

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH

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MINUTES

**Of the meeting of Diddlebury Parish Council
held on Wednesday 26th February 2025 at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.**

014/25– Present

Cllr. D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllr. A Watson, Cllr. T O’Boyle, Cllr. C Martyn, Cllr. T Pardoe,
Cllr. R Morgan, Cllr. R Povall

In attendance - the Clerk, Shropshire Cllr. C Motley, and one member of the public

Apologies: Cllr S. Povall and Cllr. A Rattu

015/25 – Declarations of Interest.

Members were requested to declare any Disclosable Personal or Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.
No declarations were made.

016/25– Public involvement session,

No matters were raised.

017/25– Approval of the Minutes of the parish council meeting of 22nd January 2025

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 22nd January 2025 had been circulated to councillors prior to this meeting and publicised on the website. No amendments were requested at the meeting.

Cllr. Watson **Proposed** that the Minutes of the meeting on 22nd January 2025 be adopted as a correct record of the meeting’s business.

Proposal **Seconded** by Cllr. Martyn

Vote on Proposal: 6 in support, one abstention.

018/25: Matters arising from the Parish Meeting 22nd January 2025 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

008/25/2: The Chairman and Cllr. Watson reported on their meeting with a representative from Severn Trent Water when the new pipeline was discussed and the safety proposals to be undertaken by Severn Trent were outlined. Cllr. Watson didn’t feel they had done everything they had promised.

008/25/4: Cllr. Motley confirmed that it is no longer necessary to book an appointment at the Craven Arms recycling centre, other than for vans and trailers. but confirmation of residency in Shropshire is still required. Cllr. Watson reported the cost of setting up the now aborted booking system had been borne by Veola, not Shropshire Council. Cllr. Motley also advised that green bin collections will remain at once fortnightly until 2026 but emphasised that no food waste must be put in them.

019/25- Reports

019/25/1 – Chairman’s Report. The Chairman reported that he had completed a response to SC’s budget consultation and Emergency Planning Survey. He had given out and displayed on notice boards the avian bird flu posters. He had attended the meeting with the Severn Trent representative and dealt with the need for replacement batteries in the Bouldon defibrillator. He had also submitted a precept report to the Corvedale News.

019/25/2 – Shropshire Cllr. Motley’s report. Cllr. Motley reported on various matters. SC has now completed its move to the Guildhall and the Shirehall is almost empty. The accommodation at the Guildhall is unsatisfactory in that it was designed to be flats and is less spacious than the Shirehall. SC staff have been dealing with the move and also with the work load engendered by the forthcoming elections of 1st May. Parish councillors have until the 2nd April to hand in their nomination forms. SC is due to sign off its 2025/2026 Budget shortly. The grant from the government was less than generous – SC being awarded the third lowest settlement in England. The Care Quality Commission inspected SC in June 2024 and have only just delivered their report – which contained 242 errors – and demonstrated the CQC have no idea how care is delivered in rural areas. Cllr. Motley believes her last visit to DPC will be in March as she is not standing for re-election.

019/25/3: Westhope Village Hall Report. Mrs Worthington reported that the recent gales had led to the cancellation of some events at WVH. However, the Newtown Male Voice Choir concert took place and was very well attended. A bingo event was packed and a rummage sale, whilst drive and skittles night were all popular. It is hoped to start Community Lunches in April with hot meals available for everyone, plus a curry night in May. The WVH committee are fund-raising again to improve the heating in the hall. The Chairman advised that a written submission for a grant from DPC would of course be considered, as would a request for assistance with the running cost of the defibrillator recently installed at WVH.

019/25/4 – Flood Action Group Report. Cllr. Martyn reported that he had recently attended a Multi-Agency Flood Forum meeting when leaky dams were again in the agenda. He has got the co-ordinates for 52 leaky dams on the Diddle. He and Cllr. O’Boyle will now check their condition. Cllr. R Povall felt at least 80 were needed as the ones higher up are breaking down. Cllr. Martyn noted that repairs have been carried out to the main drain in Pinstones Lane.

020/25– Planning application

25/00230/OHL – application to increase the pole height of the Moorwood Farm transformer from 9.5 metres to 11 metres at Moorwood Farm, Dinchope, SY7 9JH
The Chairman **proposed** that the parish council supports this application.
Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. R Povall
Vote: Six in favour, one abstention.

021/25– Consideration of highways and environmental matters

Mrs Worthington raised again the state of the road between Westhope College and the new Hillside development. This has been reported to Highways many times by DPC and confirmation has been given that it is scheduled for work in 2026.

Cllr. R Povall advised that the B4368 between Corfton Farm and his farm keeps flooding, even though the drains have been cleared: water comes pouring out of the BT connection.

