



## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

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### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Dalwood Parish (25/26.2) held on Monday 9 June 2025 at 19:00 hrs in Dalwood Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr Kathy Laing (Chair), Ian Walker (Clerk to the Parish Council)

**In attendance:** Others - per attendance sheet (25.29)

**1. Welcome**

Cllr Laing welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Clerk briefly ran through the minutes of the previous Annual Village meeting held on 20 May 2024 and it was agreed that the minutes should be signed by the Chair as a true record.

**3. Dalwood Parish Council**

The Chair gave a brief outline of the workings of the parish council during the year to 31 March 2025 and of the key events that had taken place.

4. The Clerk gave a brief review of the financial statements that had been prepared for the year ended 31 March 2025 and noted that a satisfactory internal audit report had been received on 24 April 2025. He outlined total income for the year of £9,344 and total expenditure of £9,947, resulting in an overall deficiency for the year of £603.

5. It was noted that, as at 31 March 2025, the balance on the Lloyds Bank current account was £887 and £13,361 in the Redwood Bank deposit account,

6. Total reserves at the year end stood at £14,249, including a general reserve of £11,010 and £2,401 in the Parish Paths fund.

7. The accounts had been formally approved at the Parish Council meeting on 12 May 2025 and all of the relevant financial information has now been posted on the Parish Council website.

**8. TRIP**

Noel Wright gave a very illuminating talk on the history and offerings of TRIP. From its humble beginnings in 1997, the organisation now operated twelve buses and a fleet of voluntary cars (and drivers!) with an annual budget of over £150,000. They operate with over 60 volunteers and twelve full-time staff. They continue with their core function of taking clients (including disabled clients) to medical appointments (in all parts of the country) they also operate social meetings, shopping trips, days and weekends out and "short break" holidays. Following its closure, the business operated by Axe Valley Ring & Ride was recently taken over by TRIP and they now operate seamlessly across Devon, Dorset and parts of Somerset with a head office in Ottery St Mary.

**9. Dalwood Recreation Trust**

Shelagh Fearnley gave a presentation on the current workings of the Recreation Trust which operates the Pavilion and field with children’s playground, adjacent to the old school. They had welcomed Sarah Hobson as a new trustee during the year and Linda Langman continues her excellent work as booking secretary. Shelagh pointed out that costs for the year had exceeded £2,300 and that they relied almost solely on donations (with Dalwood Fair being the biggest donor) and various fundraising initiatives. Trustees meet six times a year and they are always on the lookout for new trustees. Challenges for the future include enhancing the conservation area and undertaking an abseiling challenge!!

**10. Dalwood Village Shop**

Sheila Beak gave a short presentation on the Village shop and pointed out that it had now been running for 23½ years, entirely with volunteers! The recently-built coffee shop extension was proving to be a great success (particularly with builders and delivery men) especially as cake and biscuits are also now available. Also very popular is the regular Games Afternoon which, after a summer recess, recommences on Monday 1 September. Future plans include a complete refurbishment and renovation of the internal areas and, as ever, new volunteers are always welcome.

**11. The Corry Valley Community Land Trust (“TCVCLT”)**

Sheila Fearnley returned to give another very enlightening presentation on the Trust following the fulfilment of its initial aim of assisting with the construction of the six homes at Newberys. Its principal purpose is to try to meet the needs of the community and it is controlled by the same community. Following a recent survey of 210 households in the area, statistics had been produced showing the way in which residents were dealing with various ways of trying to improve the environment with “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”. The trust is now looking for any more ambitious plans that the village can follow to try to further improve the environment.

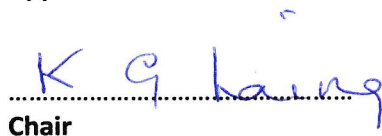
**12. Dalwood Vineyard**

Mike Huskins presented the final talk of the evening on the history and business that is the present-day successor to the original Roman version! Mike pointed out that the business has now consolidated with the present three individuals and that it has certainly had its ups and downs with 2024 producing the smallest (but very high quality) harvest yet. Volunteers are, as ever, needed to help with the harvesting of the grapes. Mike also commended their Open Gardens Day on Sunday 27 July when, as well as offering a reduced admission price, part of that price is going to be donated to Hospiscare.

13. Cllr Laing thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for the very able individuals who gave such informative presentations, highlighting life in and around Dalwood over the last twelve months.

14. The meeting concluded at 8:35pm with light refreshments and alcoholic samples of the very latest vintage provided by Dalwood Vineyard!

**Approved**

  
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**Chair**

Date:.....