

Minutes of the Meeting of Shaugh Prior Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 June 2026, 7pm in Shaugh Prior Village Hall.

Present – Cllr. Clewer (Chairman); Cllr. Thomas; Cllr Tyler; Cllr Chislett (co-option confirmed); District Cllr. Abbot; County Cllr Carson; Tungsten West representative; DPNA representative; 2 members of the public; Nigel Doran (Clerk).

1) **Apologies**

None received.

2) **Welcome to**

i) **New Clerk** – Nigel Doran.

ii) **New Councillor** – Nick Chislett (Declaration of Acceptance form signed with Clerk).

3) **Open Forum**

Comment made regarding there having been multiple change of Clerk recently – this was responded to by the Chairman.

4) **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Tyler declared an interest having recently been elected as a PCC Cllr for the Reform party.

5) **Police report**

None received.

6) **County and District Cllrs Reports**

County Cllr Carson reported that it had been confirmed that the Shaugh Prior School was to close – there are possible plans for it to become a unit for SEND students for a while, but the fight was on for it to remain a community asset.

The LGR rumbles on but nothing specific to report at this meeting.

Regarding the proposed change in speed limit on the B3417, permission has been given for this to go to public consultation. He explained that if there were many objections this would be referred to a future HATOC meeting for a decision, otherwise it would go through quickly.

He informed the Council that his locality budget was now open, and he encouraged community projects to apply.

District Cllr Abbot reported:

Renters' Rights Act

There is advice for landlords and tenants via SHDC, with a link at

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/news/2026/renters-rights-act-comes-force-landlords-urged-take-action>.

Disinformation

A long guide has been made available to councillors at

<https://www.southhams.gov.uk/news/2026/renters-rights-act-comes-force-landlords-urged-take-action>.

Perhaps residents will find it useful too.

The People's Emergency Briefing

I attended this film at the Watermark and it was a review of the current science. For those not up to speed, it would be a valuable resource. I'm intending to put together a summary of what's being done at three of my councils. Would you like to summarise your own activities?

More from the Annual Report

More widely, our latest report testifies to many actions by the District Council. It can be found at

https://www.swdevon.gov.uk/sh_annual_report.html. The Leader (Cllr Dan Thomas) highlights:

- How we've been helping to create healthy, warm and affordable homes across the district and unlocking properties for temporary accommodation.
- Working with our communities to do more for our environment – through rewilding projects and continuing our mission to plant a tree for every resident.
- Supporting local market traders to help encourage more footfall into our local towns.
- Continue to invest in community facilities like Totnes skatepark and a new fitness and wellbeing suite in Plymstock on the edge of Brixton Parish.
- All of this while continuing to deliver good quality services such as waste collections, street cleaning, dealing with planning applications and supporting vulnerable residents who need our help the most.

Bin collections

These may start from 6am to allow the crews to work prior to the hottest of the weather.

Weed Management

Parish and Town Councils are asked to take part in a "Plants out of Place Local Council Weed Management Survey". The link is <https://forms.gle/78s2NaBkZcELAWN59>

7) DNPA report

There is a new Director for the National Park – it is to be seen how this affects things.

There is new fire signage being prepared – there has been co-operation between DNP rangers, the fire service and the police is creating this.

Currently the DNP rangers are surveying footpaths and acting as required.

7a) Tungsten West report

It was reported that they are aiming for Q3 to re-start the mine and they have obtained significant funding to allow this. Currently there ~40 employees and a similar number of contractors working on site. There are several planning conditions that they need to meet prior to the re-start.

It was recognised how there had been issues surrounding low frequency noise previously and a brief description of how the mineral processing facility would be working so that this was minimised in the future.

Tungsten West plan to run Community Events towards the end of the month so all would have contact numbers etc.

It was recommended to Tungsten West that the Parish Magazine would be a good place for these to be published.

A question regarding vacancies was asked and the reply was given that people should access the company's website for this information.

Thanks was given regarding the dust information previously supplied.

Concern over spraying the ragwort on the company site was raised and assurance was given that this matter would be taken back.

8) Minutes of previous meetings

i) Wednesday 13 May 2026 (Annual Council meeting)

It was agreed by all that the planning applications had been received from DNP and with this amendment the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

ii) Thursday 21 May 2026 (Extraordinary Meeting)

It was agreed by all that these were correct and were duly signed by the Chairman.

9) Matters arising

It was agreed by all that the allocation of members to Parish Council committees should wait until the current vacancies on the Parish Council were filled.

EDF energy contract (Wotter defibrillator) it was agreed by all (proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Tyler) that the current supplier (EDF Energy) should continue to be used as there was a risk that the current credit balance could be lost in the supplier was changed now.

10) Planning

Planning Application - SW Devon has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning application:

1514/26/FUL Higher Bughill Farm, Plympton, PL7 5EW

It was agreed by all (proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Tyler) that the Parish Council's comment should be "no comment".

11) Chairman's Business

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that the meetings, starting from the next one, would revert to the starting time of 7.30pm.

He will be attending the forthcoming meeting of the Tungsten West Liaison Group.

He met with John Widdicombe (Lengthsman) and informed everyone that the Lengthsman would deal with matters on minor roads but items on major roads would be referred to DCC, also that matters were to be reported to the Clerk who would contact the Lengthsman.

The question of whether the Parish Council should have its own Facebook page was discussed, it was agreed by all (proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Tyler) that this should be created by the councillors and then passed over to the Clerk.

12) Reports from Committees

None

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan group (not a Parish Council committee) was meeting next week.

13) Parish Council Vacancies

It was noted that the decision regarding an election was not due until 16 June 2026.

14) Correspondence

A report concerning a defect at the Lee Moor playpark has been received – this has been referred to James Friend to investigate and report back on.

15) Finance

It was explained that the process to update the access and signatories to the Unity Bank were underway but not yet completed.

16) Payments and Receipts

Expenditure:	DTGS – report on outdoor playground	£156.00
	Deborah McCann – planning consultancy (neighbourhood plan)	£1375.00

It was explained how a grant had been obtained from the Newnham Solar Fund which would cover the Deborah McCann invoice and it was agreed by all (proposed by Cllr Clewer and seconded by Cllr Thomas) that these payments be made.

17) Works and Maintenance

None reported.

18) Date of Next Meeting

This will take place at Shaugh Prior Village Hall on Wednesday 1 July starting at 7.30pm.

PART 2

Council are excluding members of the public and the press to progress a matter of a confidential nature.

Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960. Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102.

i) Governance and exit protocols

This matter was discussed and a resolution was found.

ii) SAR

SAR withdrawn. Parish Council agreed to place a note of caution on file in relation to the accuracy of information recorded.

iii) Councillor complaint about a member of the public

This was discussed and is not being taken forward.

Meeting closed at 8.52pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday 1 July 2026 at 7.30pm (Shaugh Prior Village Hall)