022/25 – Consideration of correspondence and communications

1. Road closure notice: 29th January to 25th July 2025 – unnamed road west of Haytons Bent.
2. Fly-tipping information sheet from SC
3. Notification of Avian Influenza Prevention Zone with effect from 27.01.25
4. Email from Severn Trent, Darlington in response to Clerk's email about the new pipe line in Diddlebury. They advise they are running a new pipe but its from their clean water site (not the sewage site). It is a new metered washout pipe from the borehole that's being laid and its primary purpose is to discharge raw water on rare occasions. It is replacing an existing pipe which is now not fit for purpose.
5. Notification from SC that the booking system at the re-cycling centres has been abolished. Vans or trailers still need to book a slot and all users must show proof that they live in Shropshire.
6. Planning decision: 24/04804/FUL – proposed agricultural workers dwelling at Sutton Hill plus installation of sewage treatment plant and formation of access track. Planning permission granted.
7. Planning decision: 24/04814/OUT – outline application for proposed development of two self-build dwellings on land NW of Great Sutton Farm. Planning permission granted.
8. Just for information – details about the Community Governance Review as it is being applied in Telford & Wrekin.
9. From SALC – an emergency planning survey. Chairman has agreed to complete it.
10. Anonymous letter and a copy of a Land Registry entry stating that the Clerk has misled the public in the Minutes and Corvedale News re DPC's ownership of part of the DVH car park.
11. Email from Ms Tina Porter of Connexus, enclosing draft plans of Connexus's proposal for new houses at 3 and 4 Mill Lane, Diddlebury, seeking DPC's views.

Responses:

Item 10: Cllr R Povall **proposed** that this item be deferred to the next meeting. Proposal **seconded** by Cllr, O'Boyle, and carried by a unanimous vote.

Item 11. The letter and proposed plans submitted by Connexus for the re-development of the houses at 3 and 4 Mill Lane were considered. It was agreed that the proposed scheme is in line with DPC's discussions in July and this should be communicated to Connexus. A full planning application will then be awaited.

023/25 - Finance Report for February 2025

Precept Balance b/fwd from January 2025 **£5,650.59**

1. LESS: cheques/direct debits to be drawn on Precept Funds on

26th February 2025

1. HSBC bank charges to 26.02.25	£ 12.80	
2. Clerk's net salary for February 2025	£273.47	
3. PAYE on Clerk's February 2025 salary	£ 21.00	
4. Russell Brooks – new battery for the Bouldon defibrillator	£189.00	
5. <u>Administrative expenses incurred by DPC and paid</u> <u>by the Clerk in February 2025</u>		
• February 2025 contribution to telephone & Broadband provision at £20 p.m	£20.00	
• Travel expenses at 45p per mile 26.02.25 to Diddlebury Village Hall for PC meeting – 32 miles:	£14.40	
Total of February 2025 expenses	£34.40	£ 34.40
		<u>£530.67</u>
Balance of Precept Funds carried forward to March 2025		£ 530.67 £5,119.92

Cllr. Watson **proposed** that the cheques & DD's listed and totalling £530.67 be approved for payment.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. O'Boyle

Vote: Unanimous in support of the proposal.

Ring fenced, reserves and third-party funds held by Diddlebury Parish Council

CIL/Neighbourhood Funds bal. b/fwd from January 2025	£2,198.05
Environmental & asset maintenance fund, bal. b/fwd from Jan. 2025	£ 530.82
Legal expenses ring fenced funds – bal. b/fwd from January 2025	£ 750.00
Diddlebury Village Hall Car Park maintenance reserve funds, bal. b/fwd	£3,500.00
Reserves fund for SC elections, bal. b/fwd from January 2025	£ 457.73
<u>Third Party Funds</u>	
Corvedale Walking & Footpath Group funds. bal. b'fwd from Jan. 2025	£ 700.00
Flood Action Group funds, bal. b/fwd from January 2025	£ 228.46
Ring fenced fund for WWI Information Board Minute Ref. 235/23	£ 300.00
Total of funds	<u>£8,665.06</u>

<u>Balance held by DPC following authorisation of payment of cheques listed</u>	
Precept Funds	£5,119.92
Ring fenced and third party funds	£8,665.06
Total funds	<u>£13,784.98</u>

2. DPC's Cash Book reconciliation with HSBC Bank Statement No's 389 and 390 was checked and confirmed as accurate by Cllr. O'Boyle.

024/25 - Any Other Business (for the dissemination of information only)

No matters were raised.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 8.35pm

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th March 2025
7.30pm at Westhope Village Hall

Minutes signed by: _____

Dated: _____