CHULMLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Chulmleigh Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 2 October 2024 in the Town Hall at 7pm.

Chaired by: Councillor S Phillips	**Clerked by: Mrs Sue Squire**
Present: Councillors **B Farlam** **Mrs D Phillips** **E Phillips** **S Phillips** **G Sherman** **Mrs S Sherman** **C Stanton** **E Tyldesley** **Ms J Trewhitt** **County Councillor P Henderson during Minute No. 89.11** **District Councillor K Davies until Minute No. 89.3** **2 Members of the public including Mr M Johnson and the Head Girl and Senior Prefect**	**Agenda: -** Public Session to include a report from Chulmleigh Community College To approve apologies for absence Code of Conduct To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 September 2024. The Part II Confidential Minutes of 4 September 2024 will be approved under Minute No. 97 Reports Matters Arising from the Minutes To consider matters raised under the Public Session Planning and Planning Correspondence Finance Correspondence / Notices & Publications Received Items raised by Councillors / Clerk Items raised by the Chairman Part II Confidential Date and time of next meeting

		Action:
85.	**Public Session.** **Mr M Johnson, Executive Head Teacher of Chulmleigh Community College introduced the Head Girl and Head Prefect.** There was good news regarding this year's GSCEs, the tables for which would be available later in the month. They will show that Chulmleigh Community College students have done well in every subject. Open mornings have been held with prospective students visiting from a large area. The College is optimistic that there will be applications to attend from a large number of students. **The Head Prefect** introduced himself, explaining that he had attended Chulmleigh Primary School and had been at the Community College since Year 7. He spoke about the After School Clubs and extra curriculum activities. He is dramatic and creative and loves drama, theatre and acting. This has included an audition for key characters for plays, such as MacBeth at the Barnfield Theatre, Exeter. The College provides a wide range of sports such as badminton rugby, tennis football and athletics. There are other activities for students who do not like sports. **The Head Girl** said she had been shy and nervous when she moved from Morchard Bishop Primary School, but Chulmleigh Community College had helped her and as she has moved on and the more opportunities she had taken, Chulmleigh Community College has helped with all these things and boosted her confidence. When an opportunity came up for the Head Girl, she went for it and explained that she would have been too scared when she was younger, but the College has boosted her confidence with everything she does. There are values of compassion in the College and team work has encouraged her to do her best and to strive to do more. She was grateful for the College's help for many opportunities at school and after school. Councillor S Phillips was pleased to hear that both pupils had been so successful while at the College and asked their plans for the future. The Head Girl plans to go to College and then on to University to study either medicine or finance.	

	The Head Prefect plans to go to College, then either Oxford or Cambridge to pursue drama in theatre and film, history and humanities, all revolving around drama.	
86.	**To approve Apologies for Absence.** Councillors Mrs K Pincombe, D Ives and Mrs A Stanton.	
87.	**Code of Conduct.** **To consider any Councillor Dispensation requests.** None. **Declarations of Interest not already declared in the Members' Register of Interests.** None.	
88.	**To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 September 2024. The Part II Confidential Minutes of 4 September will be approved under Minute No. 97.** **Approved and signed as a correct record.** **Proposed by Councillor E Phillips.** **Seconded by Councillor Ms J Trewhitt and unanimously agreed.**	
89.	**Reports.**	
89.1	**County Councillor P Henderson.** Report heard on arrival at Minute No. 89.11. ▪ All major work on the North Devon Link Road is due to be finished by the end of October. ▪ Details of DCC's Road Warden Scheme were given. ▪ Devon Transport Plan. People across Devon are being invited to have their say on future plans for transport in the county. The deadline for feedback to the online questionnaire is 30 November 2024. ▪ Road Repairs Accelerated with the help of £10 million extra funding that DCC invested in its roads budget this year. Since April, more than 18,000 square metres of road have been patched in over 350 locations across the county. ▪ Devolution to go ahead. The government has confirmed that Devon and Torbay's final proposal for the County Combined Authority (CCA) is officially back on track and it is hoped that with draft regulations to create the CCA to be made this Autumn, the Devon and Torbay CCA could hold it's first meeting early in the New Year. The CCA will deliver the devolution deal – a whole raft of powers, responsibilities, and funding, devolved to Devon and Torbay from Whitehall, and will enable important decisions to be made locally on local priorities such as jobs and skills, housing and the environment.	
89.2	**District Councillor K Davies.** ▪ Thanks were expressed for the Parish Council's response on the National Planning Policy Framework consultation which had been forwarded to NDC ▪ Red Lion Corner. A second quotation was still awaited. The first quotation had not been opened, and both would be opened together ▪ North Devon Council Strategy and Resources – in the public reports pack for the meeting on 7 October, it covered abandoned vehicles. With the landowners' permission, the Council is able to remove vehicles from private property. About 25 vehicles per month are dealt with ▪ Also included in the public reports pack is a report on CCTV, and funding from the Police and Crime Commissioners enabling North Devon's CCTV system to be upgraded to become a hub. Other Parishes could connect and be monitored. This is something Chulmleigh Parish Council may like to consider in relation to the monitoring of the town Councillor Ms Trewhitt asked if abandoned vehicles would be crushed and was advised that many problem vehicles were untaxed. Vehicles are not released until a fee is paid.	
89.3	**Defibrillators – Councillor E Phillips.** There has been liaison with South Western Ambulance Trust for Councillor Phillips to be the guardian of both defibrillators, and for him to submit the monthly report. Councillor E Phillips advised that he is able to submit reports via The Circuit and was currently trying to amend the address of the defibrillator at Leigh Road which was noted as being on the golf course. He had an alert that the defibrillator had been used, but it had not. **(1) Pincombe's Garage.** Checked and in order. **(2) Leigh Road.** Checked and in order.	
89.4	**Gardening Work – Councillor Farlam.** He has plans to liaise with the gardener, and after a walk around, it appears that the work is being done in a satisfactory manner.	BF
89.5	**Davy Park Play Area** - **Councillor Mrs S Sherman.** The monthly report on the equipment and site was given. There was some rubbish including batteries, some broken glass and a sharp tin lid.	

