

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

10th April 2025

Present	Councillors: Mark Glover John Davies David Ley Penny Stowell Pat Mitchell James Fishleigh Geoff Bond Chris Whateley (TDC)
In attendance	Clerk,
777	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from. Colin Edworthy Jenny Coles Andrew Saywell (DCC) Cheryl Cottle Hunkin, (TDC)
778	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
778.1	Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 137 grants all paid.• Clerk attended DALC zoom re devolution.• Brambles still need to be cleared in allotments.• Quote has been received for maintenance on play spaces.
778.2	Minutes of meeting held on 13 th March 2025 to be confirmed and signed. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These were agreed - proposed by Penny Stowell and seconded by Patrick Mitchell – duly signed.
779	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There was no declaration of interests.
780	REPORTS
780.1	<u>Police Community Support Officer:</u> No report - Place holder
780.2	<u>County Councillor:</u>

Devolution/Local Government Reorganisation

As previously reported, the Government set a deadline for March 21st for interim local government reorganisation proposals to be submitted. Following meetings with Government officials, the Council has received guidance that multiple indicative proposals can be submitted.

A Special Full Council meeting was held on March 20th to discuss this matter and a huge amount of work has taken place on these indicative proposals, working with a myriad of community partners to assess the pros and cons of the following potential models:

- two unitary authorities – one covering Plymouth and another covering the rest of Devon
- a two unitary north Devon/South Devon split, with one council for Plymouth, Teignbridge, South Hams and Torbay and another for Exeter, East Devon, North Devon, Torridge, West Devon and Mid Devon
- a two unitary south west and north east split, with one council for Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon and another for Exeter, East Devon, Torbay, Teignbridge, North Devon, Torridge and Mid Devon
- a three unitary option of Plymouth, greater Exeter (formed of Exeter, East Devon and Mid Devon) and the rest of Devon
- a three unitary option, with Plymouth remaining on existing boundaries, a new unitary council formed of Exeter, East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon and Torridge and another made up of Torbay, South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon
- Also modelled for benchmarking purposes only is the option of a single unitary authority covering the whole of Devon.

The proposals align with ministerial guidance which says that new unitary councils should have minimum populations of 500,000 people each and align with existing district council boundaries.

These proposals are indicative only. Within the tight deadline the Government gave us, none of the Councils in Devon have the data available or analysed properly to work out which options work or do not work.

With the County Election on the 1st of May, it's important that this document is a sound basis for the new Council to pick up the work over the coming months. The new Council will make the decision on what to submit to government on the 28th of November 2025.

The two key points I would make, whatever is finally agreed is 1. The Unitary/Unitaries must work for the residents of Devon. 2. It must be financially sustainable.

	<p><i>Other Matters</i></p> <p><i>And finally</i> – this is my last report to Langtree Parish Council, and I would like to thank everyone on the Parish Council, past and present, for their help and support over the years. It has been a huge honour and privilege to represent Langtree first on Torridge District Council and then on Devon County Council. I will miss working with you all! Hope to see you from time to time in my new career.</p> <p>I remain fully committed to my role until polling day on May 1st so any problems between now and then please do get in touch as I am still here to help until then!</p>
780.3	<p><u>District Councillor:</u></p> <p>Apologies not much to Report this month as its Purdah and with the Devon County Elections in full swing with the election on May 1st, 2025. Next month normal service will be resumed.</p>
781	PARISH MATTERS
781.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Langtree Park. - Council want to investigate selling the park to the Parish Hall trustees. To safeguard its future as a green space for the parish. • Clerk has requested quotes for maintenance.
781.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Matters impacting the parish – • Council discussed what play equipment is required and quotes have been requested for new equipment for the two play spaces in the Parish - Langtree Park needs a new climbing frame. • Cyber awareness presentation was not well attended. • New notice board for Stibb Cross has been ordered.
782	PLANNING
782.1	Any updates on potential planning application for land at The Crescent, Langtree – Holding item - None
782.2	<p>Applications for discussion –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1/0233/2025/FUL Variation of 1/0483/2022/FUL the council support this application but added comment that the entrance has been moved to a more restricted area in the road. • 1/1/0100/2025/FUL – this has been approved by TDC.
782.3	<p>To consider any other planning applications received between issuing of agenda and meeting. -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

783	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
783.1	<p>To receive update on financial position at the end March 2025</p> <p>The position at the end of March was:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lloyd's account</td><td>£5692.22</td></tr> <tr> <td>Reserve account</td><td>£1575.30</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£7267.52</td></tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In addition, there is £2236.74 the Langtree Park account. 	Lloyd's account	£5692.22	Reserve account	£1575.30	Total	£7267.52
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783.2	<p>To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £437.00 on Zurich Insurance £351.89 DALC £1770.54 TDC Clerk salary. 						
783.3	<p>To review correspondence received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you from Paul Booth from Siloam graveyard 137 grant. Thank you from Langtree Lions for 137 grant. Air Ambulance landing field request past to Sue Lee. 						
784	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public participation. – None 						
785	<p>ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forward notice – there will be no meeting in May, and the AGM will be held in the June meeting. Year end 31/3/25 therefore AGAR forms will need to be signed off in the June meeting. <p>The meeting closed at 8-30pm.</p>						
786	Date of next meeting – Thursday 12th June 2025						