

# MONKTON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MONKTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE MONKTON VILLAGE HALL

ON THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.30PM

In attendance: Cllrs: Anthony Bond (C), Sarah Clark, Stewart Boyce, Chris Mawer, Tim Parnell. County Councillor Cathy Connor

**1. Apologies for Absence:** District Cllr Colin Brown, Yehudi Levine

**2. Disclosure of Interests:** There were none.

**3. To agree and sign minutes of the last meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025** - These had been circulated and agreed by Councillors and signed as a true and correct record.

**4. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.** – The Chairman welcomed Cllr Connor to the meeting and she reported that there are a number of issues that she is involved with in the County Council. The 20 is plenty campaign for villages to lower speed limits, and the motion to ban smart phones in Devon Schools in 2026. This is at the forefront and although there has been huge support for this and a lot of money spent the County Council are not in a position to bring this in as there are no powers available to pass the motion. The County Budget is being discussed at the moment and Cllr Connor said that she has some money left in her locality budget. Councillor Clark explained the situation with the village hall and that there were still some painting and maintenance that needed doing and Cllr Connor said for her to apply as this would be something that she would be able help with. The Chairman thanked Cllr Connor for attending the meeting.

**5. Parishioner's Questions (Open Session):** There were none.

**6. Clerk to update Councillors on .gov website and emails:** As discussed previously the website and email needs to be updated to a .gov domain in line with the new rules in the AGAR starting from this year. The Clerk had contacted Vector 7 who runs the existing website and they have suggested that we look elsewhere as they are not in a position to run with the .gov domain. Some research has been carried out and there are a lot of companies that are able to offer this service but The Clerk has plumped with Hugo Fox. It will cost £9.99 per month. The Clerk is happy to look at building the website herself and asked Cllr Clark if she could have access to the content which is on the old website. There is a 30 day free trial period and it was agreed that the Clerk should carry on with this company. This company would also be able to provide the email address.

**7. To receive an update on the Village Hall:** Cllr Clark gave an update saying that the builders have been asked to leave the site as it had been taking a lot longer than was originally agreed and that the finances had become a worry due to the time it was taking. Since then a group of parishioners have been carrying on with the work and have made some really good progress. The biggest issue now is the roof and she is getting quotes to get this weatherproof. The Chairman said that asking the builders to leave was the right thing to do

in the circumstances and that what they have achieved since then is great and hopefully will continue,

**8. Review Planning Application:**

**25/0785/FUL – Mr Hurford, Farleigh, Old Chard Road, Monkton** – Construction of agricultural building – Council support. Awaiting decision.

**9 . To update Council on financial status and approve payments made (a) to set the budget for the next financial year.**

The Clerk handed out a copy of last year’s budget and actual payments for the Councillors to look at. The Precept was dropped last year due to the unreserved funds being rather high but this year has been quite different with the renovations of the hall. The Precept would be set at the next meeting and the Councillors were asked to think about a way forward and potentially increasing the precept again. Some further knowledge of the costs of the hall would be known nearer to that time. A VAT claim would also be done in the New Year.

<b>BALANCE AS AT 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2025</b>	<b>£13,970.465</b>
Add receipts:	£ 24.19
Minus payments:	£ 5,592.61
<b>BALANCE AS AT 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025</b>	<b>£ 8,402.04</b>

**Balance in savings account as of 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025 £ 3,480.16**

**10. Date of the next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**11. Any other business – There was none.**

- As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Signed ..... Dated: .....