	The bins had not been emptied. It was recommended that two replacement bins, with lids, were purchased. **Proposed by Councillor Mrs Sherman. Seconded by Councillor E Phillips and unanimously agreed.** The bins to be delivered to Councillor Farlam. Regarding some slight damage to the wetpour surface, the Clerk had obtained details from Online Playgrounds who provided material for small repairs at a cost of £93.00 net of VAT. **Proposed by Councillor Tyldesley to order one pack, in black.** **Seconded by Councillor E Phillips and unanimously agreed.** The material to be delivered to Councillor Mrs Sherman. - **Clean granite for paths.** Councillors calculated the amount of granite required. **Proposed by Councillor Tyldesley to order 3 dumpy bags of 20mm granite chippings at £49.00 net of VAT, delivered to the site.** **Seconded by Councillor Farlam and unanimously agreed.** - **CCTV –** Councillor S Phillips advised he was in discussion with the contractor relating to the quotation which is being reduced. - **Graffiti –** Councillor Farlam advised he had obtained the necessary material and was waiting for a suitable amount of dry weather to carry out the necessary work. - **Refurbished sign –** Councillor Farlam had been requested to delay fixing the sign until the railings had been refurbished. - **Refurbished railings** – Councillor Stanton advised that the team would attend to this when the work on the Leigh Road telephone box was finished. - **Replacement benches.** The Clerk advised these had not been ordered, as a result of the last line of District Councillor Davies' Report where he had reminded that he still had funds available from his Community Councillor Grant. The Clerk had therefore submitted an application towards the cost of one bench and when this has been approved, the order will be placed. Councillor Mrs Sherman suggested a replacement seat by the Leigh Road telephone box. A further bench will be required for Red Lion Corner and when more details are known relating to the development of the area, both will be ordered together.	Clerk Clerk Clerk Nov Agenda BF Clerk
89.6	**Police Visits – Councillor C Stanton.** He saw Sgt Brown at the Surgery on 21 September who said that the South Molton Team was back up to strength and looking forward to using e-bikes on patrol. Councillor Stanton asked about the youth workers which had been talked about in the Spring, and this would be looked into. The crime figures from 1 September were advised: some damage to greenhouse windows 20 September in Land Park but no further evidence had been obtained; burglary to a dwelling in Kings Park involving entry by an insecure window in the early hours of 6 September. The burglar(s) exited by the front door; anti social behaviour on 8 September. On 26 September, an outbuilding was broken into on a farm, property taken and put into a field but not collected. The farmer saw it and was able to retrieve it. On the same night, a trailer was stolen from Umberleigh. It was not known if the two incidents were linked. There were other assorted incidents involving highways, domestic issues, noise, poaching. The Team was helping to investigate car thefts and at Witheridge, 5 properties were broken into in one weekend. A ramraid in Bampton was linked to Tiverton. Two people had been arrested and were on bail. Efforts were being made to tie up similar burglaries and thefts.	Clerk to include details on the Nov Newsletter and give details of how to sign up for Alerts
89.7	**Chulmleigh Allotments – Councillor Tyldesley.** The allotment holders were harvesting their produce. Everything was going well.	
89.8	**Tarka Line – Kings Nympton Station.** Councillor Sherman advised that a video as a result of people on the Kings Nympton Station platform on 27 July had been made and shared. Ian Roome, MP supported the campaign to get trains to stop at Kings Nympton and is writing to GWR. Since the publication of the Agenda, an email had been received from Winkleigh Parish Council regarding Eggesford Station parking inviting someone from the Parish Council to represent Chulmleigh. Councillor Sherman agreed to do this.	

