

## TEMPLETON PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft Minutes for the meeting of Templeton Parish Council held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7:30pm - Templeton Village Hall.**

**Members:** Cllr L O'Brien, (LOB), Cllr J Dent, (JD), Cllr S Stone, (SS), Cllr J O'Brien, (JOB), Parish Clerk - Beverley Newman (BN).

**Members Present:** Cllr. L. O'Brien (Chairman), Cllr. J. Dent, Cllr. S. Stone, Cllr. J. O'Brien,

**In attendance:** Cllr. S. Lodge, Devon County Councillor for Tiverton West.

**1. Apologies:** Cllr. A. Stirling, Mid Devon District Councillor, West Exe. Cllr. C. Harrower, Mid Devon District Councillor, West Exe, Cllr. D. Broom, Mid Devon District Councillor, West Exe.

**2. Declarations of Interest:**

Templeton Village Hall - (JD), (SS), (VH).  
St Margarets Church - (LOB, (VH)).

**3. The Public – Public Forum:** An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. No member of the public will speak for more than 3 minutes. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes.

No members of the public in attendance.

**Parishioner's previous email correspondence to MDDC Planning Department regarding Enforcement Notice EP/21/090/AN.**

Discussions took place between Councillors – email circulated prior to meeting from Cllr. Stirling regarding MDDC Planning Department and Environmental Health planning enforcement team who are now in contact with member of the public concerning this matter.

**4. Minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting of Templeton Parish Council held at Templeton Village Hall on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 had already been circulated prior to the meeting.

**Proposal:** Agreement to the content of the minutes was proposed by (JOB) and seconded by (SS) and was unanimously agreed by the council.

## 5. Planning:

Application Determined: Reserved Matters for the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling and garage following outline approval 21/01215/OUT Location: Land at MGR 286542 114651 (Cross Park) Nomansland Devon.

Erection of Eco Laundry shed for use in connection with Anaerobic Digester with Associated works. Location: Land at NGR 283160 113672 Menchine Farm Nomansland Devon. Grid Ref: 283175 - 113696 - Revised Drawings.

No comments recorded by the Council.

## 6. Highways:

### 6.1 (LOB) - Road Warden and (SS) - Snow Warden.

Road Warden - (UPDATE): (LOB) Birches Cross to Lower North Combe Cross resurfacing work still outstanding. (ACTION): (LOB) Still liaising with Highways for another update. Potholes have returned by the Ford and have been reported. (LOB) stated if the repair was not found to be under the jurisdiction of MDDC she would be happy to fill the holes and (SS) also offered her assistance. ACTION: (LOB), (SS). Encourage parishioners to report any potholes via [Report a problem - Roads and transport](#) or [lb@templetonparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:lb@templetonparishcouncil.org.uk)

Snow Warden - (UPDATE): (SS) - (SS) proposed Snow Warden/Emergency plan. Discussions had taken place at previous meetings regarding four proposed zones for Templeton, access routes in and out of Templeton, methods of distributing the information to the village which were GDPR compliant and the website page.

### **Snow Warden Report 26.11.2025 - Report by Cllr. Stone**

#### **Contents:**

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8. Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund (HMCEF)

#### **1. Snow Warden Inaugural Meeting 13.11.2025**

- A meeting to discuss the Snow Plan was held on 13.11.2025 at Templeton Village Hall
- The meeting was well attended - 15 people - despite being a very cold wet and windy night.
- The idea of the 5 zones was well received.
- A list of residents and addresses was shared so that attendees could see which zone they were in and help with allocating residents to their appropriate zone.

- No personal information will be published on the website.
- Interestingly, postcodes cannot be used to group all residents into the zones they logically, and geographically, belong in.

