

LANGTREE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

13th August 2026

Parish Council Meeting

Present	Councillors: John Davies (Chairman) Jenny Coles David Ley Pat Mitchell Penny Stowell (Vice Chairman) Mark Glover Geoff Bond James Fishleigh Chris Wheatley (TDC)
In attendance	Clerk – Linda Davies
	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from. Colin Edworthy Cheryl Cottle Hunkin, (DDC)
927	WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
928	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING
928.1	Matters Arising • Clerk had checked the.Gov.uk domain requirements and found that each councillor would have a council email address. • The old domain name would need to be continued therefore the cost would also include paying the current amount for the domain name. • Additional cost would be £350 per year. • Council will wait for the second quote before a decision is made. • Clerk to contact school re hedge cutting. • Councillor Glover had contacted David Wood regarding the caravan on his land – Mr Wood is aware.
928.2	Minutes of meeting held on 9 th July 2026 to be confirmed and signed. • These were agreed - proposed by David Ley and Seconded by Jenny Coles. – duly signed.

929	DECLARATION OF INTERESTS • None.
930	REPORTS
930.1	<u>Police Community Support Officer:</u> No report - Place holder Web site shows incidents in prior month – crime of violence had been recorded in Fore street in June but no details given.
930.2	<u>County Councillor Report:</u> No Report Received.
930.3	<u>District Councillor Report:</u> Helping Farmers We shall be submitting a Notice of Motion - Supporting our farmers for the next Full Council Meeting affected by the Blue Tongue outbreak threatening sheep and cattle which is causing a heavy emotional and burden for Torridge Farmers including our Ward of Shebbear and Langtree affecting Breeding programmes, farm incomes and the rural economy. Sheep have been dying and can affect cattle as well. Farmers have been facing livestock losses, increased vet bills, and bio security. We will be calling upon DEFRA (Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to urgently provide financial and practical support for farmers affected by Bluetongue. We will be looking at the possibilities of emergency funding from Council as well. The ongoing drought and lack of rain is also affecting many Farmers with smaller crop yields let alone the hosepipe bans across Devon and further afield implemented by South West Water. Royal Devon University Health Care NHS Foundation Trust as of 11th August, who run North Devon District Hospital (NDDH) have temporary closed the maternity unit at North Devon Hospital stating it is due to staff shortages, departures, maternity leave, sickness, absence, and difficulties securing locum doctors. The Trust are looking to recruit staff and restore birthing services as soon as possible. As a result of this Devon County Council have called a special meeting of the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee on Monday August 17 th to examine the temporary closure to air its views and help resolve the situation. FULL COUNCIL At last month's Full Council Meeting after receiving a presentation from the Director of Finance (S151 Officer) we discussed and recommended the draft financial outturn report 2025/26 to confirm recommendations for the utilisation of the surplus. After discussions, the wording of the report under climate change implications to allow for leisure and planned maintenance could fund further energy and reduction schemes thus reducing carbon emissions. Voted for - 24 against -9 and 2 abstentions. Additionally, the recommendation in the report was approved for removing the £400k allocation towards LGR. This was carried just with FOR - 15 , AGAINST -9 and 2 Abstentions. Community Regeneration Partnership Funding Reallocation was presented by the Director of Communities and Place to confirm the reassignment of £ 600,000 funding from the

	MHCLG (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) within the existing funded portfolio. Torrige Place Board recommendations- Appledore Maritime Centres - £160,000 Bideford Pannier Market. - £274,337 Community Health and Well- being Hub - £45,393 Westward Housing Energy Efficiency Programme - £120,270 Remove Cleave Wood and Hatchmoor borrowing for consideration After much debate and considerations, it was agreed under the climate change implications in the report the wording was amended to installation of solar and energy reduction measures for Westward Housing energy efficiency program. Voted for -28, 1 against and no abstentions. We also considered the Torrige Place Board for additional funding to be provided as above : AMIC Bideford, Pannier Market, Westward Housing, Community Health and Wellbeing Hub from the Community Regeneration Partnership or provision for an alternative funding settlement with TDC capital projects being updated. Voted FOR - 27 Against O, Abstentions -4. Please to announce that the Notice of Motion from Cllr Leather regarding foster carers with 61 households approximately in the Torrige area forgo their share of the council tax levied on foster carers homes in a show of support. Typical band D property in Bideford is £2652.43 of which TDC share of that is 8p in the pound would cost TDC approximately £12,941.76. This was voted for unanimously by Council.
931	PARISH MATTERS
931.1	Update on Langtree Park: The new climbing frame has been vandalised – the red post caps (6) have been torn off. Clerk to contact TK Play to establish the replacement cost.
931.2	Update on Beech Road Play Park: Facebook posts show that Dog Poo has been found next to the climbing frame. Notices requesting users to ‘Close the gate’ are not working.
931.3	Other Matters impacting the parish – Barnstable Hospital Maternity Unit closure was further discussed with Councillor Wheatley. Parish Council expressed concerns on behalf of our parishioners. Torrige Council are also pressing for a resolution. The trust are interviewing candidates.
932	PLANNING
932.1	Any updates on potential planning application for land at The Crescent, Langtree – Holding item - None
932.2	Applications for discussion –

	1/0468/2026/FUL 7 new dwellings. Stibb Cross. Council concerns: Gateway to Service Road could be used to extend the development into the next field. Historical issues with both drainage and water pressure are already a problem in the village.						
932.3	- Applications received between issuing the agenda and the meeting. - None.						
933	CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCE						
933.1	To receive update on financial position at the end July 2026 The position at the end of July was: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lloyd's account</td><td>£8138.40</td></tr> <tr> <td>Reserve account</td><td>£ 4,095.01</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>£12,233.41</td></tr> </table> In addition, there is £1,501.69 the Langtree Park account.	Lloyd's account	£8138.40	Reserve account	£ 4,095.01	Total	£12,233.41
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933.2	To request approval of BACS Payments and cheques. Payments to be approved: none Payments made: - Church Clock £600.00 - Bank charge - £4.25 Income: Allotments £15.00 Bacs and 27.50 Cash.						
933.3	To review correspondence received. - Court Ruling against Barley Hayes Cottage was circulated prior to the meeting. - Holesworthy motor club car trial date 13th September 2026 – 80 motorcycles and cars will pass through the village. - Stuart Cooper would like to be added to the allotment waiting list. - E mail from Joanna Crowne re the Data Centre and BESS. Parish Councils should show their opposition to the scheme. General Public can use this email to oppose the development. The e email address is valeon@devondatacampus.com - National allotments survey – completed by Clerk. - AGAR returns will now be electronic. - Jim French notified Council of damage to climbing frame in Langtree Park.						

933.4	Clerk salary was discussed an increase to SCP11 £15.07 per hour was proposed by Councillor Stowell and seconded by Councillor Coles. This was approved.
934	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. • Public participation – None
935	ANY OTHER ITEMS AT CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION • Parking in Church Lane is still a problem – a notice on Facebook may help? • Would it be possible to apply to The Balsdon Trust for the clock funding?
936	Date of next meeting – Thursday 10th September 2026