

CREDITON HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Crediton Hamlets Parish Council Meeting held at Yeoford Community Hall on Monday 3rd March 2025

Present: Cllr Beasley, Cllr Brimacombe, Cllr Cole, Cllr Mortimer, Cllr Parker, Cllr Price, Cllr Stevens (Chair), Cllr Vigers, Cllr Yarnold, Cllr Binks (MDDC) and Cllr Chenore (MDDC)

In attendance: the Clerk and two members of the public

1. To receive and accept apologies:

Apologies received from Cllr Letch (DCC).

2. To receive declarations of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda

Cllr Brimacombe declared an interested in Planning Applications 25/00190, 25/00191, 25/00192, 25/00193, 25/00195, 25/00196, 25/00198, 25/00199 & 25/00201.

3. Public Discussion – an opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item on the agenda

One member of the public explained that Yeoford Cricket Club has money available for grants to worthy causes in Yeoford and suggested that they may be able to assist with financing the proposed planters at Yeoford Station. (See item 10 below). Another member of the public spoke about the plans to create two new Unitary Councils and expressed concern that MDDC’s leisure centres and other assets would be at risk of being sold off to private companies which may not be able to run them profitably. Also, there are concerns that there will be less accountability as there will be fewer councillors under the unitary structure.

4. Crediton Hamlets Parish Council Meeting Minutes 3rd February 2025 – to consider the approval of the minutes as a correct record

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes as a correct record.

5. To receive a report from Cllr Letch (DCC) – for information only

Cllr Letch had previously submitted a written report which will be available on the Council’s website.

6. To receive a report from MDDC Councillors – for information only

Cllr Chenore invited Councillors to YeoFest which will be held on Saturday the 15th of March at Yeoford Community Hall. Cllr Binks updated Councillors on MDDC’s plans with regard to the Government’s proposals for devolution and local government reorganisation. MDDC has reached an initial agreement to work towards the formation of two new Councils. One is a Unitary Council comprising South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon with Torbay. The other is a Unitary Council combining East, Mid and North Devon alongside Torridge District and the City of Exeter. Existing Councils have said that they want to maintain local distinctiveness. These plans are not set in stone and could change. The initial deadline set by the Government for plans to be considered is 21st March. Despite the upcoming changes, DCC elections will take place on 1st May 2025.

7. Mid Devon District Council Planning Applications – to consider the following applications upon which the Council has been asked to comment

Reference: 245/00121/LBC
Proposal: Listed Building Consent for replacement of storm damaged roof
Location: Shepherds Westwood Westwood Crediton
Applicant: Mr & Mrs D Charlesworth

It was **resolved** to support this application.

Reference: 25/00217
Proposal: Erection of replacement agricultural storage building following demolition of existing
Location: Land & building at NGR 281091 96264 (Uppauver) Venny Tedburn
Applicant: Mr P Gillard

Councillors recognised the agricultural need for a modern building at the site and **resolved** to support this application

[Cllr Brimacombe left the meeting].

Signed Dated

Reference: 25/00190, 25/00191, 25/00192, 25/00193, 25/00195, 25/00196, 25/00198, 25/00199, 25/00201
 Proposal: Erection of roofs over existing silage clamps
 Location: Hill Barton Farm Yeoford
 Applicant: Mr P Brimacombe

Councillors noted that the proposed works were encouraged by DEFRA and were aimed to reduce water pollution. Councillors **resolved** to support the applications.

[Cllr Brimacombe re-joined the meeting].

8. Mid Devon District Council Planning Applications – to note that consent has been granted for the following applications with conditions as filed

Reference: 24/01642
 Proposal: Retention of log cabin for ancillary residential accommodation
 Location: Demmitts Linhay Posbury
 Applicant: Mrs P Saunders

Reference: 24/01799
 Proposal: Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 22/01920 (conversion of barn to dwelling) to allow substitute plans relating to a new window opening on South West and North West elevations, omission of window on North East elevation and re-positioning of rooflights on North East elevation
 Location: Culver Court Venny Tedburn
 Applicant: R Vigers

9. North Devon Line – Rail Promotion Group - to respond to an invitation to join the Group as an annual supporting member for a fee of £15 and consider nominating a volunteer to represent Yeoford on the Station Representative Group

The Group is the new identity of the former Tarka Rail Association. Its aims include the promotion of rail use, improvement of services and stations and community representation. Councillors **resolved** to join the group and nominated Cllr Yarnold as their representative on the Station Representative Group. **Clerk** to action.

10. Yeoford Station – to receive an update on plans to apply for a grant for the planting of pots to improve the appearance of Yeoford Station and agree associated actions

Cllr Yarnold explained that he had contacted Nicole Black, the Community Impact Relationship Manager for Great Western Railway and she was very supportive of the plans for new planters and a new water butt. A grant should be available. Cllr Yarnold hopes to recruit a few volunteers to assist in the project. Volunteers will have to attend a short training session. The PC will have to complete some paperwork to “adopt the station”. Clerk will draft a piece for the Village Voice asking for volunteers. **Clerk/Cllr Yarnold** to action.

11. Poor road repairs in Venny Tedburn - to note photos of very poor road repairs and agree associated action

Councillors viewed photos of the shocking repairs and Cllr Vigers explained that potholes had only been partially filled in, leaving standing water in the remaining part of the holes. Other nearby potholes had not been touched at all. Multiple crews had been out at huge cost to the taxpayer. The standard of work was appalling and unacceptable. The contractors used by DCC were giving no value for money at all. Councillors also discussed a copy letter from a parishioner to Cllr Letch (DCC) in which the parishioner set out a discussion he had had with DCC Highways employees about poor management of road drain clearance. The Clerk explained that she had had no response to previous emails to DCC Highways and the Leader of DCC in which various issues with local roads had been raised. It was **resolved** that the Clerk should write to the Chief Executive of DCC to raise all the issues again. **Clerk** to action. Councillors understood that a Highways Officer had attended a meeting of Tedburn St Mary PC. **Clerk** to contact the Tedburn Clerk to find out how useful that was and report back.

12. Accounts 2024/25 – to approve the following payments

Payments

Clerk pay (February)	£372.50
Visionict (Invoice 19715)	£161.26
Boniface Centre (Invoice 5836)	£22
Microsoft (renewal of 365 - refund to clerk)	£84.99
JAF Graphics (signs for Hookway – refund to clerk)	£541.90

Signed Dated

It was **resolved** to approve the payments.

13. To receive a report from the Chair – for information only

None

14. To receive a report from Councillors – for information only

Cllr Parker reported that the new road signs for Hookway had been delivered and will be put up shortly. Cllr Vigers reported that the Venny Tedburn defibrillator has been installed. Cllr Beasley thanked Cllr Brimacombe for clearing the mud from the road at Yeoford Chapel.

15. Correspondence/Clerk’s Report – for information only

The Clerk reported that she had received the photos and draft press release about the lack of white lines at Fordton Cross and that they will be sent to the Courier for publication.

16. Next Meetings: 7th April (Boniface Centre), **6th May (Tuesday due to Bank Holiday) (Yeoford Community Hall) Annual Parish Council meeting at 7.15 immediately followed by Council meeting**, 2nd June (Boniface Centre), 7th July (Yeoford Community Hall), 1st September (Yeoford Community Hall), 6th October (Yeoford Community Hall), 3rd November (Boniface Centre), 1st December (Yeoford Community Hall) (all meetings commence at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated).

Signed Dated