisation of Beavers to the area (one had been sighted in the Arlington area in April), at the moment they intended to use existing legislation to relocate them elsewhere as their presence would interfere with the proposed management of the water flow.

The Chairman thanked the National Trust for the information and the meeting commenced at 7.35

Jul 25/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllr S Shortridge

Jul 25/2 Public Question Time

Concern was expressed by the member of the public regarding the silting up of the water flow at Strawberry Lane. Councillors recalled that the previous owners had dealt with the silting up as it occurred, the alternative was to

inform the environment agency but previous experience had proved this to be an unsatisfactory option as their work load was preventing timely responses.

Jul 25/3 Minutes the meeting of the 12th June 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved

Jul 25/4 Matters arising from the minutes

There were none

Jul 25/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator has been inspected and cleaned.

Jul 25/6 Report of the County Councillor

Cllr Mrs Davis had forwarded her report a copy of which is attached to these minutes, she also reported that the road degradation close to the school was a drainage issue, the solution was being investigated. In addition, Cllr Davis highlighted the '20 is plenty' initiative which might result in a significant cost to Parish Councils, further information regarding the scheme will follow.

No new information is available regarding Local Government reorganisation in Devon

Jul 25/7 Questions to the County Councillor

There were no questions.

Jul 25/8 Report of the District Councillor

There was no report

Jul 25/9 Questions to the District Councillor

There were no questions

Jul 25/10 Correspondence

The following correspondence had been distributed in advance of the meeting.

- **New video launched to support victims of rape and serious sexual offences**
- **Advance notice of road works in Shirwell Oct 2025**
- **County Councillor's report for July 2025**
- **NHS newsletter**

Jul 25/11 Planning Applications

- **There were none**

Jul 25/12 Cheques for Payment

A cheque to G Dwyer for salary (£200) was signed at the meeting.

Jul 25/13 Reports from Councillors

- Cllr Friend outlined the details of the Parish Forum meeting regarding LG reorganisation proposals.
- Discussions regarding the surplus utility pylons to be on agenda for July
- The possibility of siting the speed awareness camera in the Village Centre was discussed and it was RESOLVED that a site be identified.

Jul 25/14 Clerks Report

The Clerk requested that consideration be given to forming a sub committee with delegated powers to consider the details of the LG reorganisation.

RESOLVED that delegated powers be given to a sub-committee tasked with matters relating to reorganisation proposals

Jul 25/15 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There were none

Jul 25/16 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed 8.15 pm

Chairman: Dated:

Shirwell Parish Council County Councillors Report June 2025

Highway resurfacing

Thank you for your patience over the duration of the resurfacing works at Burridge, I am pleased with the result!

More good news;

Devon Highways will be undertaking patching works on the Road from Indicott Cross to Upcott Cross between **Monday 21st – Tuesday 29th July 2025 (weekdays only)**. The highway requires maintenance and these essential repairs will help restore the surface, protect the underlying foundation and improve safety. The work involves removing the old surface and laying new material. For safety reasons the road will be closed to all traffic during our working hours. Please see the road closure and works area highlighted in red on the map below, the signed diversion route is shown on the map in blue.



Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

The Government-funded scheme provides activities and nutritional meals over the holidays for children aged five to 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals.

If your child is not eligible for benefits-related free school meals they still may be able to access activities under the 'extended criteria.'

More information about the extended criteria on [information for parents and carers on our children, families and education webpage](#).

It is now possible to [book activities](#) online. The new EEQU system displays all the holiday activities on offer, with links detailing where and when the activity is, how to get there and other important information. Once you've applied the booking system will carry out an instant assessment of their eligibility to attend. If eligible, you will receive a confirmation of the booking and you will be sent reminders ahead of the session.

If you need to cancel it's easy to do and will free up the slot allowing those on the waiting list the chance to book.

There are over 100 holiday activity providers around Devon who provide a wide range of activities for children and young people.

From arts and crafts workshops to sports and outdoor activities, the programme is designed to keep children engaged, active, and well-nourished during the school break. All clubs will be operating for a minimum of four hours and will include a hot meal.

One of the venues available is the Calvert Trust which offers a range of activities and is a great opportunity to try something new.

*Andrea Davis
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