



**St Giles on the Heath with Northcott Hamlet  
Parish Council**

**“Working with you, For you”**

**(draft) MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON**

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.00pm**

**Parish Councillors Present:** Cllr Atkinson (Chairman), Cllr K Hamlyn, Cllr Bowyer, Cllr Fisher, Cllr Russell, Cllr Dimmock, Cllr Gearing, Cllr Stott, Cllr Williams, Cllr Bray. **In attendance:** Clerk Kayleigh Walker, County Cllr Rowsell, members of the public: 0.

**1. PUBLIC SESSION**

1.1 None.

**2. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

2.1 Cllr Paulger and Distric Cllr Gibson - apologies accepted. The clerk notified councillors that Cllr Curtis had resigned from her role as councillor with immediate effect.

2.2 None.

**3. MINUTES**

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026, were previously circulated. Proposed by Cllr Russell as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Fisher and agreed by all. The chairman signed a copy.

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

4.1 The clerk advised that expressions of thanks had been received from The Womens Guild, St Giles FPTA and the Short Mat Bowls team for the grants provided by the parish council.

**5. REVIEWING ONGOING MATTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

5.1 County councillor report - Cllr Rowsell reported that, due to concerns raised, she had been following up sewage disposal matters. Having recently attended a Police and Crime Commisioners meeting, she reported that additional speed checks are being carried out. There had also been discussions focusing on recruitment. She raised awareness of anti-social behaviour in the Holsworthy area involving revving vehicles and using sirens late in the evening. Cllr Rowsell asked for any similar incidents to be reported to her. With regard to highways matters, she reported that they have a £30 million budget. Quality of road repairs remains a concern and appears to differ in different areas of the county. She confirmed her commitment to this matter and will continue to pursue an explanation of why the work is carried out so sporadically, with no clear economic consideration. The clerk will share the location of the pot-hole on the road from Grindley Cross to Tower Hill for Cllr Rowsell to follow up.

5.2 District councillors' report - none.

5.3 New website update - Cllr Williams advised that he had made the requested amendments following clerk and councillor feedback. He expressed difficulty in contacting the previous website host but confirmed he would continue to try and complete the transfer to enable the new site to be promoted and utilised.

5.4 Grant applications - cllrs reviewed the grant application and supporting financial information provided by St Giles Cemetery and agreed to award a grant of £100. Motion proposed by Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Stott and agreed by all.

5.5 Coronation Hall representatives - cllrs agreed that Cllr Paulger would continue in the role of council representative for the hall and that Cllr Bray would also stand following the resignation of Cllr Curtis. Motion proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Bowyer and agreed by all.

5.6 Outcome of the primary school federation consultation - the clerk read the outcome letter to councillors, which confirmed that the federation between St Giles on the Heath, Halwill and Ashwater schools would commence on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The chairman advised that she would no longer be standing as a school governor.

**6. REVIEWING PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN**

6.1 Speedwatch update - the chairman advised that no sessions had taken place, but the team were keen to commence again soon.

6.2 Playground update - cllrs reviewed the repair quote received from T K Play. The clerk had shared ahead of the meeting that despite best effort it had not been possible to obtain a comparative quote. Cllrs suggested that Wilson & Newton were approached to quote for the repair work required to the fencing and gate. Cllr volunteers agreed to remove the sharp object from the fence panel. The clerk was asked to approach TDC to establish who carries out playground repairs for them and to see if they could assist St Giles. It was agreed that before proceeding with removal of the rota play item a further inspection should be carried out to see if it could be repaired.

Chairman Sign and date .....1.....



**St Giles on the Heath with Northcott Hamlet  
Parish Council**

**“Working with you, For you”**

6.3 Emergency plan update - Cllr Bray presented a project update advising that a public meeting had been arranged to engage the public in collaboration with Devon Communities. Leaflets were provided to councillors who were assigned zones of the parish to distribute them to. Cllr Bray shared an old version of the St Giles emergency plan that focused on contact details for various organisations, some of which will be useful additions to the new document. The public meeting will take place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 6:30pm in The Coronation Hall and will include a showcase of ways households can prepare for emergency situations.

7.4 Community CCTV project - councillors reviewed the quote received for purchase and installation of CCTV equipment. The Clerk had shared ahead of the meeting that despite best efforts it had not been possible to obtain a comparative quote. Cllr Hamlyn provided details of a contact for the clerk to approach. Cllr Fisher asked where the storage system would be kept and who would be covering the electricity costs. The chairman advised that at the joint meeting between the council, shop, hall and skittles teams it was agreed this would be met by the hall however following a change in chairman and committee members this may need to be revisited. It was noted that the outside light of the hall may not be working. Cllr Bray agreed to follow this up.

6.5 Creation of community newsletter - councillors discussed the challenges of running a newsletter including costs, distribution and content. Cllr Bowyer shared a copy of the Clawton Clarion. Cllrs discussed whether the hall committee/volunteer would be better suited to creating the newsletter as they are more aware of ‘what’s on’ in the parish. The chairman agreed to write an email for Cllr Bray to discuss the subject with the hall committee. Cllrs Williams and Bowyer agreed to investigate the project further.

**7. FINANCES**

7.1 Authorisation of expenses – Coronation Hall hall hire for April meeting £22, DALC membership £264.54, playing field gate repair £60. Accounts proposed for payment by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Stott and agreed by all.

7.2 Current account as of 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 - £5594.53.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 The clerk advised that the field adjoining Stanbury Close was not an official landing site for the air ambulance. The land is privately owned with no known agreement for public use. Any disputes of its use between parishioners are civil matters between those parties and the landowner.

8.2 The clerk asked for any proposals for a guest speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting. Bush Broadband was suggested.

**9. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

9.1 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7pm and will be followed by the Parish Council Annual Meeting.

**10. CLOSE OF MEETING**

10.1 Meeting closed at 8.40pm.