

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11 JUNE 2025 AT 7:30PM
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF BOW VILLAGE HALL

Present: Mr S A Pengelly, Vice Charman, in the Chair,
Messrs R A Cook, P P W Edworthy, R P Edworthy, T J Hamilton, D Pocock and V Steer.
Members of the Public: Nil.
Clerk: Miss B D Ware.

Apologies: Mr C D Nicks

1. **Public Open Forum.**

No members of the public present; no matters raised.

2. **Minutes.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2025, having been circulated in advance, were taken as read and on the proposal of Mr Hamiton, seconded by Mr Cook, they were confirmed as a complete and accurate record and were signed.

3. **Matters Arising:-**

Nil

4. **Planning**

APPLICATION

INFORMATION ONLY

[25/00678/PNCOU](#)

Proposal: Prior notification for the change of use of land to a temporary campsite under Class BC for a period of 60 non-consecutive days from 01/06/2025 to 30/07/2025 for 10 pitches with 2 compost toilets and connected to mains water.

Location: land at NGR 271592 101720 The Shire, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 271592 101720

Information had been conveyed electronically to Bow Parish Councillors on 23 May 2025

Parish Council did not support the application.

Members agreed to comment that until the Enforcement action regarding the mobile home/park home, known as The Shire is resolved, the application should not be considered. The site, at least in part, is within a floodplain: the site may be unlikely to flood during the months of June and July but it can flood at any time including during those months.

MDDC DECISIONS

APPROVAL

[25/00420/HOUSE](#)

Proposal: Formation of hard standing for the parking of vehicles to include EV charging point

Location: Barns Cottage, Bow, Crediton

Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 272267 / 101734

5. **Casual Vacancy.**

An email of resignation had been received from Parish Councillor Mr Vanstone. The Clerk had notified MDDC Electoral Services who had supplied a copy of the Notice announcing a Casual Vacancy. (If ten or more electors on Bow's electoral register wrote to MDDC requesting an election, an election would be held otherwise the vacancy would be filled by co-option.)

6. **DCC (Crediton Rural Division) Monthly Report.**

A report had not been received for May 2025.

7. **MDDC (Upper Yeo & Taw Ward) Monthly Report.**

A report had not been received for May 2025.

8. **Annual Audit, Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024-2025 Form 2**

(i) Annual Governance and Accountability Annual Internal Audit Report.

All councils were required to annually review the effectiveness of their system of internal control. Reliable assurance was required reference the council's internal controls and its management of risk. The review to include a separate review of internal audit (two principle aspects – compliance with standards and overall effectiveness) and to publicly report the outcome. An appointed internal auditor needed to be independent, qualified and competent. Having reviewed systems, etc. Members confirmed that, in their opinion, the system of internal control including the independent internal audit was effective. Mr Weeks had efficiently and thoroughly completed the internal audit. The AGAR Annual Internal Audit Report had been completed and signed. It was agreed to gift Mr Weeks H.T.A. garden vouchers to the value of £50.00 as thanks and appreciation for his good work.

(ii) A.G.A.R. Form 2, Section 1 Annual Governance Statement

A blank copy of AGAR Form 2 Section 1 had been electronically circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Members considered the listed statements, agreeing them accordingly. The Annual Governance Statement was duly completed, signed by the Vice Chairman and the Clerk (deadline for approval 30 June 2025). It would be published on Parish Council's website (deadline 30 September 2025).

(iii) A.G.A.R. Form 2, Section 2 Accounting Statements

The completed copy of AGAR Form 2 Section 2 had been electronically circulated to Members in advance. Members approved the Accounting Statements, the document was duly signed by the Vice Chairman (deadline for approval 30 June 2025). It would be published on the website (deadline 30 September 2025).

The Bank Reconciliation pro forma together with the Analysis of Variances pro forma had both been completed and published on the website. Completion of the formal Notice for the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights was in hand and would be published on the website. The statement of accounts, accounting records for the year to which the audit relates with all associated documentation relating to those records to be made available for inspection by any person interested, during a period of 30 working days set by the smaller authority (anticipated dates Monday 16 June 2025 to Friday 25 July 2025).

9. **D.C.C. Highways Matters.**

Speeding A3072 western approach to village (DCC suggested highway works), Burston Cross area. Still nothing had been heard/received from DCC.

Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS). Contact by DCC following the MP's advice had been awaited, but as not forthcoming, the Clerk emailed the DCC Neighbourhood Highway officer, Mr Tucker, citing MP's information and confirming VAS sites were approved 9 July 2024, etc. but no response, as yet, received. The quotation for the posts with installation (requested by email 9/7/24) was still awaited. DCC had not yet trimmed back the hedge (90m clear sight line needed) which Mr Tucker said would be done with it added to DCC's annual hedge trimming contract. Parish Council was disappointed at the lack of progress over a very prolonged period – Members suggested bringing the matter to the attention of the BBC/ITV. A video for Facebook would be made. Background info, with key dates, to enable those pursuits to proceed, to be supplied.

