

# MONKTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

ON THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7PM

In attendance: Cllrs: Anthony Bond (C), Sarah Clark, Stewart Boyce, Paul Phillips, Tim Parnell.

**1. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Chris Mawer, District Cllr Coline Brown

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

**3. To agree and sign minutes of the last meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 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.** – Cllr Levine reported that there is only the County Re-organisation that is being discussed at present. A number of proposals have been put forward which will be discussed at a number of meetings which will include Parish and Town Councils. More details to follow.

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

**6. To discuss the proposals from Honiton Town Council and EDDC response to Devon County Councils Re-organisation:** The Clerk had circulated the proposals to councillors prior to this meeting. It was felt that being a small rural parish without any assets it was difficult to relate to any change in the way that the Parish Council runs on a day to day basis. The only concern was how the main issues of the parish such as planning and highways would be dealt with especially if there was no local District or County Councillors that knew the area. These concerns would be relayed back to HTC and EDDC.

**7. Clerk to update Councillors on .gov website and email correspondence:** The Clerk reported as part of the AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return) a new rule has come in and must be implemented by the end of this financial year whereby each council needs to have a website and at least one email address registered as .gov domain. The Council agreed that it would be left to the Clerk to find a suitable company to sign up to this and as Cllr Clark started the existing website she is happy to allow a new website to be set up. The Clerk to sort this before the next meeting.

**8. To receive an update on the Village Hall:** Cllr Clark gave an update of the work that has been done so far. It was agreed that it had been taking a lot longer than originally quoted and there was still a lot to do. The Clerk was concerned about the financial side but the Chairman suggested that this needs to be kept an eye on and if we need to stop work then it was agreed that this should happen. The Chairman thanked Cllr Clark and the team for all of their time and for managing the project with the builders.

**9. Review Planning Application:**

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

**25/1246/LBC & FUL – Mr T. Parnell, Little Thatch, Monkton - Demolish existing garage, construction of new single storey garage; extension of annexe into former garage including addition of new door bay, revised patio and steps. – Permission granted.**

**8. To update Council on financial status and circulate end of financial year correspondence.**

The Clerk had produced two separate spreadsheets for expenditure for the main Council and one for the Village Hall. These were circulated. The bank reconciliation is as follows from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025:

<b>BALANCE AS AT 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2025</b>	<b>£ 3,653.82</b>
Add receipts:	£37,278.00
Minus payments:	£25,407.56
<b>BALANCE AS AT 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025</b>	<b>£15,5214.26</b>

**Balance in savings account as of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025    £ 3,476.62**

**9. To update on the Defibrillator.** The Clerk had applied for the free defibrillator through the BHF but unfortunately, they have not granted the village a free one but have said we can have a discount if we choose to buy one. This to be discussed at a future meeting.

**10. Date of the next meeting** – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**11. Any other business** – Cllr Boyce raised the subject of the parking area at the top of Dumpdon View. This is being used as a parking area and is preventing the refuse and recycling lorry from turning. It was suggested that a letter should be written to ask residents to avoid blocking the turning area particularly if emergency vehicles need access.

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

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