

Minutes of the Meeting of Shaugh Prior Parish Council held on Wednesday 2 September 2026, 7:30pm in Shaugh Prior Village Hall.

Present – Cllr. Clewer (Chairman); Cllr. Thomas; Cllr Tyler; Cllr Collins; Cllr Chislett; Cllr H Skelley; Cllr Luxton; Cllr N Skelley; County Cllr Carson; Barnaby Hudson (Tungsten West representative); Nigel Doran (Clerk); 1 member of the public.

1) Welcome

All were welcomed to the meeting especially, the new Councillors that had been elected to the Parish Council.

2) Open Forum

A question was raised regarding the apparent lack of doctor's surgeries at Wotter. The Chairman explained that the only approach was for the Parish Council to contact Beacon Medical group about this and agreed that it would.

The Parishioner expressed concern that he was still receiving communication from EDF Energy concerning the electricity supply for the Wotter defibrillator and it was agreed that he would contact EDF Energy to arrange for his removal and for the Clerk to be added instead.

Cllr Thomas raised that the cross at Shaugh Prior Hall needed repair – it was agreed that the Clerk would raise this matter with the Hall committee.

Cllr Chislett raised concerns regarding the camping / open fires that were becoming a regular occurrence on the National Trust land in Shaugh Prior. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to both Peter Davies of the National Trust and District Councillor Abbott concerning this.

8 part 1) Report of County Cllr Carson taken at this stage

LGR

It has been confirmed that thirteen parishes of the South Hams will become part of Greater Plymouth. The current District boundaries will form the bases of the council seats in the South Hams. The new Cllrs will be elected in May 2027. They will sit as a shadow for a year whilst the current councils continue to operate until April 2028.

Hemerdon Mine

The Government have announced a package to support Tungsten West with £71m, taking a 7.4% stake in the company, a place on the Board and up to 50% of the Tungsten to be available for UK use. 350 direct jobs are expected and 2400 in the supply chain.

It is important that residents' concerns are at the front and centre as the works at Hemerdon progress. This is something as a Parish, District and County Council we must work together on whilst we negotiate the transition into the Greater Plymouth Unitary.

B3417

The proposed reduction from the National Speed limit to 40mph will be advertised in the South Hams Gazette on 3rd September. The consultation will close on the 24th September.

3) Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Cantello, District Cllr Abbott and Peter Davies. These were accepted.

4) Declarations of Interest

Cllr Thomas declared an interest regarding LGR as he worked for Plymouth City Council.

5) Police report

None received.

6) DNPA report

None received.

7) Tungsten West report

Tungsten West has secured government support of £71 million. This is sufficient that construction on the site can be completed. A criterion of the support is that 50% of the tungsten production will be for the UK. They have purchased 8 x 300 tonne trucks and have re-located some material within the site. The screens that are being built around the mineral processing units are nearly complete and LF noise testing has commenced. It was reported that they have started a local recruitment campaign.

Tungsten West has lodged two bonds, with DCC and the Environment Agency, which may be used to restore the site if the company enters administration.

They are looking at having 2 open days for the mine, it is anticipated that these will be in November.

The trees planted on the site previously have been reviewed and a new strategy will be developed; this will primarily be looking at noise reduction.

Tungsten West anticipates starting blasting later in the month with ~ 1 blast / 24 hours, these will potentially be at the same time each day (though due to workload there may only be 1 blast every other day).

They are licenced to move 1 truck / day of tungsten, 1 truck / week of tin and 50 trucks / week of aggregates which will commence well into next year (initially the aggregates are required on site).

Dust monitoring has commenced with semi-permanent units being located outside the mine site and a series of real-time dust monitors being in position on the site boundary.

Tungsten West have several noise monitoring units that they will use, and these can be in specific locations should people have localised concerns.

Cllr Clewer raised the matter of the proposed speed reduction on the B3417 and urged Tungsten West to attend to lend their support. It was agreed that he would send them details of the relevant HATOC meeting.

8 part 2) Report of District Cllr Abbot

District Cllr Abbot had sent the following report which was read to the meeting:

Interview Support

Ivybridge Cllr Nadine Dommett and an SH Officer held mock interviews with sixth formers at Ivybridge Community College. Together with colleagues from local businesses, healthcare professionals, teachers, the police, and more, it provided an opportunity for students to get a feel for what a job interview will be like.

The ambition and confidence from the students really shone through, but what also became clear is that we can do more to promote the broad range of local government careers to potential future talent - something that the SHDC team will consider.

Clean Marine in the South Hams

At Ocean Tech Expo in June, organised bi-annually by Maritime UK and hosted by University of Plymouth, an SHDC officer shared the experience of small harbours in rural, coastal areas and to

demonstrate the role of local authorities, like the council, in leading the way towards achieving cleaner waters. She gave an update on:

- Low carbon options for the Council fleet in Salcombe and Dartmouth.
- Converting a crew transfer boat to electric propulsion.
- The completion of a year-long government-funded project to develop marine charging infrastructure pathway for smaller harbours and ports.
- Addressed the wider harbour environment, from water quality monitoring and making data publicly available through a digital dashboard, to raising awareness of the challenges associated with end-of-life boats and exploring potential solutions.

Kingsbridge

The 45-metre culvert in Kingsbridge has been replaced.

310 solar panels on the Kingsbridge Leisure Centre have been installed and are proving about half of the Centre's annual electricity use.

Enforcement

SHDC are deploying CCTV to make further inroads on enforcement against fly-tipping and (separately) there have been two successful court cases to uphold prosecutions on planning enforcement.

Thank you for identifying fly-tipping hotspots in the Parish. Has there been any improvement? Would you like to add in new sites where the Localities Officer could drive by?