Other Highway matters. Cllr White had kindly provided an update on proposed works at Copplestone (former Cross Hotel at risk of partial collapse requiring ongoing road closure for safety, causing prolonged traffic delay problems, whilst legal and Planning matters addressed by MDDC and DCC Highways). Cllr White, District Councillor and representative of the area, had worked to try to bring about a resolution, he recommended the council escalate the matter to the Magistrates Court but the council decided otherwise. Cllr White had also asked the council to seek external legal advice but the council viewed the issue as a planning law and building control matter. Cllr White had also requested that an economic impact assessment be undertaken but had been advised that no cost analysis had been carried out, as financial impacts to the council are not deemed material in relation to the road closure and any financial impact was expected to be negligible. In addition, he had further asked whether any support or relief could be offered to the affected Copplestone shop, but the request was declined. Cllr White had been informed that he had no formal right to challenge decisions made by officers in this matter. He suggested that MDDC Cabinet Member Cllr Keable, MDDC Leader Cllr Taylor or the MP may be able to assist. Cllr White also quoted a statement made by Cllr Keable at a Copplestone Parish Council meeting: it conveyed a party wall dispute, affecting the whole community, complicated by some wanting the building demolished with the A377 re-opened with others wanting the building saved and repaired. Option details were being worked on to achieve an acceptable solution to parties involved as quickly as possible. Parish Council was appreciative of Cllr White's work on this issue but concern was expressed that he had been advised that he had no formal right to challenge officers' decisions, therefore prompting questioning the point of being a Councillor.

10. Monitoring of Services

D.C.C. Service satisfactory – comment would not be submitted.

M.D.D.C. Service satisfactory – comment would not be submitted.

11. Correspondence

MDDC, Government response to consultation on holding remote meetings and proxy voting [Remote attendance and proxy voting in local authorities: consultation results and government response - GOV.UK](#)

MDDC, Armed Forces Day - flag raising - Monday 23 June at 10am Phoenix House, Tiverton, invitation. Circulated.

MDDC Press Release, successful return for Mid Devon's landlord networking event on 14/5/25.

MDDC Press Release, purchase of land marks a step forward for Cullompton relief road delivery.

MDDC Press Release, new e-newsletter to be launched soon for Mid Devon businesses.

MDDC Press Release, student (age 16 to 22) membership, £25 per month, offers full leisure access this summer.

MDDC Press Release, My Mid Devon – the personalised online self-service portal.

MDDC Press Release, introducing Councillor Martyn Stratton – new representative for Clare and Shuttern.

MDDC Press Release, Community gathers to mark VE Day 80 at Phoenix House, report.

MDDC Press Release, Mid Devon's Green Enterprise grant scheme (2025) open for expressions of interest.

MDDC Press Release, Paddling pools at Westexe Park and Newcombes Meadow reopen on 26 May.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Volunteer recognition awards nominations are open (Neighbourhood Watch Week and Volunteer Week).

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Opening of Crediton and Tiverton paddling pools.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Crediton Police attended a Community Alcohol Partnership launch, info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Commissioner's message: Independent custody visitors to be celebrated during Volunteers' Week (2 June - 8 June).

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Successful 'night bus' scheme funded by Commissioner to run again this year.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Police and Crime Commissioner funds innovative business crime reduction pilot Torbay.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Sceptre – the national initiative to reduce knife crime, info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, Dogs die in hot cars <https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/contact/ask-ned/question/ec07135c-0e49-e611-9c3e-a0369f5f0dfb>

Devon and Cornwall Alert, new warning urges public to continue reporting phishy emails and texts with 41 million already reported.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, rise of extortion phishing email reports, info.

Devon and Cornwall Alert, [OUR NEWS](#) June 2025.

DALC, National Allotment Society Training with the YLCA.

Devon Communities Together, Devon Community Learning, new series of in-person and online training courses.

Publications: DALC E-bulletin, NALC newsletter, NALC chief executive bulletin, NALC Events newsletter, Devon Climate Emergency June [newsletter](#) and DCC news round-up Connectme.

12. Finance.

Bank balances brought forward: Deposit a/c £8,105.07, Current a/c £29,663.43

HMR&C, vat reclaim for 2024/25, refund of £318.03 credited to Current a/c on 12/5/2025

ACCOUNT AUTHORISED FOR PAYMENT

EDF Energy (electricity for DAAT community landing light) £21.13

13. Any Other Business.

(i) Change of signatories. Mr R P Edworthy queried progress towards signatory revision. The initial submission, rejected by Santander as minutes needed to also show retiring signatories and an unacceptable address ID.

Revised documents (new detailed minutes and alternative address ID) submitted but the bank had been unable to locate the change of signatory pro forma or documents previously submitted. The Clerk had written to Santander enclosing photocopies of complete set of documentation previously submitted. To await Santander's advices.

(ii) Fly tipping incident, Spreyton Wood Water. Another (? fourth) incident of apparent household waste had occurred. Several large laundry bags and black refuse sacks had been dumped in the river. Community spirited Spreyton residents had cleared the area again. The culprit needed to be caught.

(iii) A3072 layby near Southern Co-op shop. Large piles of earth had been deposited at the layby – it was unknown whether DCC had left the earth or if it had been dumped. To report to DCC.

14. Date of Next Meeting.

Wednesday 9 July 2025 at 7:30pm at the Community Room of Bow Village Hall.

This completed the business and the Vice Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:20pm.