

DEAN PRIOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on

Monday 1st September 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall in Dean Prior

Present – Cllrs Bailey (Chair) Rutley and Thorn
District Cllr Pannell Clerk , Karen Gilbert.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL - FULL REPORT AVAILABLE FROM CLERK **LGR engagement events reminder**

This is an opportunity for our residents to have their say on our local government reorganisation (LGR) proposals for Devon, ask any questions and give us their feedback. The team will be visiting South Brent and in the Village Shop from 10.00 to 12.30 on Monday 22nd September to hear residents' views

AVIAN FLU

As a Local Authority, we collect dead birds on public land if they pose a public health concern. Instances of dead birds can be reported through our [website](#) where locations will be triaged as to public health risk. Reporting dead birds is important for agencies to understand how diseases are spread. You can report any sightings [here](#). England is in an avian influenza prevention zone (AIPZ) with mandatory biosecurity measures. All bird keepers must follow strict biosecurity measures to help protect their flocks from the threat of avian flu. Further information on the biosecurity measures can be found [on the Gov.UK website](#).

DNPA - Full report available from Clerk

RECRUITMENT OF NEW DNP CEO

As most of you will know by now DNP CEO Dr Kevin Bishop indicated at the end of June that after 18 years in the post he intended to step down at the end of 2025.

At the Authority meeting on Friday 25th July Members approved the process for the appointment of our next Chief Executive (National Park Officer).

The appointment of the Chief Executive must be made by the Authority and at the meeting, Members agreed to delegate the recruitment, selection and appointment of a shortlist of candidates to an Appointment Committee headed by DNP Chair Will Dracup. All DNP Members will then have input into the final selection process.

Monitoring Officer Neil White will provide HR advice and administrative support to the Appointment Committee. It was also agreed that we will engage a specialist, executive search company to support this process.

We are working to avoid the need for interim arrangements between Kevin Bishop leaving and a new Chief Executive being in post, and our timetable (subject to change) is for the vacancy to be advertised in mid-September with a selection process taking place in mid-October, hopefully enabling the successful candidate to start in early 2026.

PUBLIC IMPACTS ON DARTMOOR THIS SUMMER

National Park Rangers and members of the public have continued to deal with a spate of camping, barbecues and general disturbance over the course of summer 2025.

The prolonged spell of good weather and recent publicity around the wild camping case seem to have given people the idea that you can do just about anything on Dartmoor!

BBC Spotlight reporter Kirk England filmed with Ranger Ella Briens and Director of Conservation and Communities Richard Drysdale a few weeks ago on the impacts anti-social camping – so-called fly camping – is having on Dartmoor.

DEVON COUNTY - None given

25/09/01 Apologies for absence - Cllr Smerdon

25/09/02 Approval of Minutes To consider, amend as agreed by the Council (if required) & approve the Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 7th July 2025 **APPROVED**

25/09/03 Declarations of Interest. None

25/09/04 Parish Council admin

To note any requests for co-option to fill vacant seat - **NO SUCH REQUESTS**

To note the 3.2% cost of living increase backdated to 1/4/25 on Clerk wages **NOTED**

To decide if wish to respond to consultation re SHDC Licensing Policy.

25/09/05 Clerks Report

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the BT telephone kiosk/equipment was to remain in situ . Cllr Pannell was thanked for his support in this matter

Clerk's contract to be addressed by the Chairman - as Line Manager

The Clerk advised she had been approached by a Parishioner regarding the Tree on the triangle of Green in the Village - which was evidently in a bad state . He commented that if removed , it would be replaced by smaller species

It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council had no objection

ACTION ; CLERK TO CHECK WITH DNPA

25/09/06 Planning

0257/25	Outline Planning Permission	Land At Timbers Road, Buckfastleigh, Devon,	Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved apart from access) for the phased development of circa 75 dwellings, highway improvements to Timbers Road and associated infrastructure
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The Council **RESOLVED** to respond indicating that it held no objection to additional housing within the Parish in principle but highlighting the concerns raised with the similar application in 2023

25/09/07 – Finance

a) **Approval of cheques APPROVED**

KAREN GILBERT	EXPENSES JUL / AUG	£93.25
KAREN GILBERT	BACKPAY 6 MONTHS TO END SEPT	£67.60

b) request for funding from St George the Martyr towards tree works

It was **NOTED** that the some of the trees in the Graveyard were growing over the footpaths - causing some slippery areas of moss .

It was **RESOLVED** , that in the interests of Parishioner safety , the sum of £250 be sent as a Section 137 grant towards these costs

ACTION ; CLERK TO ADVISE CHURCH ACCORDINGLY AND PREPARE CHEQUE FOR 10/25

25/09/08 Highway matters -

The Clerk advised that she had assisted a Parishioner in his mission to prevent further flooding to his property . This was caused by a blocked Highway Drain .

The Highway Officer had kindly met with Parishioner on site and agreed to attend to the problem

25/09/09 - Correspondence - correspondence had been emailed during the month or dealt with by the Clerk

25/09/10 Councillors business for next agenda. Tree/bench/ pay out grant

25/09/11 Date/time of next meeting. 6th October 2025

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm