

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall  
on Tuesday, 3 March 2026 at 8 pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Martin Summers (Vice-Chair), Charles Murray, Brian Pulman, Andrew Tucker, Susan Tucker, Yehudi Levine (EDDC), Cathy Connor (DCC)

**In attendance:** Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), Paul Prettejohn and Colin Brown (EDDC)

---

**1.1 Receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Summers took the chair in Cllr Turner's absence. Apologies were received as above.

**1.2 Minutes of previous meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 3 February 2026, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Pulman).

**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 25/2437/FUL – Agricultural building near Higher Wick Farm, Wick, EX14 4TY – demolition of existing large agricultural buildings and erection of a new dwelling house with access, parking and garden areas**

The Parish Council had taken a neutral stance on this planning application and had submitted comments to Planning East at EDDC. Whilst not objecting to the application, the Parish Council did have some concerns which were listed in the submitted comments.

**2.2 Decisions**

**25/2163/FUL and 25/2164/LBC – Pulshays, Combe Raleigh, EX14 4UJ - approval**

**25/2437/FUL – Agricultural building near Higher Wick Farm, Wick, EX14 4TY – refusal**

**24/1631/CPE – Barns north of Wick Cross, Wick – Certificate of existing lawfulness - refusal**

**2.3 Domestication of field at Pennythorne Cross**

Information has been forwarded to the Enforcement Officer who will investigate.

**2.4 REPORTS**

**2.4.1 Ward Councillor**

Cllr Levine advised that there will be a £4m hole in EDDC's budget next year. EDDC does not have a five-year land supply. There are various consultations being held over Local Government reorganisation but, as the Government has not yet indicated which proposal it finds acceptable for Devon, it is difficult to make any meaningful comments.

**2.4.2 County Councillor**

- Cllr Connor advised that Highways are working at capacity but the continuous wet weather has made it very difficult to catch up on repairing the backlog of potholes.
- There is an urgent need for more people to come forward to foster children.

**3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC**

**3.1 Parish Highways programme - update on Items to Report as follows:**

- The clerk has reported the road deterioration from Barn Cross towards Beacon.
- The car tyres have been removed.
- The clerk has written to the Neighbourhood Highway Officer about surplus planings from road repairs for local use.
- The rails at Tapsterwater have been replaced.

### 3.2 Parish Maintenance

- Some tins of white paint have been dumped in the gateway of the first field on the right coming from Luppitt Cross. The clerk will report.
- The Parish Council is concerned about an ash tree opposite Dolish Farm and Cllr Tucker, as Tree Champion, was asked to investigate. Cllr Tucker reported that there is an ash tree the Whitehall Farm side of Ford Cottages that will take the telephone wires down if it falls across the road. Cllr Tucker will investigate. Cllr Tucker reported that there is an oak tree between the sports field and Brookfield in Uppottery. The clerk will report to the Uppottery clerk.

#### 3.2.1 Parish Maintenance Projects

It was agreed that Cllr Tucker would send the clerk costs for the following:

- Blocked drain at Maple Cross. Despite contact with Highways concerning this problem over the last few years, no action has been taken.
- Blocked drain at Ringborough Cross.
- Blocked drain and clear concrete gutter from Ford Barn to Shaugh Road.

#### 3.2.2 Road Signs

Cllr Tucker was asked to erect the Slow Down signs in the village.

### 4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

- The clerk has contacted the footpath wardens concerning the annual survey of footpaths and bridleways.
- The clerk advised that procedures have changed and all issues identified as 'failed' paths must be reported via the Report a Problem page on the DCC website.

### 5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

#### 5.1 Memorial Bench

The clerk had received a request to place a memorial bench at Hartridge. The clerk will forward the request to the Commoners.

#### 5.2 Annual Parish Meeting

After lengthy consideration, it was agreed to follow the format of recent years and hold the Annual Parish Meeting before the May Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council. The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Tuesday, 5 May 2026, at 7 pm.

#### 5.3 Free Landmark Tree

Cllr Tucker confirmed that the tree has been planted in Frank's Patch.

#### 5.4 Bell Tower Fund

Cllr Tucker proposed that the Parish Council donates £50 to the bell tower fund. The proposal was carried unanimously.

### 6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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

6.1	<b>Receipts</b>	None	£
	<b>Account balances at last statement</b>	P3 balance	450.88
	<b>As per bank reconciliation end February</b>	Luppitt Parish Council	8,245.36
6.2	<b>Payments by online banking, card or cheque for approval and signing</b>	Martin Summers Building Ltd (lights for Village Hall funded by Locality) S137 donation to Church Bell Fund	479.40 50.00

#### 6.3 Casual Vacancy

Details of the casual vacancy have been published in the Luppitt Packet.

**6.4 Correspondence**

- An email about the Great British Spring Clean was noted.
- An email giving details of Devon Communities Together's training for Community Emergency Hubs was noted.
- An email from the Communication Officer for Richard Foord MP was noted.
- The clerk had received an email advising of a classic car event that will pass close to Luppitt on 11 April 2026 from around 9.45 am to 11.45 am. The clerk will forward details for insertion in the Luppitt Packet.

**7.0 CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

There were no items.

**8.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

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

**Tuesday, 7 April 2026**

**Tuesday, 5 May 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting at 7 pm**

**Tuesday, 5 May 2026 – Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council at 8 pm**

**Tuesday, 2 June 2026**