

LYDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of the council at the Nicholls Hall, Lydford on
Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7:00pm

Present: Cllr Hulett (Chair), Moyse, Lenton L, Lenton K, Purnell, Robson, Gilpin, Cllrs Mott, Southcott (WDBC)

1. Public Session

Sue Powne offered the council the proceeds from the regular quiz night held at the Castle Inn, to be deposited with the council to provide grants to members of the parish in line with the existing council grants policy. Councillors accepted the offer, which is expected to begin in September 2026. (**AP1** – Clerk to create dedicated Grants Reserve)

Sue also explained that as the number of bell ringers is reducing, going forward it may not be possible to produce a full team on occasion. To support those who were available, the ringers are proposing to purchase a set of automatic chimes, and Sue requested a grant from the council to support this purchase. Councillors asked for a written application in line with the council's Grants policy. (**AP2** – Clerk to circulate application when received).

In response to questions about the parking of a van at the junction of School Road and Silver Street, the owner explained that because of insurance stipulations that the vehicle be covered by CCTV and that this could presently be provided only to the front of their property. To relocate the service elsewhere will take time and cost a deal of money, but will be done in due course. Councillors asked whether a mirror could be installed on a post opposite the junction to improve vision to the right of the junction. (**AP3** – Clerk to investigate of Highways).

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Fife-Cook

3. Declarations of Interest

Nil

4. Minutes of the monthly meeting 9th June 2026

These were agreed to be a full and accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair.

5. Matters arising from the meeting 9th June 2026 which are not part of the agenda items.

Councillor Hulett stated that he had met with Dartmoor Ranger Kit Hancock to explore the possible solutions to the issue of the poorly maintained byways 6a and 16a either side of Bolt's House. There was a deal of doubt as to where responsibility for their maintenance lay; whether it rests with the County Council or Dartmoor National Park. Kit is making enquiries.

Councillors Hulett and Gilpin agreed that they would prefer to attend Chapter 8 training at the Saltash venue in September. (**AP4** – Clerk to arrange).

6. Urgent matters to report

Nil

7. Items for Action (from Action Plan).

a) Affordable Housing

There has been no meeting as yet. Councillors from the working group hope to meet with DNPA planners on Monday or Wednesday of next week

b) Ancient Spring

Councillor Hulett visited the site in company with Tim Russell and Kit Hancock from Dartmoor National Park. They explained that they have put plans in place to appoint a contractor to start work to install the drainage necessary to maintain the integrity of trackway. Work will probably start in November time.

c) 20's Plenty

It was agreed that the new Highways Community Officer Josh Scillitoe be invited to the council's September meeting to discuss a variety of Highways – related issues, particularly what support might be available to help bring the 20 mph limit to the village (**AP5** – Clerk to arrange)

8. Accessibility ramp

Devon County Council have offered to pay for the pad and kerb, providing it complies with Government strictures, on the conditions that the parish council pays for the removal and reinstallation of the shelter and that the base conforms with government guidance (Inclusive Mobility. A Guide to Best Practice on Access to Pedestrian and Transport Infrastructure). The space available does not appear to permit the size of hard standing required. Councillors might look into installing a handrail in the future if required.

9. Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) opposite Lydford Farm Shop – maintenance and location

Councillors agreed to move the item to the September meeting when hopefully the Highways Community Officer will be in attendance to assist discussions on possibilities. (**AP6** – Clerk to add to September agenda).

10. Council data security

Councillor Purnell outlined the nature of some of the threats presently facing community organisations and local government. He circulated a checklist and the published Code of Conduct for ensuring data security and suggested that Councillors look to meet all of the criteria of the checklist to ensure a basic minimum security level. (**AP7** – Clerk to circulate digital version and publish on website).

11. Planning

Application 26/0055 Sewage Works EX20 4BH – works to trees in a conservation area. - supported

07 & 07a/2026

Application 0124/26 –Plot 6, Hawthorn Park, EX20 4BD; amended application for Permission in Principle for the erection of one affordable or one local-needs self-build dwelling.

This request for consultation was received too late for inclusion on the agenda for the meeting. It was agreed that – because of the concerns engendered by the initial application – an extraordinary meeting be held to allow concerned residents to express their concerns. A date of 28th July was agreed. (**AP8** – Clerk to arrange)

Initial internet searches suggest that the use of PiPs is not allowed in a Conservation Area (**AP9** – Clerk to enquire of Officer in the Case on the correctness in this situation)

12. Finances

a. Payments for approval:

i. J. Bright	£ 699.19	Salary July & overtime
ii. HMRC	£ 224.10	PAYE & Employer's NI July
iii. Jim Jeffrey	£ 438.00	Lengthsman work 3.5.26
iv. J. Bright	£ 6.99	Replacement flag rope

That these payments be approved. Proposed Cllr Hulett, seconded Cllr K Lenton, all in favour.

b. Banking reconciliation for period 1.4.26 to 30.6.26 ***for information***

<i>Opening balance 1.4.26</i>	£12,942.21	<i>Bank holdings at 30.6.26</i>	
Add receipts	£5,657.49	Deposit Account	£15,537.66
Less payments	<u>£3,049.85</u>	Current Account	<u>£12.19</u>
	£15,549.85		£15,549.85

c. Actions taken by the Clerk under the Scheme of Delegation

Councillors approved the following actions taken by the Clerk:

Planning application 26/0052 – Tree works at Avalon, 13 Hawthorn Park. After email consultations, the Clerk responded to the request for consultation – “Lydford parish council has no objection to this application”.

16.6.26: Payment made to DM Payroll Services £144.00. Invoice received 9.4.26 but omitted from June agenda. Paid under delegated authority as to delay might jeopardise business relationship with supplier.

Meeting closed: 20.10

LYDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council at the Nicholls Hall, Lydford on Tuesday 28th July 2026 at 7:00pm

The meeting was called solely to respond to DNPA statutory consultation request related to Application 0124/26 Plot 6, Hawthorn Park: Permission in Principle for the erection of one affordable dwelling or one local-needs custom self-build dwelling

Present: Cllr Hulett (Chair), Cllrs Lenton K, Lenton L, Purnell, Moyse, Robson, 4 members of the parish. 1 representation was also received by email on the matter.

b) Public Session (15 minutes)

There was an extended debate on whether the council should support the application. The Chair explained to the meeting that the grounds for objection to an application for Permission in Principle (PiP) were limited. Nevertheless, a number of concerns were raised by parishioners:

- 13.** *Access – The site access would be on a bend.*
- 14.** *There would be no access to the property from the rear.*
- 15.** *Drainage / sewerage – SWW have stated that no further houses can be catered for*
- 16.** *Trees adjoining site are owned by neighbours and are all subject to TPO*
- 17.** *Plot is too small to accommodate a dwelling.*
- 18.** *How will the property be kept “affordable” or “for local need”.*

c) Apologies for absence

Nil

d) Declarations of Interest

Nil

e) Planning:

It was agreed that the concerns raised would be summarised and submitted to DNPA Planning as the council's response to the request.

Meeting closed: 19:40