## 2. Actions from Snow Warden Inaugural Meeting 13.11.2025

- Not all zones were fully represented at the meeting on 13.11.25 e.g. zone 4 and 5 so I have liaised with the Templeton Village Hall Social Secretary on a campaign to publicise this.
- A 'Round Robin' went out 26.11.2025, from the Templeton Village Hall Social Secretary, asking everyone to check their nearest grit bin(s). More will be done to contact residents as not all residents are on the Templeton Round Robin distribution list either.
- The snow warden scheme should not be seen as a replacement for the Devon County Council gritting lorries. We have to be mindful of what we can do. Advice for volunteers in the Snow Plan.
- At the meeting on 13.11.25, it was proposed that a grit spreader could be purchased which could then be used to cover a wider area of Templeton more efficiently. Templeton residents are discussing what type of grit spreader we could potentially purchase. A spreader to go on the back of a vehicle was a popular suggestion. This would be at the driver's own risk.
- I am investigating whether funding is available from the Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund (HMCEF). Advice is that all initial applications should be discussed with the Neighbourhood Highway Officer prior to submission. I have done this.
- I will now apply for funding from the Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund (HMCEF) – if there is any, and report back at the next meeting.
- I also propose we join with Templeton Village Hall / Social Club and St Margaret's Church to do community fundraising together, identifying our specific community priorities. This will raise awareness of Templeton Parish Council, the Snow Warden and Road Warden in our community.

## 3. Technical issues

- Many residents are already proactive and have used <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/map/mapsrc/gritbins/> to log grit bins which need filling.
- The issue I have is that as while the interactive system shows grit bins which have been identified as needing to be filled once someone has logged it, it does not currently differentiate between whether a grit bin is full, or empty but not reported.
- If someone else has reported an empty bin and the council has been out to fill it, I'm not in the loop and I can't see it. Therefore, it is impossible for me to tell if a bin has been reported and actioned or whether it has not been reported.
- This seems like a step is missing as it would be very useful for the Snow Warden to monitor the last time a bin was filled.
- From a risk management perspective, the Snow Warden, and all residents, would benefit from knowing the status of the grit bins in the parish if dates could be logged on the interactive page.

## 4. Detail required for reporting a grit bin on the website

- **Grit Bins – 3x categories for reporting**
- **Grit Bin needs filling**
  - Please indicate the current level of Grit. e.g. quarter full, half full etc.
  - Please provide one report per grit bin see example
  - Grit Bin Damaged
  - Please describe the nature of the damage. e.g. Grit Bin split, Lid missing and whether there are any sharp edges
  - Please provide one report per grit bin see example
  - Grit unusable or polluted with debris
  - Please state the reason that makes the grit unusable and what debris is present. e.g. Leaves, Sticks, Sharps/needles, rubbish etc.
  - Please provide one report per grit bin see example

## 5. Latest communication with our Neighbourhood Highway Officer

- Sadly, we are losing M.M. She is moving to a patch closer to her home address.
- This will be a great loss as she has been so supportive of our work on the Snow Warden and Road Warden scheme as well as other advice on specific road issues.
- A new person has been assigned to Tiverton West, called D..... He joins us on 16th December and M.M. will be showing him around the areas to give him a good start.
- I suggest we could offer to join them or meet them for coffee, cake and a nice chat at the village hall.

## 6. Grit bin purchase

- Templeton Parish Council supports the purchase of a new grit bin to go down by the ford kindly funded by Templeton Social Club.
- If we want a new grit bin, we\* can buy one – subject to funding.
- The purchase of a grit bin for the ford by Templeton Social Committee will be formally discussed and proposed at the next Social Club Meeting.
- Any grit bin we purchase would not however, go on the interactive web page.
- The grit for this would come out of the additional supplies given to Templeton, and stored at strategic locations around the village.
- The Neighbourhood Highway Officer has to approve where any new grit bin would go.
- I propose that when the Neighbourhood Highway Officer does the parish visit on 16th December we ask them to come out to agree the proposed site.
- Grit bin 1806 has a crack in it but nothing urgent yet – it has not been reported as it is still structurally sound. I understand a tree fell on it some time ago and the residents are monitoring it.

