



Dalwood Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 6 July 2026 at 7:30pm Dalwood Village Hall (Ref: 2027/3)

Councillors: Kathy Laing (Chair), Tim Hodges, Tony Benger, Peter Lawrence, Graham Perry

In attendance: Ian Walker (Clerk & RFO)

Members of the public: Seven members of the public were present, together with Councillor Cathy Connor (for part of the meeting).

	Item	Action
27.17	Public Forum Members of the public raised the following issues: a. The issue of the standard of the road at Hawley Bottom was raised again. It was agreed that the Clerk would be provided with a video of the current state of the carriageway which he would then send to Devon Highways.	Clerk
27.18	Apologies for absence Ben Trott & Christine Wyatt	
27.19	Declarations of interest in agenda items None	
27.20	Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 May 2026 were approved and signed by the Chair as a true record.	
27.21	Matters arising a. It was agreed that the Clerk would write an article for the website on trying to attract volunteers to assist a road warden in due course. b. It was agreed that the Clerk would update the new website for details of the parish-owned defibrillator which has now been registered on The Circuit website and also that he would find the location and registration status of any other defibrillators in the parish.	Clerk Clerk
27.22	Finance and administration a. The attached schedule of 15 payments totalling £1,673.85 and made since the last meeting (either being pre-authorised as regular payments or authorised by way of the WhatsApp group) was noted and approved (26.??) b. The attached summary of receipts and payments to 27 June 2026 showing a total balance in hand of £16,757 was noted and approved (26.??) c. The attached Lloyds Bank statement and reconciliation as at 27 June 2026 showing a credit balance of £1,808.62 was noted and approved (26.??)	

	d. The attached statement for the Redwood Bank 35-day Notice Account as at 27 June 2026 showing a credit balance of £14,947.93 was noted and approved (26.??) e. It was unanimously agreed that a donation of £200 should be made to Dalwood Community Shop as a contribution towards the total cost of £520 for printing 1,000 copies of the Dalwood Circular Walks leaflet for distribution to visitors. f. It was unanimously agreed that the new Risk Management policy should be adopted immediately by the Parish Council and that the latest risk assessment carried out by the Clerk should also be noted and approved, once it had been reviewed by Cllr Trott. g. It was agreed that the list of assets and other insured risks attached to the Risk Assessment should be formally reviewed by the Clerk and the Parish Council before the next insurance payment which is due later this month. h. It was noted that the new <i>gov.uk</i> version of the Dalwood Parish Council website was now active although one or two minor revisions needed to be made in due course. It was also noted that it was intended to have a Road Closures page included in the County Council Matters section of the website. i. Cllr Hodges agreed to liaise with the administrator of the old Parish Council website to ensure that a redirection notice was posted as soon as possible. j. Subject to approval from the Village Hall Committee, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should purchase two, metre square self-watering planters and a bench (from GEViews at a total cost of £1,275) to be situated at the front of the Village Hall. Cllr Bengier agreed to donate the initial planting of the planters. k. It was agreed that requests should be considered for parishioners to be able to purchase personal commemoration plaques to be affixed to one of the Parish Council-owned benches, near the proposed Village Green if an appropriate fee was paid.	Clerk Clerk/BT Clerk TH Clerk TB
27.23	Maintenance a. Register of Council Owned Trees – carried forward b. Village Green area – Stuart Freeth had been asked to provide a quotation to clear this area and also the nearby drains. Stuart had also been asked to clear vegetation where necessary from the river for the forthcoming Duck Race. This instruction was agreed by councillors. c. River Clearance – it was agreed to authorise Cllr Perry to remove gravel from the river to the south of the bridge as soon as possible. d. Road Warden – Chris Ronson informed the meeting that he could be interested in becoming a Road Warden. He was given a copy of the Road Warden booklet (provided by CCllr Cathy Connor) and agreed to make further enquiries from Devon CC. Several members of the public also expressed interest in assisting with this project. The Clerk agreed to formulate an advert for the new website to see if further volunteers could be attracted. e. Parish Lengthsman – the Clerk agreed to make further enquiries about such an appointment given that it appeared that partial funding could be available from Devon CC.	TB Clerk GP Clerk Clerk
27.24	Planning matters a. The following planning application was reviewed and unanimously approved: i. 26/1165&6/FUL Eastons, Dalwood	

27.25	Highway matters a. It was noted that a further report had been made to Devon CC Highways concerning the water run-off from fields in between Hawley Cross and Lane End, Hawley Bottom and then state of the road in the area. It was agreed that the Clerk would be provided with a video on the state of the road and that a further report would be made to Devon CC Highways. It was reported by a councillor that the owner responsible for the removal of the hedge in the area (that caused the subsequent water run-off) had recently been served with an enforcement notice. b. It was agreed that the water/waste run-off from the chicken farm would continue to be monitored, if possible with photographic evidence.	Clerk Clerk
27.26	Parish Paths Partnership (P3) a. It was noted that Peter Grimett had agreed to take over as Parish Paths Warden and the Parish council approved this appointment. He reported that Stuart Freeth had made a good start on the parish paths grass-cutting programme. b. He had started to review the condition of all of the footpaths and also to make enquiries from the local authority as to the current state of funding for this year's grant and also for 2025/26. c. He agreed to provide the council with a full status report on the condition of all the footpaths (and the grants) as soon as practicable.	PG
27.27	Water quality monitoring survey a. It was reported that Cllr Wyatt had handed over her water quality monitoring duties to Geoff Sutton, who then reported to the meeting that, following suitable induction/training, readings were now being taken and they were satisfactory. b. The Parish Council approved this appointment of Geoff Sutton.	GS
27.28	Any other business a. It was noted that no response had yet been formally received from Devon CC concerning our Village Green application of some eighteen months ago. The Clerk reported that he had now enlisted the help of Cllr Cathy Connor and was hopeful that progress may be seen in the near future. b. Several councillors commented about the very poor and dangerous parking by some vehicles in the area on the main road adjacent to the Village Shop, particularly as such parking was, in many cases, contrary to the Highway Code. The Clerk agreed to report the matter to the police to see if preventative action could be taken short of requesting the Highways Department to install "No Parking" double yellow lines. c. A report was discussed on the high prevalence of ragwort in many of the verges around the village. It was pointed out that the verges were usually the responsibility of the adjoining land owner and Cllr T Hodges agreed to put an appeal on Face Book for residents to assist with the removal of the plant from their own verges and property (after taking necessary precautions).	Clerk TH

27.29	Meetings for the year a. It was noted that Parish Council meetings for the remainder of the current financial year would be held on Monday evenings at 7:30pm (except where noted): i. 7 September 2026 ii. 5 October 2026 – <i>planning only</i> iii. 2 November 2026 iv. 7 December 2026 – <i>planning only</i> v. 18 January 2027 – Pease note change of date vi. 8 February 2027 - <i>planning only</i> vii. 1 March 2027 viii. 5 April 2027 – <i>planning only</i> b. Please note that the “planning only” meetings will only be convened if there are planning applications to discuss.	
27.30	The meeting closed at 8:50pm	

Approved

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Chair

Date:.....