

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall  
on Tuesday, 4 November 2025 at 8 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Martin Summers (Vice-Chair), Charles Murray, Paul Prettejohn, Brian Pulman, Susan Tucker, Colin Brown (EDDC), Cathy Connor (DCC)  
**In attendance:** Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)  
**Apologies:** Cllrs Michele Turner, Lindsay Hill, Andrew Tucker, Yehudi Levine

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**1.1 Receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Summers chaired the meeting in Cllr Turner's absence. Apologies were received as above.

**1.2 Minutes of previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 7 October 2025, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Prettejohn).

**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 Pulshays, Combe Raleigh, EX14 4UJ**

**25/2163/FUL – Erection of a timber outbuilding, installation of an air vent on the front elevation of dwelling and new flue on chimney**

**25/2164/LBC – Installation of ecco stove, air vent on the front elevation and flue on chimney; replacement of flooring in dining room and erection of timber outbuilding**

The Parish Council has no objection to these planning applications.

**2.1.2 Appeal 6000978 and 6001090 – 25/0946/LBC and 25/0950/FUL – Pulmans Farm, Beacon, EX14 4TX**

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of EDDC to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development. The appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations.

**2.2 Decisions**

**2.2.1 Appeal Ref: APP/U1105/W/25/3367089 – Blackenfields Farm, Luppitt, EX14 4UB**

Appeal dismissed.

**2.2 REPORTS**

**2.2.1 Ward Councillors**

- Cllr Levine had sent a report outlining the up-to-date position on Local Government reorganisation. He is unable to attend meetings because of personal circumstances.
- Cllr Brown also spoke about Local Government reorganisation. Final decisions will not be made until 26 November with submission of proposals by 28 November.
- Motorists will be able to park for less than **£2** at most of EDDC's car parks for up to two hours. Free parking will also continue to be offered on Sundays in Axminster, Honiton, and Ottery St Mary. Cllr Brown advised that he will not be available to attend the December, January or February meetings.

**2.2.2 County Councillor**

- Cllr Connor had sent a report but also joined the meeting where discussions on Local Government reorganisation continued. Devon County Council are still considering their options before submitting their proposals by 28 November but favour a single unitary authority to replace the County Council and eight District Councils.
- The clerk raised the state of the road by Jack's House and the reply received from Devon Highways that they recognise the road needs attention but that they have no immediate plans to carry out the necessary work. Cllr Connor said she would raise the matter. The clerk will email details.

**3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC****3.1 Parish Highways programme** - update on Items to Report as follows:

- Cllr Pulman reported that repairs have been carried out at Butkins.
- There is a dead tree in a hedge that needs attention. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the resident.

The clerk will report the following:

- State of the road by Hillend Farm
- Greenlands to Corner House – two potholes
- Subsidence above Goulds and below Messhayes
- Millrise – near parking places

Cllr Murray undertook to send the clerk relevant photos for her to send to Devon Highways.

**3.2 Parish Maintenance****3.2.1 Grit Bins**

Cllr Pulman had compiled a list of grit bins that need filling. The clerk will report.

**4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS****4.1 Pedestrian Gate**

The clerk has followed up but has received no response.

**4.2 Footpath 62**

The clerk has provided Luppitt Landscape Partnership with documentation relating to this footpath.

**5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES****5.1 Meetings at Honiton Town Council, East Devon District Council and Webinar with Devon County Council – Local Government Reorganisation**

- Cllr Turner and the clerk had attended the meeting at Honiton Town Council and had found it to be a useful meeting. Honiton Town Council are keen to liaise and co-operate with surrounding parishes going forward. It was agreed that there is still much confusion and uncertainty over what will happen in the future but Town and Parish Councils must be prepared for more responsibilities to be devolved to them.
- The clerk attended the meeting at EDDC offices. Again, there is much uncertainty with final decisions not being approved until 26 November with a submission date to Government of 28 November.
- Cllr Turner had joined the well-attended webinar hosted by DALC in partnership with Devon County Council and felt that it clarified the County Council's position. Devon County Council favours the 1:4:5 model: Plymouth remains 'as is'. Torbay, South Hams, West Devon and Teignbridge form a south-west Devon Unitary Council. Exeter, Torridge, North Devon, Mid Devon and East Devon form a north-east Devon Unitary Council. This would see a split of DCC functions and staff across the new unitary councils. However, Plymouth and Exeter (and latterly Torbay) are angling for solutions that favour them rather than the more balanced option.
- The lack of agreement overall would suggest that the final solution will be made by Government.

**5.2 Remembrance Wreath**

Cllr Pulman will collect a wreath from the Royal British Legion local representative and deliver it to Cllr Turner who will lay it on Remembrance Sunday.

**6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

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

<b>6.1</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	None	£
	<b>Account balances at last statement</b>	P3 balance	450.88

	<b>As per bank reconciliation end October</b>	Luppitt Parish Council	11,253.74
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Payments by online banking, card or cheque for approval and signing</b>	Luppitt Village Hall (hire of room)	40.00
		Luppitt Village Hall (Children's Christmas party)	175.00
		Vision ICT Ltd	30.00
		Royal British Legion (wreath)	22.50

**6.3 Parish Scheme of Allowances**

The clerk has established that any remuneration would be paid from the precept. It was agreed that this scheme would not be adopted by Luppitt Parish Council.

**6.4 Correspondence**

- An email about the Blackdown Hills Landscape Management Plan was noted.
- An email regarding the Blackdown Hills Design Guide for Houses was noted.

**6.5 Banking Arrangements**

The clerk has carried out research. NatWest offer a Community account and free banking if one of the signatories holds a NatWest account. The clerk was authorised to follow this up and bring the information to the next meeting.

**6.6 Quarterly Check – internal financial controls**

Cllr Murray has checked the cash book and reconciliation for the quarter ended 30 September 2025 and confirmed that all is correct.

**6.7 Approve S137 donations for year ending 31.03.2026**

The following S137 payments were agreed: TRIP £55.00; Devon Air Ambulance £100; Devon Freewheelers £100; British Heart Foundation £50.00; Hospiscare £55.00; Royal British Legion £22.50 (wreath); £175.00 towards the cost of the children's Christmas party (already paid).

**6.8 Meeting Dates for 2026**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month. The first meeting of the new year will be **Tuesday, 6 January 2026**.

**6.9 Councillor Email addresses**

The clerk will send Cllr Summers details of his new .gov.uk email address.

**7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

There were no items.

**8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

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

**Tuesday, 2 December 2025**

**Tuesday, 6 January 2026**