

**Minutes of a meeting of Luppitt Parish Council held in the Village Hall
on Tuesday, 7 July 2026 at 8 pm**

Present: Cllrs Michele Turner (Chair), Martin Summers (Vice-Chair), Eric Clapp, Brian Pulman, Andrew Tucker and Yehudi Levine (EDDC)

In attendance: Rosalind Buxton (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs Charles Murray, Paul Prettejohn, Susan Tucker, Colin Brown (EDDC) and Cathy Connor (DCC)

1.1 Receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received as above.

1.2 Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 2 June 2026, were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Pulman and seconded by Cllr Clapp).

1.3 Minutes of Extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday, 17 June 2026

The Minutes were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting (proposed by Cllr Summers and seconded by Cllr Andrew Tucker).

1.4 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2.0 PLANNING

2.1 Applications (for comment, support or objection)

2.1.1 26/1204/LBC – Shelves Cottage, Luppitt, EX14 4SN – ground floor bedroom & wc: removal of existing plaster and re-plaster using a lime based material; investigate & repair exposed historic masonry around chimney breast and introduce ventilation into chimney flue

The Parish Council has no objection to this planning application.

2.2 Decisions

None.

2.3 REPORTS

2.3.1 Ward Councillor

Cllr Levine had little to report as the District Council is paralysed whilst waiting for notification from Government regarding the Local Government reorganisation and plans for devolution. Cllr Levine said that Planning is the only section functioning and an unpopular decision regarding the Honiton Youth Football Club had been taken that day.

2.3.2 County Councillor

The clerk had invited Cllr Connor to the meeting to discuss Highways but, unfortunately, Cllr Connor was in London and could not attend. The clerk is in correspondence with Cllr Connor and the Neighbourhood Highway Officer over various problem areas.

2.3.3 Town and Parish Forum

Cllr Turner and the clerk had attended a meeting at Blackdown House which had outlined the new national framework setting out who decides planning applications. The key principle is that planning officers become the default decision-makers and Ward Councillors and Parish Councillors will have much less influence. The clerk will send round the slides from the presentation.

3.0 HIGHWAYS AND TRAFFIC

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

- Saunders Lane and Jack's House – passed to contractors for investigation
- Colehill Bridge – comment received from Highways that the issue is in hand but repairs not of high priority given the location and nature
- Barn Cross to Beacon – under investigation. The clerk has written separately to the Neighbourhood Highway Officer and Cllr Connor about this problem. A resident has advised the clerk that they were unable to book TRIP who had carried out an inspection and decided the road was unsuitable for its vehicles.

3.1.1 Road Blockages

The Neighbourhood Highways Officer had advised that he personally checks every diversion route for suitability.

3.2 Parish Maintenance

The clerk will report two potholes past the footpath at Hillend.

3.2.1 Overhanging tree

A Parish Councillor reported an overhanging tree in the garden of Stockers Farm near the footpath which is causing concern.

3.2.2 Road Warden Scheme

Cllr Summers has completed his Highway Safety Awareness course.

3.2.3 Estimate for drainage work

Cllr Andrew Tucker is awaiting quotes and this item will be carried forward to the next meeting.

4.0 FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS

4.1 Footpath grant

The clerk has applied for the footpath general maintenance grant.

4.2 Pedestrian Gate

The clerk has ordered the pedestrian gate and will follow up.

5.0 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY FACILITIES

No items.

6.0 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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

6.1	Receipts	None	£
	As per bank reconciliation end June	Luppitt Parish Council	
6.2	Payments by online banking, card or cheque for approval and signing	Clerk's remuneration (April, May June) Clerk's expenses HMRC PAYE Employer NI contribution Voucher for Internal Auditor	£1,579.92 159.18 92.40 63.35 75.00

6.3 Correspondence

- An email from Devon Communities Together regarding community drivers was noted.
- Details of the Blackdown Hills Parish Network AGM were noted.
- Information from DALC regarding the alignment of Parish and Town Council elections with principal authorities in Devon was noted.
- The clerk read out an email of introduction from the new priest in charge of the Dunkeswell group of Churches. The clerk had responded on behalf of the Parish Council.

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 pm.

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

Tuesday, 4 August 2026

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

Tuesday, 6 October 2026