

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall
on Tuesday, 1 April 2025 at 8 pm**

Present: Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), Martin Summers (Vice-Chair), Charles Murray, Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Andrew Tucker, Susan Tucker, Colin Brown and Yehudi Levine (EDDC), Iain Chubb (DCC)

In attendance: Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Lindsay Hill

1.1 Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received as above. Cllr Turner welcome Cllr Susan Tucker to her first meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Susan Tucker has signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Councillor.

1.2 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 4 March 2025, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Pulman and seconded by Cllr Andrew Tucker).

1.3 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2.0 PLANNING

2.1 Applications (for comment, support or objection)

2.1.1 24/0849/FUL – Stockers Cottage, Wick, Honiton, EX14 4TY – amended plans

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

2.2 Decisions

There were no decisions.

2.3 Housing Need Survey

The clerk had forwarded Angela King's email to Parish Councillors. This reiterated EDDC's Housing Enabling Officer's view that a housing need for 4 affordable homes is too small to interest most registered providers who would not see it as a viable proposition. Devolution is causing enormous upheaval at the District Council and finances are stretched to the limit. The Parish Council has met its commitment in the Neighbourhood Plan to carry out a Housing Need Survey and it was agreed to monitor the situation in case options become available.

2.4 REPORTS

2.4.1 Ward Councillor

Cllr Levine updated the Parish Council on devolution. The preferred option has been submitted to the Government but no response is due until November.

Cllr Brown had nothing to report as he has been away.

2.4.2 County Councillor

The County Council elections are due to take place on 1 May and candidates are restricted about what they can say in this pre-election period.

3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

3.1 Parish Highways programme - update on Items to Report with comments from Highways as follows:

- The Robins (re-reported) – passed to contractor, now repaired
- Approaching Ford Hill Cottages from Halsdon – investigated by inspector but does not meet criteria
- Hillend – pothole and severe edge of road deterioration – repaired. **The clerk was asked to report this again.**

3.2 Parish Maintenance

Nothing to report this month.

3.2.1 Road Signs

The clerk handed over the two road signs to Cllr Andrew Tucker.

3.2.2 Sign for Nesting Birds

The clerk had received an email from a resident expressing concern about nesting birds on Hartridge being disturbed by dogs not on a lead. Cllr Andrew Tucker advised that the Commoners have erected two signs on Hartridge stating that dogs should be kept on a lead and the Parish Council felt that there was, therefore, sufficient signage.

4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS**4.1 P3 Survey Forms**

The clerk confirmed that she has submitted the annual survey forms to Devon County Council using information supplied by the Footpath Wardens.

4.2 Bridge at Otter Falls

Cllrs Pulman and Andrew Tucker had viewed the damaged bridge and agreed that it was in need of extensive repair. The clerk has applied for a grant to cover the cost of the work. It was agreed that if there is any delay in funding being granted, then the footpath should be closed as a safety measure.

5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES**5.1 Arrangements for VE Day – 8 May 2025**

It was agreed unanimously that arrangements to mark such an important event should continue. There will be a change of location for the event and the bonfire, barbecue and firework display will now take place in a field at Saunders Lane between the previous site used at Hartridge and Mathayes Cross. The location will be clearly signposted.

6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The following payments were authorised at the meeting. The clerk updated the figures as follows:

6.1	Receipts	East Devon District Council (precept)	£ 7,000.00
	Account balances at last statement	P3 balance	833.28
	As per bank reconciliation end March	Luppitt Parish Council	8,549.16
6.2	Payments by online banking, card or cheque for approval and signing	A R Tucker Ltd (ditches and drainage) A R Tucker Ltd (footpath maintenance) Jimmy's Fireworks Ltd Clerk's remuneration (Jan-March) Clerk's expenses (Jan-March) HMRC PAYE	4,537.20 589.68 540.00 1,509.50 88.70 38.80

6.3 Bank Signatories

The clerk has received confirmation that bank signatories have now been authorised.

6.4 Correspondence

- EDDC's Community Engagement Newsletter inviting feedback on active consultations was noted.
- A briefing on proposed changes to the restrictions on Dunkeswell Raceway was noted.

7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

- A resident had been in touch with Cllr Turner to bring her up to date with the situation regarding the water leak at Millrise. The water has dried up at the moment but the resident continues to put forward concerns to Devon County Council about the situation and Devon County Council is aware of the problem.

8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Dates for next meetings to be held in Luppitt Village Hall at 8 pm:

Tuesday, 6 May 2025 – Annual Parish Meeting at 7 pm

Tuesday, 6 May 2025 – Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council at 8 pm