

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 August 2025 at the Pavilion, Atherington at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Ms C Norman (Chairman), J Andrew, A Boyce, C Hart, J Kiely and Mrs A Lindsay.

In attendance:

6 parishioners, District Councillor Mrs S Whitehead, County Councillor E Tyldesley, Parish Clerk.

44. Matters Raised by the Public

1. It was reported that the street light in the Square was still not working. To be reported to DCC again.
2. It was reported that an unauthorised entrance had been made into a field on Easter Hill. NDC Planning to be advised.
3. it was reported that trimmings from a tree that had been cut had not been cleared from the highway. Cllr Ms Norman to speak to the person concerned.
4. Appreciation was expressed over the restoration that had been carried out to the milk churn stand.
5. it was noted that the lack of white lines in the village was still causing problems with cars being parked in inappropriate places. Cllr Tyldesley to pursue with DCC Highways.

45. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ms S Murch.

46. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Ms Norman declared an interest in item 52.1 – planning application 80676.

47. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 15 July 2025

The Minutes of the last meeting was agreed and signed as a true record.

48. Matters Arising from the last meeting

Min. 33 The “No Parking” signs had been received and were in place.

49. Reports:

1. County Councillor

A report had been received from Cllr Tyldesley, which had been circulated to councillors.

Exeter’s proposals for Local Government had recently been published, but would not be any benefit to North Devon.

There had been an increase in the number of defect reports received by DCC.

2. District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Whitehead reported on the work of the Farming Community Network, which was available to help farmers.

50. Highways

There was still very poor visibility at Umberleigh bridge due to overgrown vegetation. Cllr Tyldesley to contact DCC Highways again.

Cllr Tyldesley stated that he was able to provide some funding towards an interactive speed sign.

51. Lengthsman

Cllr Ms Norman reported that the contractor had still been unable to visit the parish. He hoped to be able to do so in the autumn.

52. Planning Applications

80676 Demolition of agricultural building and erection of new dwelling (self build) (fallback position following approval 76496). Bartridge Farm, Umberleigh.

The council had no objection to the application. It was agreed to recommend that it be approved pending the planning authority being satisfied that it complied with all the planning policies"

- 80351 Application for two new access points for timber collection. Burriott Wood Burriott Barton High Bickington Devon

Concern was raised over the proposed route for heavy lorries, along a narrow road. It was agreed that the planning officer be requested to ask DCC Highways to visit the site before submitting their response.

Cllr Mrs Whitehead agreed to speak to the planning officer.

It was agreed to recommend approval subject to the above concern being taken into account and pending the planning authority being satisfied that it complies with all the planning policies.

- 80566 Demolition of extension & erection of two storey extension, single storey extension, creation of new access to dwelling and change of use of land to allow for new access. Venn Cottage Road From Fishleigh Bridge Cross To Great Torrington Road Atherington.

There were no objections to the application. It was agreed to recommend it for approval pending the planning authority being satisfied that it complied with all the planning policies"

- 80597 Retrospective change of use of land and siting of a shepherds hut and associated infrastructure. Wootton Manor High Bickington.

- 80599 Retrospective change of use of land and siting of a woodland bus to be used as alternative tourism accommodation and associated infrastructure. Wootton Manor High Bickington.

There were no objection to the two applications. It was agreed to recommend them for approval pending the planning authority being satisfied that they complies with all the planning policies"

53. Finance

Payments:

WF Containers & Cabins	£3354.00
ACPF – 50% dog bin	£ 10.57
Value Products Ltd (signs)	£ 79.44
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£ 100.00
HMRC – clerk's PAYE	£ 25.00
Mr H Jennings (milk stand)	£ 79.60

The six accounts were approved for payment.

54. Playing Field

The Playing Field Committee had requested a copy of the Terms of Reference which had been prepared by the parish council.

The committee had also requested the council to initially pay for playground related expenditure and safety inspections etc.

The debit card in the name of the parish council had been received, making it possible for items to be purchased from Amazon etc.

Problems were still being experienced with unauthorised use of the car park.

55. Correspondence Received

DCC advised a Road Closure road from Umberleigh Bridge to Eastacott Cross 17 – 19 November 2025 for pole changes and conductor placement by National Grid.

56. Items for the next Agenda

Churchyard Grant request.

57. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday, 16 September 2025.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30pm.