Lithium Ion batteries

There is a growing concern of fire originating from these batteries, say in electric scooters and electric bikes as a consequence of poor charging practise or damage to the battery.

Electoral Register

The update is underway and residents may receive a letter asking for any updates.

Business Information Point (BIP)

In a joint venture with BIP, there is support for any business in the South Hams on marketing, finance and the challenges of start-up including Start-Up Loans.

Ivybridge Car Parks

Resurfacing and re-lining in the three SHDC Car Parks is complete with 4 new spaces for those with a disability in the Leonards Rd CP and 1 in Harford Rd CP. There are 4 bays for minibuses in Leonards Rd, hoping to support Ring and Ride and others. The lower CP (Glanvilles Mill) has a new venture, re-purposing a space typically used for drop-off to be the site of 4 new pop-up stalls erected on a temporary basis and with the option for utilities should they become a useful and regular element of the Thursday market.

Community Development Team

Local voluntary, community, social enterprise organisations and community groups are invited to register with the South Has VCSE Support Partnership by emailing southhamsvcs@outlook.com There is a newsletter, a learning programme and invitations to Wellbeing Alliances (with the nearest in Ivybridge).

Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy

About 24,500 trees have been planted in Hope Wood, South Brent and about 12ha of land opened up to public access.

Monday's Bank Holiday ...

... will delay bin collections by a day

Upcoming consultation

There will be a consultation on Taxi Fares and Taxi Policy in September.

9) Malcolm Norman memorial bench update

Cllr Clewer explained the background to this, how the Parish Council had decided that it would place a memorial bench for Malcolm Norman who had been chairman of the Parish Council for many years.

However, due to Peter Davies of the National Trust being unable to attend the meeting to provide an update, this matter will be taken forward to the October meeting when it was hoped that he would be able to attend.

10) Minutes – to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1 July 2026

These were signed unchanged (proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Chislett), this was agreed by all.

11) Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

12) LGR Update

It was noted that the Prime Minister had said that the proposed 4 authority solution for Devon was to be reconsidered.

13) Neighbourhood Plan Update

The draft Neighbourhood Plan has been considered by SHDC, and they had decided that it should move to the next stage, which is a 6-week public consultation. To facilitate this, various items were to be added to the Parish Council website, details of presentations, a downloadable copy of the draft Neighbourhood Plan, a 2-page summary of this and a link to an online consultation form.

The consultation will run from 7 September to 18 October.

14) Highways Matters

It was decided that various matters should be referred to the Transport Committee so that they could make recommendations to the full Parish Council at future meetings.

It was noted that the public consultation regarding the proposed revised speed limit on part of the B3417 was running from 3 September to 24 September and various documents and links had been added to the Parish Council website in relation to this.

15) Shaugh Prior Primary School (closed)

It was noted that this had formally closed, as a school, on 31 August 2026. It was hoped that the building would be used for the community.

16) Appointment of Committees

The membership of the following Committees was agreed.

HR

Cllr Clewer (chairman)
Cllr Thomas
Cllr Cantelo
Cllr Tyler

Finance

Cllr Thomas (chairman)
Cllr Clewer
Cllr N Skelley
Cllr Cantelo

Transport

Cllr Clewer (chairman)
Cllr H Skelley
Cllr Chislett
Cllr Collins

Planning

Cllr Thomas (chairman)
Cllr Luxton
Cllr Cantelo
Cllr Collins

Places (parks)

Cllr Tyler (chairman)
Cllr H Skelley
Cllr Collins
Cllr Luxton

Representative for Newnham Solar Fund

Cllr Chislett

17) Planning Decision-Making Process

The Parish Council was reminded about the information that District Cllr Abbott had provided at the July meeting, that the planning decision-making process was being changed so that many more planning decisions would be made by planning officers rather than by the planning committee of SHDC. This would not affect the statutory arrangement that applied for the Parish Council to be consulted.

18) Planning

None.

19) Finance

Playpark signs (3 @ £26.80 + VAT each)

The need for these to be updated was explained to the meeting and it was agreed by all (proposed by Cllr Thomas and seconded by Cllr Tyler) that the Clerk should order these.

Direct debit form for EDF Energy

It was explained to the meeting that this related to the electricity supply to the Wotter defibrillator.

This was agreed by all and was duly signed (proposed by Cllr Tyler and seconded by Cllr Chislett).

20) Payments to be authorised

Cllr Thomas explained that the Neighbourhood Plan expenditure was covered by a grant that had been received from Newnham Solar Fund and he would be putting in a request to them. Consequently, there would be no net cost to the Parish Council.

The following payments were authorised (proposed by Cllr Chislett and seconded by Cllr Vincent).

J Widdicombe (June & July work)	£211.20
N Doran (Clerk expenses)	£57.06
Western Web (Accessibility audit)	£54.00
EDF Energy (Wotter defibrillator – July & Aug)	£135.85
A Deptford (defibrillator spares)	£444.00
Colourbridge (NP printing)	£742.28
PKF Littlejohn (external auditor fee)	£252.00

21) Correspondence

This was noted and the Clerk was asked to forward the DALC newsletters to all Councillors.

22) Matters raised by the Chairman

Cllr Clewer informed the meeting that various liaison meetings were being arranged with the companies that operate within the Parish.

He has also met with Peter Davies (National Trust), John Widdicombe (Lengthsman) and James Friend (Playpark contractor).

23) Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended

Cllr Clewer informed the Parish Council that he had met with the SHDC Elections Officers because of managing the elections.

The meeting was closed at 9.33pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for Information

The next Council meeting is on Wednesday 7 October 2026 at 7.30pm (Lee Moor Village Hall)