## 7. Advice for what type of grit bin to purchase

- DDC would not tell me explicitly which bin to purchase but gave general advice as to the specification they use.
- MDDC for purchasing a grit bin is as follows:

- Approx 400L in capacity
- Available in yellow or green
- Durable and weatherproof
- Not compromised from exposure to UV
- Maneuverable by two people
- Ideally includes the wording 'GRIT SALT' somewhere on the bin/lid.
- My feeling is that if we buy a grit bin which meets DDC specifications, they may eventually allow it to go on the interactive map.
- This is my preferred option
- <https://www.ypo.co.uk/product/detail/grit-bin-400-litre/d70834>
- £223.99 ex VAT + £44.80 = £268.79
  - 400 litre capacity
  - Suitable for salt or grit
  - Rust, weather, UV
  - Impact and vandal resistant
  - Move easily - fork lift truck grooves
  - Yellow - high visibility
  - Size: 900(H) x 1050(L) x 650(D) mm
- This one is slightly cheaper
- <https://www.onlinetankstore.co.uk/product/400-litre-heavy-duty-grit-bin/>
- £181.97 Exc VAT (£218.36 Inc VAT)
- Key Features
- Weatherproof, crack resistant and very durable
- Hinged Lid with hasp and staple to secure contents.
- Embossed with GRIT Graphic as standard.
- Bins can be embossed with personalized logo or details if required
- Product Specifications
- External Dimensions – L 1260 x W 750 x H 710
- 2 x Hasp and Staple fitted as standard

**The grit bin page is here.**

- [https://www.google.com/search?sca\\_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-fr1Mkn6fdXzo2DK1J3sg:1764146745824&udm=28&fbs=AlljpHxU7SXXniUZfeShr2fp4giZ1Y6MJ25\\_tmWITc7uy4Kleioyp3OhN11EY0n5qfq-](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-fr1Mkn6fdXzo2DK1J3sg:1764146745824&udm=28&fbs=AlljpHxU7SXXniUZfeShr2fp4giZ1Y6MJ25_tmWITc7uy4Kleioyp3OhN11EY0n5qfq-)
- [https://www.google.com/search?sca\\_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-zEMZldv\\_eRjZ2XLYc5GnVnME7glWodDcaQwvGYJtospyF4hao4VocMoniUVvlzzwRcB\\_gh46MHhrDPH5NOVwPivjadeakFm05zxnpGxC0pvMBL6-](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-zEMZldv_eRjZ2XLYc5GnVnME7glWodDcaQwvGYJtospyF4hao4VocMoniUVvlzzwRcB_gh46MHhrDPH5NOVwPivjadeakFm05zxnpGxC0pvMBL6-)
- [https://www.google.com/search?sca\\_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-v6zKyyE5nBk0bvDg1EPDxHf7xVk4s29Sxnujftn4liXpkA&q=400L+in+capacity+grit+bin&ved=1t:220175&ictx=111&biw=1440&bih=676&dpr=1.33](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=4755ba3fbe0376ca&sxsrf=AE3TifMTJFwFq-v6zKyyE5nBk0bvDg1EPDxHf7xVk4s29Sxnujftn4liXpkA&q=400L+in+capacity+grit+bin&ved=1t:220175&ictx=111&biw=1440&bih=676&dpr=1.33)

- This is what I propose putting on the application form, for Highway Maintenance Community
- Enhancement Fund (HMCEF) as to why they should fund a gritter for us.
- The village of Templeton is located on an elevated plateau, with the area generally ranging from 120 to 245 metres (400 to 800 feet) above sea level. Specific elevations vary within and around the village due to the 'rolling' terrain.
- In practice this means residents face transport and access challenges due to several steep and treacherous hills which are prone to frost pockets and sheet ice. The closest town is 12 miles away.
- We are seeking to purchase a gritter as the roads in and out of the village of Templeton are highly hazardous in snow and icy conditions.
- In some cases, it has not been possible for residents to leave Templeton in these conditions.
- It is also a concern of residents that emergency vehicles cannot access Templeton in these conditions.
- This proposal is supported by Neighbourhood Highway Officer, the Road Warden (who is also Templeton PC chair), the Snow Warden (myself) and the community of Templeton (public meeting held 13.11.2025).
- Residents have to contend with icy, slippery conditions at the ford and many steep hills e.g. Templeton Bridge, with land run off which causes large areas of sheet ice e.g. at Templeton Cross, and single-track lanes with sharp, blind and slippery corners e.g. Brandis Corner.
- The gritter would be used by volunteers from the community, working in partnership with the MDDC approved Snow Warden.
- The Snow Warden will support the community and provide MDDC approved support, advice and training.