	There had been an impact of people from Chulmleigh parking at Eggesford Station, particularly when the A377 was closed and because this is in the Mid Devon District Council area, Chulmleigh Parish Council is not informed. The Clerk to request Highways to include Chulmleigh when there are road closures in neighbouring Mid Devon Parishes.	Clerk
89.9	**Refurbishment of the Leigh Road Telephone Box – Councillor Stanton.** An email of appreciation complimenting the work on the structure has been received from Mr and Mrs S Langstone (permission given for the name to be shown), as follows: May we offer our thanks for the work being carried out with the telephone box in Leigh Road. At last this icon of British culture is being brought back to life with a fresh coat of paint. Whatever the intended use may be with the iconic feature, the improved vista will provide a lovely image as one enters or leaves Chulmleigh along Leigh Road. Many thanks for your continued hard work as a Council. Regards, Stephen and Barbara Langstone The Clerk had replied thanking Mr and Mrs Langstone for their kind comments, and advising that when the work has been completed, DART will be fixing a defibrillator in the structure. A Harvest Thanksgiving event will be held in The Old Court House on 30 October to raise money for DART.	
89.10	**Environment Committee:** The Rewilding item to be on the December Agenda. Councillor Farlam advised that he would not be able to carry out weed spraying in 2025.	Dec Agenda
89.11	**Devon Communities Together: Devon Community Resilience Forum attended by Councillors G and Mrs S Sherman.** A Report had been circulated. The Clerk had contacted the Lions Club regarding a Message in a Bottle/Wallet and plans to bring a supply of these to the next meeting. The Emergency Plan requires updating and to facilitate this, a copy of the document to be circulated to Councillors.	Clerk
89.12	**Clerk's Actions:** ❖ Faded white lines in the town. County Councillor Henderson is speaking to Neighbourhood Highways Officer about this. ❖ Liaised with the Parish Council's gardener regarding the area around Fourways Drive / Land Park ❖ Clean granite for paths. Minute No. 89.5 refers. ❖ Made payments ❖ Locality Grant for benches. In progress. ❖ Electric meter in Town Hall for public toilet electricity. Has contacted EDF who advised that it would be necessary for their engineer to gain access to the Town Hall and only a 2 hour slot could be given meaning that someone would have to be at the Town Hall waiting. Meanwhile, EDF has asked for an up to date meter reading as it is 22 months since one was given. The Clerk has contacted Town Hall officers asking for the details to be given and is waiting for a reply.	
90.	**Matters Arising from the Minutes.**	
90.1	**Chulmleigh Playing Fields Association (CPFA) – Lease.** There was no further information to give. The Parish Council had been requested to provide a letter of support for a funding application to the Rural Prosperity Fund, the wording of which had been supplied and the letter prepared, with a copy for Councillors to see and agree. **Proposed by Councillor Sherman that the letter is sent.** **Seconded by Councillor E Phillips and unanimously agreed.**	SP to deliver letter to HM
90.2	**Red Lion Corner.** Councillor S Phillips reminded the meeting that Kevin Davies of Robert Davies John West Limited Architects was waiting for a second quotation.	
90.3	**Grit Bin in East Street.** Councillor S Phillips advised that efforts were continuing to contact the Fire Brigade with a view to agreement for the location of the grit bin on a small area of the training area.	SP
90.4	**Chulmleigh & Local District History Society - Return of War Medals to Chulmleigh – Private Joce.** A Service to commemorate the return of the Medals would be held on the afternoon of Sunday, 3 November. The number of people representing the Parish Council was requested and the Clerk to advise that 12 were expected.	

91. **To consider matters raised under Minute No. 85 - Public Session where a response is required.** None.

92. **Planning and Planning Correspondence.**

92.1 **Planning Applications.** — Clerk

Planning Application Ref:	Type	Applicant	Description
79212	Full	Mr J Crocombe	**Erection of a roofing structure over existing silage clamps – Parsonage Farm, Chulmleigh, EX18 7DP.** The deadline date for the Parish Council's response is 18/10/24. **Proposed by Councillor G Sherman to recommend approval. Seconded by Councillor C Stanton and unanimously agreed.**

92.2 **Planning Applications to consider received after the publication of the Agenda.** None.

92.3 **Planning Correspondence.**
The following North Devon Council Decision Notice was noted:
Approval for:
Application 78938 – Conversion of garden store to annexe at Molland Cross Barn, Meshaw, Chulmleigh, EX18 7EF.

