

## Frithelstock Parish Council

Chair John Burrill 01805 622755

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Minutes of the Meeting of Frithelstock Parish Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 7pm in Frithelstock Village Hall.

In attendance Cllrs. John Burrill (Chair), Lizzie Hunkin, Bob Lewis-Basson. Adrian Hardwick, Mark Thomas, Richard Lee.

Also in attendance Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin, Devon Council Councillor and three members of the public.

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 7PM.

2. Apologies for absence  
Chris Stevens

The Chair requested permission from the meeting to consider Agenda Item 8. Appointment of Parish Clerk at this stage in the meeting.

3. Appointment of Parish Clerk

The Chair introduced Mike Norton. Mark Thomas proposed and Lizzie Hunkin seconded that Mike Norton be appointed as Parish Clerk RFO for Frithelstock Parish Council.

The Chair requested permission from the meeting to consider Agenda Item 5. Reports from outside bodies to be considered at this stage in the meeting as Councillor Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin had another meeting elsewhere later in the evening.

4. Reports from outside bodies.

Devon County Council. Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin explained that along with other newly elected members on Devon County Council the demands of a councillor workload were being established. Currently highways were a significant issue with much work to be done. Cllr. Cottle-Hunkin reminded the parish council she had a grant fund of £8k available stated that it was quickly being allocated so applications should be soonest. Other topics covered included the County Council response to the recent announcement by South West Ambulance Service Trust that Fire Co-Responders were being terminated, the lack of school nurses and the ongoing Globe project in Torrington still requiring £44k of funding.

Cllr. Cottle-Hunkin also mentioned that residents from Frithelstock had contacted her regarding speeding in the village and suggested that a Community Speedwatch initiative be considered in Church Lane. Cllr. Richard Lee advised that after contacting the police a black box speed monitoring device had been installed however the speeds recorded were not sufficiently high enough to trigger any action from the police.

Torrridge District Council. Phillip Pennington was unable to attend the meeting however had submitted notes that advised he had limited councillor grant funds to allocate.

The Chair requested permission from the meeting to consider Agenda Item 11. Speedwatch to be considered at this stage in the meeting given its relevance to the preceding report from the County Councillor.

5. Speedwatch.

A member of the public was allowed to raise his concerns about speeding in Church Lane that he considered a danger and suggested solutions such as traffic calming measures, rumble strips and reactive speed signs showing actual speeds of cars passing.

The Parish Council then proceeded to consider the agenda item. Cllr. Richard Lee also reported that it was difficult to find sufficient volunteers for a Community Speedwatch. Cllr. Bob Lewis-Basson also reported speeding at his end of Church Lane. It was accepted that without evidence neither the Police nor DCC Highways would take any action. A Community Speedwatch Initiative would collect evidence if sufficient volunteers to run it could be found.

6. Declarations of Interest.

To receive any Declarations of Interest. Members are reminded that all interests must be declared at the start of the meeting and prior to the item being discussed.

None

7. Minutes.

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes, previously circulated, of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025.

Approved

8. Matters arising.

To consider any matters arising from the minutes not dealt with in the current agenda.

The church had advised that it was not in a position to contribute to the grass cutting of the churchyard. The parish council recognised that it was the responsibility of the Parochial Church Council to maintain the churchyard. Cllr. Hunkin commented on the importance of a well-maintained churchyard to the overall appearance of the village. Given the impending condition survey of the church building the Chair proposed to await the outcome of that report.

Cllr. Hunkin also advised that the war memorial needed cleaning and the stones around the village green required washing and repainting white. The Chair proposed a painting night be arranged after the stones had been washed.

9. Public Participation.

Members of the Public are permitted to make representations, ask questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business relating to The Parish Council. A question asked by a member of the public shall not require a response or debate at the meeting.

A planning application had yet to be determined after considerable time had passed.

Resilience planning needed to be undertaken and a social night would be organised by the village hall. Whether further defibrillator training was required was asked. It was reported that an antiquated finger post sign at Rakeham Hill needed repair/restoration and maybe a grant application could be made to do this.

The Chair requested permission from the meeting to consider Agenda Item 11. Speedwatch given its relevance to both the County Councillors report and the Public Participation

10. Planning issues.

It was noted that the period for comment on Hillview Barn had closed on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and the parish council had no comment to make on application 1/0473/2025.

11. Payments for approval.

All payments paid and proposed since last meeting.

HSBC	Bank charges	16.00
DCC	Pension contributions	3.76
Robert Stoneman	Grass cutting	1,090.00
Bob Lewis-Basson	Cable and web services	70.80
Julie Snook	Audit Fee	190.00

Bank balances as at 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025 General £10,210 Playing Field £7,523.

12.) Urgent Matters Raised by Councillors

Councillor Richard Lee reported that Back Lane needed cutting. It was stated that whilst it was the responsibility of the adjoining properties, in the past a local farmer had been engaged to cut the hedges.

Date of next meeting, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025 7pm Frithelstock Village Hall.

Mike Norton  
Parish Clerk RFO  
Frithelstock Parish Council.