

Draft
Minutes of the meeting of Shirwell Parish Council
held on the
9^h October 2025 in the Village Hall, Shirwell

Present

Cllr J Friend (Chairman)
Cllr E Abretti
Cllr R Pelling
Cllr Mrs S Pine

Also In Attendance

County Councillor Mrs A Davis

Oct 25/1 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs J Watts, Mrs Parkhouse and S Shortridge

Oct 25/2 Public Question Time

There were no questions.

Oct 25/3 Minutes the meeting of the 11th September 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes as previously circulated be approved

Oct 25/4 Matters arising from the minutes

There were none that were not on the agenda

Oct 25/5 Inspection of Defibrillator

The defibrillator would be inspected after the meeting.

Oct 25/6 Report of the County Councillor

A copy of Cllr Mrs Davis's report is attached to these minutes. In particular she highlighted the recent arrests made in the Barnstaple area on charges of illegal money lending. Contact details for the England Illegal Money Lending Team are included in the report

Oct 25/7 Questions to the County Councillor

- In response to an enquiry the County Councillor advised that no Highways action needed to be taken after the accident at Devils Elbow

Oct 25/8 Report of the District Councillor

There was no report

Oct 25/9 Questions to the District Councillor

There were none

Oct 25/10 Correspondence

- **Road Closure for airband works**
- **Planning Application 79527 Appeal against refusal**
- **Other general correspondence**

Oct 25/11 Planning Applications

- **Planning Application: 80730. Ruby Lodge Shirwell Barnstaple Devon EX31 4JZ** Conversion of existing garage to annexe Accommodation. **RESOLVED** to recommend **APPROVAL**

Oct 25/12 Cheques for Payment

A cheque to G Dwyer for clerks salary £200.00 was signed at the meeting.

Oct 25/13 Reports from Councillors

- Discussions regarding the surplus utility pylons ongoing
- The speed awareness camera sites in Burrridge have been agreed with Highways Officers
- The drainage issues at Shirwell Town was the result of collapsed land drain and as such was the responsibility of the land owner

Oct 25/14 Sub Committee Report LG reorganisation

Deferred to November.

Oct 25/15 Clerks Report

The clerk had nothing to report

25/16 Public Questions regarding business on this agenda

There was none.

25/17 Urgent Business

There was none

The meeting closed 8.30 pm

Chairman: Dated:.....

Shirwell Parish Council County Councillors Report October 2025

Illegal money lending arrests in North Devon.

A man and a woman were arrested on suspicion of illegal money lending following an operation in North Devon on Wednesday September 24.

The England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) works in partnership with Heart of the South West Trading Standards Service to investigate and prosecute illegal money lenders.

The suspects, both aged 23, were arrested at an address in Barnstaple and were taken into custody to be questioned by IMLT investigators. Two mobile phones were seized.

There are up to 1.08 million people in debt to loan sharks in England, according to figures from the Centre for Social Justice (CSJ).

Many illegal money lenders are well known within their communities and are often introduced to borrowers through friends or family members. They are unregulated and give loans with no paperwork, charging extortionate interest rates. They often resort to threats, intimidation and even violence if repayments are not made.

Anyone who has been affected by illegal money lending should call the Stop Loan Sharks 24/7 Helpline on 0300 555 2222 or access support online at www.stoploansharks.co.uk. Live Chat is available on the website from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Local Government Reorganisation in Devon

A stronger future shaped by communities: Devon unveils 'leading' option for local government change - News

I have linked the press release above. Decon County Council will submit their preferred option for Devon by the 28th December, the final decision about what that will be will be made by the Devon County Council cabinet in November.

Devils Elbow lay by

The Highway safety officer has responded to me with his assessment on the situation, I will verbally update at the meeting.

Drainage Issue at Shirwell Town,

I have been inspected today with the highway officer.

Additional sites for VAS at Burr ridge.

Two sites approved, and safety audited, will discuss at the meeting this evening.

Highway Defects

With the winter fast approaching it is more likely there will be defects in the highway network, this includes streetlights and signs.

Report a problem - Roads and transport

The DCC website is very useful for reporting problems and the reports go straight to the contractor. Alternatively the highway contact number is 0345 155 1004

If it's a river flooding the environment agency can be contacted on 0345 988 1188

Please do get in touch if you think I can help with anything;
Andrea.davis@devon.gov.uk

Andrea

County Councillor

Combe Martin Rural Division