**(UPDATE): (SS):** Draft proposal approved by council and report presented to council.

**ACTION: (BN)** Publish draft proposal on website. **(UPDATE): (BN)** Forward plan to Cllr Harrower, District Councilor. **(ACTION): (BN)** Contact parish council insurance company regarding self-help work and potentially add to the Snow Plan. **(ACTION): (SS)** to speak to volunteers direct.

Proposed: (LOB)

Seconded: (JOB)

Unanimously agreed by council.

**6.2 Lower North Combe Farm Templeton - damaged bridge (UPDATE): (SS/LOB)** This has been assessed and passed to a contractor for repair. Discussions are taking place on how to remove the concrete from the river. They endeavour to engage the repairs as soon as possible but this will depend on the availability the contractor has. They currently have a very busy works programme but hope to get to this site when operatives become available.

#### **6.3 Proposal 6 - Upgrading of Footpath No. 3 Tiverton (Titchens Lane) to a Bridleway**

**(GR SS 9010 1414 to 8892 1282)** - Templeton Parish Council were in agreement for the proposed upgrading of the footpath to a bridleway but caution was raised against any further development. It was noted that illegal use of vehicular access was

currently evident.

**(ACTION): (BN)** Submit the council's comments to Public Rights of Way Officer - Definitive Map Researcher for Mid Devon, Devon County Council, by the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2026.

**6.4 Road Closure** - Council discussed the lack of a road closure sign at the junction of Tombstone Lane and Kitterbury Farm, Calverleigh. This was following another recent road closure in Tiverton that had impacted Templeton. The area was very busy for four days. No warning was forthcoming and no diversion signs displayed causing a backlog of traffic down the steep, narrow lane to the Calverleigh Junction with the Rackenford Road. There are very few passing places along this stretch of road. **ACTION: (LOB)** to contact highways to discuss the possibility of providing Templeton with signage and communication regarding any future closures. Concerns can also be reported on the 'Report a problem page' on the MDDC website. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport-report-a-problem>.

## 7. Reports.

**7.1 County and District Council** - Written report – November 2025 from Cllr. Lodge, County Councillor for Tiverton West was circulated prior to the meeting. The report included information relating to:

**Care:** DCC has signed the Age-friendly Employer Pledge to recognise and value older workers. A third of the county's workforce is over 55.

Devon County Council will appoint a strategic transformation partner, Newton Consulting Ltd, to help reshape its adult social care services amid rising demand and financial pressures. The move comes as the council grapples with increasing costs and a growing number of people needing support, particularly those transitioning from children's services and those with complex mental health needs.

**Education:** We are the first two-tier authority in the country to implement auto-enrolment to pupils whose family income makes them entitled to free school meals. It's meant that more than 1,000 pupils in Devon who were entitled to free school meals but not previously receiving them, are now getting free meals at school.

DCC has launched its new Inclusion and Learning Strategy seeking to build a more inclusive education system for every child and young person in the county. 140 schools and setting have already signed up to be part of the journey. The strategy complements the Devon Local Area SEND Strategy 2024 to 2027.

Families can book children onto DCC's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme for the Winter break. The offer is four sessions per child. The Government-funded scheme provides activities and nutritional meals during the holidays to children aged 5 to 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals. <https://eequ.org/devonhaf>  
DCC's child pedestrian safety training for primary school children has received additional funding from Vision Zero South West to continue through to March 2028.

**"Walkability"** child pedestrian training launched last year, and more than 4,070 pupils from 48 schools in Exeter, North Devon and the surrounding area have so far taken part in the current pilot, which is delivered by Active Devon on behalf of Devon County Council. <https://activedevon.org/walkability/>

Cabinet has approved a major £2 million investment into the authority's fostering service. From April Devon's foster carers will benefit from improved fees and allowances for looking after a child. Cabinet backs £2m boost for Fostering Service - News

DCC has commissioned its first Independent Strategic Advisor for Inclusion, Mark Vickers, MBE, and CEO of Olive Academies. Council Leader, Councillor Julian Brazil, says the appointment is a pivotal moment that will accelerate improvement, ensure equity across Devon's education system, and that will focus on driving the highest standards for all.

**LGR:** LGR is picking up pace within Devon County Council. A number of reviews have been commissioned into the financial and service outcomes for what looks to be three models - Exeter as a unitary with a wider Devon, 1-4-5, and 9-1-1. The responses from district surveys etc has also been gathered and assessed. DCC's preferred position is on 9-1-1 although the districts are settled on 1-4-5. The finite deadline is November 28 and there will be further consultation based on data gathered.

Devon County Council welcomed a major new report from the County Councils Network (CCN), which warns that breaking up county councils into smaller unitary authorities could seriously harm the delivery of essential care services. The report, Local Government Reorganisation: Analysing the Impact on People Services, provides strong evidence that larger councils are better equipped to deliver high-quality adult social care, children's services, and support for people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

**Libraries:** On October 8 cabinet gave the greenlight to launch an extensive and detailed 12-week public consultation. The aim of the consultation will be to gather residents' views on how libraries should adapt and evolve to meet changing needs and financial pressures.

**Locality:** I am supporting a number of projects within Tiverton West, including Home-Start Mid Devon, Involve, CHAT, Uplift Devon and others. Three quarters of this budget has now been allocated and I would ask that any requests are made soon.

**Farming:** Cabinet member for Rural Affairs, Cllr Cottle-Hunkin has written to the Government expressing concerns about the abrupt closure of Sustainable Farming Incentive applications, asking for them to reverse the decision which alongside family farm inheritance tax threatens family-run farms.

**Parking:** Despite being 'called in' (the process of scrutiny after council decisions) council has backed a move to increase on-street parking charges. Some councillors were concerned the price hike would affect trading conditions and impact residents. However the aim is to make on-street parking more expensive than districts' car parks, to reduce congestion (move traffic from highways and parking bays to car parks). There is no paid on-street parking in Tiverton or Bampton.

**Business:** Four new coworking spaces have joined Devon's Work Hub network. The Good Space in Dawlish, Propeller in Exmouth, Tiverton Work Hub, and UNIT 2 CoWorking in Kingsbridge, are the latest additions to the expanding number of independently run, locally-focused work hubs across the county.

**Transport:** Funding support for zero emission buses across Devon and improvements to bus travel in Newton Abbot and Barnstaple have been approved by Devon County Council. Cabinet has backed proposals which will be funded using a share of the £10.3 million Bus Service Improvement Plan funding Devon received from the Department for Transport for this financial year".

**7.2 Parish Councillors:** - See Snow Warden Report Item 6.1

**7.3 Village Hall:** - No reports received. Upcoming events: Christmas Music Show on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 and children's party on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2025. The firework night was very successful and well supported.

**7.4** Discussions took place about Tiverton Cinema and the promotional events that are periodically held at the premises eg. Performances from The Royal Opera House, London shows: <https://www.merlincinemas.co.uk/event-cinema?forcechoice=true>

**7.5 Parochial Church:** - No reports received. The art and pottery exhibition was a very positive event. Upcoming event – Christmas carols and Christmas services. Carol Service Christmas Eve - 6 p.m. Possible events for 2026 were discussed which included crocheting of poppies which would enable a display to be organised around the church.

**Newsletters, Bulletins, Press Releases circulated to councilors prior to the meeting.**

**7.6 DALC Newsletters** - noted by councillors

**7.7 NALC Newsletters** - noted by councillors.

**7.8 MDDC Press Releases** - noted by councillors. 'Pots and Pans Pilot' discussed. **(UPDATE):**  
Cllr. Harrower confirmed this scheme's proposed start date had been delayed.  
Cllr. Harrower will advise update. This item has been deferred until the next meeting.

**Liaise with 8. Finance:**

**8.1 To note any receipts since the last meeting and the bank balances – Bank Reconciliation 24<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 to approve and minute – signed by Chairman, Councilor and Clerk.**

Bank balances as at 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

- Community Main Account - £3,296.10,
  - Earmarked Reserve Account - £3,275.97
  - Reserve Account - £1,300.76
- approve and minute – signed by Chairman, Councillor and Clerk.

Proposed: (JD).

Seconded: (JOB).

**8.2 Invoices – to approve any invoices or expense claims presented for payment to 1<sup>st</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025.**

7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 – September payment which was not debited in September due to an external administrative error.	Scribe Subscription	£24.00
7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 – October payment	Scribe Subscription	£24.00
7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Internet Transfer from Community Account to Reserve Account	Phone box (minute reference: 8.3 (30.09.2025) agreeing payment.
20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	IONIS Website	£18.00
October 2025	Clerk Salary	Redacted. Personal data exempt from being disclosed.
November 2025	Scribe Subscription	£24.00

Approved: (JD)

Seconded: (JOB)

**8.3 Budget 2025/2026 and Precept. UPDATE: (LOB/BN).** Monitoring of budget and precept. To receive a budget v actual report for quarter 3 of 2025-26. The report was discussed.

Finance Meeting Templeton Parish Council – 21/11/2025

TPC Community Account £3,261.11

TPC Reserve Account £1,300.76

TPC Earmarked Reserve Account £3,275.97

The budgeted running costs of the Parish Council for 2026-2027 - £6,000 per annum.

The Finance Committee suggest that an increase in precept needed to cover the running costs of the Parish Council is 40%. (For a Band D property this would be £7.25 per month)

DALC guidelines recommend that the Parish Reserve Account should be at least 50% but not more than 100% of the running costs of the Parish Council.

The precept would need to be subject to a greater increase of more than 30% if we would wish to increase our reserve account to the recommended amount.

The Parish Hall treasurer Roger Linden has emailed that they are happy to accept £1500 in total for the village hall repairs (rather than the £3000 earmarked for them).

We can now transfer the remaining £1500 to the Reserve Bank Account.

This would mean that the Reserve Bank Account would have a balance of £2,800.76. This is still below the 50% DALC recommended balance for a Parish Council Reserve Account. If, however, we were to add a 40% increase to the precept it would mean that we would meet the 50% Reserve Account minimum recommended amount in the next annum.

Precept 2026-2027 with a 40% increase - £6,377.28  
Precept for a Band D property per annum  
£87.08 (£7.25 per month).

Reserve Bank Account balance for 2026 with a 40% increase in precept - £3,187.04

It was agreed that the Precept for 2026 would be £6,377.28

Proposed: (JOB).  
Seconded: (SS).  
Unanimously agreed by the council.

**8.4 Budget 2026/27 Forecast** – Decision making - **UPDATE: (LOB)**. Discussions for budgeting for the following year should be brought to the November meeting as all items need to be planned and budgeted for. Fund raising was discussed.

**8.5 Repairs and remedial works** - Templeton Village Hall Roof. **(UPDATE): (LOB)**. The Parish Hall treasurer Roger Linden, has emailed that they are happy to accept £1500 in total for the village hall repairs rather than the £3000 earmarked for them. We can now transfer the remaining £1500 to the Reserve Bank Account.

Proposed: (JOB)  
Seconded: (SS)

**8.6 IONIS Website** - monthly cost - **(BN)** confirmed that the monthly subscription would raise by 0.50p per month to accommodate mail box volume for the clerk.

Proposed: **(JOB)**.  
Seconded: **(SS)**.

## **9. Matters arising from minutes not covered elsewhere.**

None.

## **10. Correspondence/Items to Discuss:**

**10.1 Parish Footpaths** - Parish Paths P3 Partnership Scheme. Report for work to be carried out in progress. Funding for repairs. ‘Footpath Events’. **(UPDATE): (LOB)**  
The council discussed the possibility of ‘beating the bounds’ at the previous meeting on the pathways as a village event. Risk assessment and insurance cover discussed. **(UPDATE): (SS)**

- There is great enthusiasm for more information about our local footpaths but some parishioners said they feel the map is confusing. Others said they would not use the site when planning a walk. Some said they prefer to use OS maps.

