

Chulmleigh Parish Council – September 2026 Newsletter

If you would like to have this Newsletter by email, please contact Sue Squire. Email: clerk@chulmleighparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Local Government Reorganisation. The Parish Council is very pleased to have been asked to host a Cluster Group Meeting on behalf of North Devon Council to cover the Parishes in the Southern half of the North Devon Council area.

This will be held at The Studio, Chulmleigh Playing Field, on Wednesday 30 September and will be for Chairmen and Clerks of the surrounding Parishes. It will take the same form as other Cluster Group Meetings which will be held at the same date and time around other areas of North Devon Council – Barnstaple, Ilfracombe, Braunton and Lynton.

The Clerk attended a Parish Forum organised by North Devon Council which discussed the Local Government Reorganisation and the North Devon and Torridge Local Plan. A written Report was prepared and circulated to Councillors and a recording of the meeting was also supplied to Councillors. There are still a lot of answers to questions to be given but we do know that the 'Vesting Day' will be on 1 April 2028 when the new Unitary Councils take office.

However, since then, the government has announced a pause in the Local Government Review and elections in May 2027 to elect a shadow Council to serve for an initial 5 year term will not now happen.

Instead the usual District Council elections will be held.

Parish and Town Council elections will also be held in May 2027. Initially it was thought that Town and Parish Councillors would serve for a 5 year term, a year longer than usual, but due to the pausing of the Local Government Review, it is now known that it will be for the usual 4 years.

Organisations invited to apply for a Parish Council Grant. The Parish Council is very pleased to be able to support local organisations financially in running costs and a specific amount of funding is set aside when the Budget Setting Meeting is held every November.

Ahead of that, organisations have been invited to apply for a grant and the criteria being that a letter of application together with a copy of the latest set of accounts is supplied which is circulated to Councillors to study ahead of the Budget and Precept being agreed.

This is not the Council getting on its high horse dictating what organisations must do. It is the criteria laid down for all Parish Councils to follow, and must be minuted. The auditor will also check the details to ensure the correct procedure has been followed.

Clerk's Leave. 1 October to 13 October 2026 inclusive. This means that the **October Parish Council Meeting** will not be on the usual 1st Wednesday of the month, and instead will be held on Tuesday, 29 September 2026 in the Town Hall at 7pm. Originally, it had been planned for 30 September, but was changed due to the Cluster Group Meeting being on 30 September.