92.4 **National Planning Policy Framework – North Devon Council Consultation.**
It was noted that Cllr Ms Trewhitt had compiled a response and submitted this to North Devon Council.
All Councillors were given the opportunity to comment on the draft.

Councillor Tyldesley advised that District Councillor Davies had handed a letter to Sir Ed Davey, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Party on a recent visit to the area, in relation to the Consultation's response, and a reply is expected.

Councillor Ms Trewhitt commented that there was nothing about housing need in the Consultation, and would like to think that this would be addressed.

92.5 **Planning Application 78363 – Long Meadow, Chulmleigh.** Following a reminder from the Clerk, a reply had been received from the CEO of North Devon Council which was advised to Councillors by way of a copy of the email.

The details were noted and will be remembered for future similar circumstances. — Send reply & copy of PC letter of 20/8 to residents who had made reps.

93. **Finance.**

93.1 **The following payments were approved and authorised:**
Proposed by Councillor Mrs D Phillips.
Seconded by Councillor E Phillips and unanimously agreed. — Clerk to pay by BACS

Item No.	Payee	Description	Amount
93.1.1	HMRC	PAYE	£187.60
93.1.2 93.1.3 93.1.4	Payroll & Expenses		£797.29 £432.64 £125.00
93.1.5	Chulmleigh Town Hall	Hire of Hall for September meeting (Police) £20.00 Hire of Hall for September meeting (Parish Council) £20.00	£40.00
93.1.6	Resourceful Bookkeeping	Payroll Invoice for September 2024	£6.50
93.1.7	Mr J Martin	Gardening Work during September 2024	£342.00
93.1.8	Mr M Baker	Quarter 3 of ground maintenance 2024/25	£527.50

93.2 **2024/25 Precept.** It was noted that North Devon Council has credited the Parish Council's bank account with the second instalment of the Precept, amounting to £16,000.00.

94. **Correspondence / Notices & Publications Received.** Various emails have been circulated to Councillors from organisations and agencies.

95.1 **National Grid.** Received after the Agenda had been published. Proposed road closure at Bonds Cross to Four Crossways from 21/10/24 to 1/11/24. Works to take place between 8am to 5pm daily for network alternation works.

95.2 **Safety of E-Batteries.** Email, received after the Agenda had been published, circulated to Councillors, requesting further support for the Bill. — Clerk

	Proposed by Councillor Sherman that a letter of support is sent. **Seconded by Councillor Tyldesley and unanimously agreed.**	
95.	**Items raised by Councillors / Clerk**	
95.1	**To fix a date for the Finance Committee** to meet relating to the 2025/26 Budget and Precept for recommendation to full Council on 6 November 2024. This was fixed for Wednesday, 30 October 2024 at 6pm in the Town Hall. Organisations who have received a grant in the past have been advised of the deadline for applications and the application poster has been sent for display on the notice board.	Clerk to book Hall
95.2	**Little Dart Project Group.** Councillor G Sherman represented the Parish Council at an MS Teams meeting on 18 September and asked a question about the presence of asbestos in a Level 3 flood zone. A reply is expected. In December there is an event at the Pavilion showing the film 6' of Soil and the Little Dart Project Group will have a panel there.	
95.3	**Bench at Red Lion Corner.** Councillor Mrs D Phillips advised that the other side of the bench had now been damaged in the same way as before, with a screw now showing which could cause damage to clothing or skin. This is one of the benches to be replaced by two replacements.	SP to ask KB to repair
95.4	The Clerk will be on leave from 19 – 23 October 2024 inclusive.	
96.	**Items raised by the Chairman.** None, all covered elsewhere in the meeting.	
97.	**Exclusion of Press and the Public To resolve: that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.** **Part II.** **Proposed by Councillor G Sherman.** **Seconded by Councillor E Phillips and unanimously agreed.**	
98.	**Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday, 6 November 2024 in the downstairs room of the Town Hall at 7pm.** The meeting ended at 9.18pm.	

Summary of Decisions:

- **Part I and Part II Confidential Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 September 2024**
- **Two replacement litter bins with lids to be ordered for Davy Park**
- **A tub of wetpour material to be ordered for Davy Park Play Area**
- **3 dumpy bags of clean granite chippings to be ordered for the paths of Davy Park Play Area**
- **Letter of support to be provided to the Rural Prosperity Fund in connection with the new build at Chulmleigh Playing Field**
- **Planning**
- **Payments**
- **Letter of support in connection with safety of Lithium ion batteries in e-bikes and scooters**
- **That the meeting move into Part II Confidential**

These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.

Signed: Chair of Chulmleigh Parish Council:	Date: