

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 18 August 2026 at the Pavilion, Atherington at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance:

4 parishioners, County Councillor E Tyldesley, Parish Clerk.

46. Matters Raised by the Public

1. Concern was expressed over the speed of traffic through the village. It was noted that the community Speedwatch group were doing all that they could. Cllr Tyldesley reported that had a meeting with South Molton Police the following day, and would be visiting Atherington. He was hopeful that they would agree to carry out some speed monitoring.
2. Concern was expressed over a potential water shortage and how some people would manage if rationing was introduced. Cllr Boyce reported that South West Water had contacted vulnerable customers, and that plans had already been prepared to deliver water to vulnerable households should it become necessary.
3. There had been to update on the proposed data centre. It was noted that until such times that a planning application had been submitted, and the details known, there was nothing that could be done.
4. Cllr Tyldesley reported on the DCC meeting with the Royal Devon University Trust regarding the temporary closure of the maternity unit at NDDH.
5. DCC were offering resilience training and had resources available. Cllr Tyldesley outlined the advantages to parishes of holding an up to date emergency plan.

47. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from District Councillor Mrs S Whitehead.

48. Declarations of Interest

None.

49. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 21 July 2026

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

50. Matters Arising from the last meeting

None.

51. Reports:

1. County Councillor

A number of reports had been received from Cllr Tyldesley, and had been circulated to councillors

It was reported that some work had been carried out in replacing the give way markings in the village, but was not yet complete. Cllr said that he would make some enquiries into why the work had not been completed.

2. District Councillor

No report received.

52. Highways

Cllr Tyldesley reported that DCC were willing to provide the post for interactive speed signs.

The Chairman reported that the lengthsman would visit the village again to inspect the various problem areas. Date of visit to be confirmed.

53. Future of the Telephone Kiosk

Cllr Mrs Lindsay had prepared a summary of the progress on investigation the removal of the telephone kiosk. The company that she had been in contact with had informed her that they were not looking to purchase any more at the moment.

Cllr Boyce reported that the local crane hire company had inspected the kiosk, and did not consider that it would be a problem to move it.

54. Planning Applications

None.

55. Proposed Devon Data Centre and BESS system

Already covered earlier in the meeting

56. Finance

1. Payments:

ACPF – 50% cost of emptying dog bin £ 11.12

Clerk's Salary £ 100.00

HMRC – clerk's PAYE £ 25.00

The three accounts were approved for payment.

57. Playing Field

A successful AGM had recently been held.

The recent Big Breakfast had been very well attended.

Various Autumn and Winter events were being arranged

The gabazo in memory of Toni Squire had been received and erected. It was agreed that the parish council would contribute £100 towards the cost.

58. Correspondence Received

Cllr Ed Tyldesley had received a response from DCC regarding replacing the white lines in The Squire.

The replacement lines had not yet been scheduled to be done. DCC would be willing however, to carry out the work if the parish council was prepared to pay. It had been estimated that the work would cost £3000 - £3500. It was agreed that this did not represent value for money for the council tax payers in Atherington, and that the parish council was therefore no prepared to cover the cost.

A map showing the interim wards suggested by NDC under the Local Government Reorganisation had been received. Atherington would remain in basically the same ward renamed Chittlehampton and Chulmleigh. It was noted that these would only be effective for a short time, before a review had been undertaken by the Boundary Commission.

59. Items for the next Agenda

Proposed Devon Data Centre and BESS system; Future of the Telephone Kiosk

60. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday, 15 September 2026.

Cllr Mrs Murch gave her apologies for not being able to attend the next meeting.

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

Signed

Chairman

Date