

CHERITON FITZPAINE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of this council which took place on 20.05.2025 Cheriton Fitzpaine Parish Hall

Clerk: Denise Kingdon. 6 Wordlandcross, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Crediton, Devon. EX17 4JR

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1. Apologies. None

2. Chair's Report

Thank you all for your efforts over the past year. In giving up your time and expertise to support the community.

Thank you in particular to our clerk in keeping us on track and in line with the statutory roles and tasks.

The year has included some key changes, the movement of the allotments should not be overlooked, and I am pleased that the new allotment group have the autonomy to manage the site to meet their needs. We are still able to support the wider needs of the parish in maintaining allotments with disabled access at White Cross.

We have continued to make improvements to the open spaces with a new basketball hoop and gate at Jacks acre along with a number of new benches. This has been along with some key maintenance and benches in the under 11s. The formulation of development plans for these spaces in the coming year is also well underway and I hope to see these spaces grow and evolve.

The working groups are delivering value in addressing the key areas and autonomously tackling issues and reporting back, hopefully a real efficiency in our operations that we can build upon. For example, our efforts in reporting road defects will, I trust, in time result in action before a more serious incident or accident than we have seen to date

I also hope we can continue to develop our outreach and visibility in the coming year and support local groups and activities that make our village the welcoming place it is.

Lastly, I convey our thanks to those for whom we have received resignations over the year and acknowledge the important input they have made to the council.

3. Open Session

Attendees –

All councillors, Mary and David Nunn, John and Mel Lawrence, Andrea Fannon, Nicola Spencer, Janet Halson, Steve Halson and a few others.

A discussion was held regarding The Millenium Stone – Should a garden of wildflowers be put around it. It was also suggested that we use it as a feature at Christmas with a tree and lights.

Some of the attendees were interested in what the parish council does and where its money comes from.

Cheriton Fitzpaine Parish Council campaigns for better services and facilities for our parishioners. We are funded by a precept, and this is used to manage our local

facilities. For more detail on Parish Council finances, click [HERE](#). We are a statutory consultee on planning applications, and are responsible for some local green spaces:

- Meads Meadow
- Jack's Acre
- Two allotment plots
- The burial ground on the outskirts of the village

Our Parish Council normally meets on the third Tuesday each month in the Committee Room of the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend and may address matters to the Council during the public session at the beginning of the meeting.

If you have something you would like the Council to consider or are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor, please forward your request to the Clerk or a councillor by the first Tuesday of the month. The Council can only make decisions on items that are on the agenda.

Like all Parish Councils in Devon, we are funded by a precept which is obtained via the Council Tax paid to Mid Devon District Council. Every year, the Parish Council agree a budget and this determines the amount of precept we receive. The precept is our main source of income and enables us to manage facilities within the Parish, such as grass cutting in the open spaces we oversee. We also can provide some financial support to community groups on request to cover specific items such as insurance. The precept also covers the wages of our Clerk.

Some of the Parish Council's business is discussed by Working Groups to ensure the most effective management of Parish Council business. These Groups consider a wide range of issues and make recommendations at the monthly Parish Council Meetings. All Councillors are members of at least one Working Group. The Groups are:

- Roads and Footpaths
- Communications
- Allotments
- Playing Fields
- Burial Grounds
- Finance