

## Frithelstock Parish Council

Chair John Burrill 01805 622755

Email [chair@frithelstockparish.org](mailto:chair@frithelstockparish.org)

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Frithelstock Parish Council held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at 7pm in Frithelstock Village Hall.

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

Also in attendance Phil Pennington Torridge District Council Councillor and three members of the public.

### 1. Election of Chairman for 2025/26

Proposed Cllr Stevens, Seconded Cllr Thomas that Cllr Burrill is re-elected as Chair, approved.

### 2. Election of Vice Chairman for 2025/26

Proposed Cllr Burrill seconded Cllr Thomas that Cllr Hunkin is re-elected as Vice Chair, approved.

### 3. Apologies for absence - None

### 4. 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

### 5. Reports from outside bodies.

To receive a verbal report from Torridge District Council Councillor, P Pennington.

Local government re-organisation is a major problem with Torridge currently having £15m in reserves, what would happen to this in a larger Unitary Authority.

The new re-cycling centre at Appledore due for completion in May 2026.

Concerns were expressed on reports that Liverpool Council were buying up new homes in the area to house their tenants. Torridge Council have no control on who buys houses from the developers.

### 6. Minutes.

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes, previously circulated, of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Approved

### 7. Matters arising.

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

We have received an application for the vacant Parish Clerk position. Cllrs Stevens and Burrill to follow up on this.

### 8. 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.

The destruction of the post box was discussed, since replaced. Cllr Burrill to talk to Devon Highways to explore ownership. The lamp post has since been removed.

A member of the public suggested that a budget is agreed for next year to facilitate minor works/repairs around the village. This will be included in the planning for next year at the appropriate time.

9. Planning issues. - None

10. Payments for approval.

All payments paid and proposed since last meeting.

HSBC	Bank charges	16.00
DCC	Pension contributions	3.76
DALC	Annual subscription	144.89
Bob Lewis-Basson	Cable and web services	179.40
Lizzie Hunkin	Paint and materials for playing field	177.74

Bank balances as at 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 General £11,159.53 Playing Field £7,522.74

11. Co-option of a new councillor.

An application for co-option to the Council was received from Richard Lee and approved.

12. Governance.

To confirm and approve the following documents for 2025/26

- a) Risk Assessment
- b) Standing Orders
- c) Financial Regulations
- d) Asset Register
- e) Statement of Internal Control
- f) To confirm end of year balances and reserves
- g) AGAR

All the above were approved subject to the audit of the Agar report being carried out this week.

13. Pump in Church Lane.

A working party was agreed to meet and repair the pump.

14. Village Hall Business Rates.

A contribution of up to £360 towards the Business Rates for the Village Hall was agreed for next year's budget subject to any further reductions available to the VH directly.

16. Grass cutting in the Churchyard and Cemetery.

The Church have responded that they do not have the funds to contribute to the grass cutting. It was agreed to delay responding until after the Church has had an upcoming building inspection. It was agreed to defer the contribution from the Cemetery until the contribution, if any, from the Church had been agreed.

17. Speed watch group.

Newly appointed Cllr Richard Lee to take the lead on this.

Date of next meeting, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 7pm Frithelstock Village Hall.

John Burrill

Chair

Frithelstock Parish Council.