

## Alwington Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Alwington Village Hall on 7 July 2026, commencing at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Cllrs Brian Adams (Chair), Alison Browning, Neil Rothney and Bill Slee.

**In attendance:** Michael Olley (Parish Clerk), two members of the public, Cllr Phil Pennington (Torridge District Council - TDC) and Cllr Robin Julian (Devon County Council - DCC).

#### 1. Min. 22:26/27 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Moore and Cllr Beresford. Cllr Moore asked the Council to approve her absence from today's meetings and the meeting on 8 September in accordance with Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972. Cllr Moore's absence was approved - proposed by Cllr Browning, seconded by Cllr Adams

#### 2. Min. 23:26/27 Declarations of Interests

No declarations were received in respect of personal or prejudicial interests.

#### 3. Min. 24:26/27 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 12 May 2026 were approved as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Browning, and seconded by Cllr Adams.

#### 4. Min. 25:26/27 Correspondence and Communication:

##### a) Correspondence

Various bulletins and correspondence including those from Devon Association of Local Councils, DCC, TDC, Devon Wildlife Trust. Correspondence from The Rt Hon. Sir Geoffrey Cox KC MP and notification of road closure in Fairy Cross in September had also been circulated.

##### b) County/District Council Reports

Cllr Pennington reported progress against developments, including those at Appledore and the new recycling centre in East the Water. A potential application for a data centre near Torrington was discussed, with those interested encouraged to attend consultation meetings. He also encouraged views on the new local plan being developed by TDC and North Devon District Council. When asked about lack of demand for new properties for sale, Cllr Pennington told Cllrs this would be led by Central Government targets. On brown waste bags for holiday lets being unavailable/not collected as recycling, Cllr Pennington stated he would try to find more from TDC and report back.

Cllr Julian updated the Council on the electrification of buses, provision of housing for local need and highways maintenance. Both Cllrs gave an update to Local Government Reorganisation. The outcome from Central Government on the proposals was awaited.

**PUBLIC SESSION** No comments raised.

#### 5. Min. 26:26/27 Financial Matters:

As at 29 June 26 the total in the bank accounts was £9717.43. Clerks expenses (ink cartridges) of £37.98, bank charges of £12.75, Audit fee of £110, Clerks salary/payroll recharge to TDC of £1739.80 and subscription to DALC of £150.69 were all paid since the last meeting. Bank interest of £8.62 and the first precept from TDC of £3065 had been received.

The current insurance policy expires on 14 August 2026 (as it reaches the end of a three year

agreement). Previously this had been set at £544 annually. It was proposed to negotiate a new deal and agree such a deal with the Chair and Vice Chair. Following agreement of the annual premium by the Chair and Vice Chair it was proposed that payment would be made. The financial matters/accounts to pay were approved, proposed by Cllr Browning, seconded by Cllr Slee.

**6. Min. 27:26/27 Planning Matters:**

No planning matters arose.

**7. Min. 28:26/27. Maintenance and highways**

Cllr Rothney updated the council that he had reported 16 potholes, with 7 potholes filled. He would report a further 22 potholes needing repair on 8 July.

**8. Min. 29:26/27. Parish Priorities**

An update was given on the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Gardens.

**Date of next meeting:** 8 September 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Committee Room, Alwington Village Hall.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ (Chair) Date\_\_\_\_\_