- While parishioners like the idea of meeting as a group to do a walk, in practice, they tend to plan a walk at short notice if the weather is good and if they are not busy. Others would prefer to walk on their own, at their own convenience, if they have a dog or children.
- There was interest in meeting to do a group walk during the Christmas holiday if the conditions above apply. There was also interest in 'Templeton Footpath events' as a concept.
- Parishioners said they would be more interested in suggested local walks with a start and finish or circular walks, each with a distance included. The start point could/ should be the Village Hall car park.
- Some parishes have printed leaflets for this and while the digital copy is free, they sell the hard copy. The online copy could have art from the art group featured on it?

**(LOB)** discussed the possibility of a bluebell walk in memory of Prof John McInerney (the fondly remembered parishioner who founded it) suggestions were that it could be through the footpath woods, with a picnic on the lawn or at the Village Hall.

**10.2** 20 mph speed limits - **(LOB)** confirmed many people in the village were keen for a 20 mph limit. It was noted that some people drive too fast from the Ford up through the village. **(ACTION): (LOB)** to gather evidence regarding areas for signage and forward to Cllr. Lodge who will engage with officers. (SS) commented that any road safety campaigns we do should also promote wearing something bright at night, taking a torch and walking in the middle of the lane (until going over to the right side) so the driver can see you.

**10.3** Ex Valley Market Bus - **(LOB)** has asked people (who she is aware of) that catch the bus.  
**ACTION: (LOB):** To organize a group outing on the market bus.

**10.4** Councillor Vacancy - **(UPDATE): (LOB)** confirmed that interviews had taken place.

**10.5** Appointment of Councillor – Prospective candidate left the room at 21.00 hours.

Council discussed co-opted councillor vacancy and interviews.

It was proposed and voted that Mrs V.Hopley be co-opted to Templeton Parish Council.

Proposed: (LOB).  
 Seconded: (JD).  
 Unanimously agreed by council.

**(ACTION): (BN)** Inform MDDC and provide necessary documentation to (VH).

Cllr. Hopley returned to the room at 21.03 hours.

Council congratulated Cllr. Hopley on her appointment.

**10.6** Re-Adoption of Risk Assessment, Risk Management and Internal Controls Policy - Circulated prior to this meeting. Review dates to be updated.

Proposed: (SS).

Seconded: (JD).

**(ACTION): (BN)** Update review dates and publish on website.

**11. Items raised by Councillors: -**

**11.1 Light at Templeton Village Hall** – Night Landing Site for Devon Air Ambulance (**LOB**) informed the council that the DAAT Night Landing Site lights had broken at the village hall. Due to the emergency of the situation, (**LOB**) was requested to action the repair to replace the 2 failed LED flood floodlights and service/maintain said system.

**(ACTION) : (LOB)** To organise repair and set up a Memorandum of Understanding between Templeton Parish Council and Devon Air Ambulance.

Proposed: (JD).

Seconded: (SS).

**11.2 Screen Devon/filming in Mid Devon** - (**LOB**) Mid Devon District Council - Town and Parish Councils may have land or assets suitable for use as film locations - from village squares and car parks to village halls. (**LOB**) to attend a meeting to ascertain further details. Film company are looking for venues in Devon. To be discussed at next meeting.

**11.3 Defibrillator in the telephone box** - Discussions took place regarding the feasibility.

**(ACTION): (SS)** Approach village hall regarding the funding of a defibrillator. **ACTION:** (**LOB**) Discuss with St Margaret's church. **(ACTION): (BN)** to forward details of defibrillator to Cllr. S. Lodge.

**11.4 Erroneous transactions** - (**LOB**) informed council of five erroneous transactions debited and subsequently refunded to Templeton Parish Council account - supporting paperwork submitted to council, checked, countersigned and authorised by the councillors at this meeting. B. Newman - Clerk/RFO to Templeton Parish Council authorised transactions.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 21.22.**

**Date of the next meeting is:**

**TUESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026 AT 7.30P.M. – Templeton Village Hall**

**Minutes for the meeting of Templeton Parish Council  
held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025  
at 7:30pm - Templeton Village Hall.**

**PROPOSED:**

**SECONDED:**

**SIGNED: CHAIRMAN:**

**DATE:**