



**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 18th August 2026 at 7.00pm

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr Atkinson (Chairman), Cllr K Hamlyn, Cllr Fisher, Cllr Bray, Cllr Russell, Cllr Gearing, Cllr Paulger, Cllr Dimmock, Cllr Williams. **In attendance:** Clerk Kayleigh Walker, District Cllr Hackett. Members of the public: 0.

1. PUBLIC SESSION

1.1 None.

2. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Cllr Stott, District Cllr Gibson and County Cllr Rowsell - apologies accepted.

2.2 Cllr Williams declared an interest in item 8.3. Cllr Fisher declared an interest in item 8.6.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meetings held on 7th July 2026 were previously circulated. Proposed by Cllr Fisher as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn and agreed by all councillors present at that meeting. The chairman signed a copy.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Cllr Fisher advised that District Cllr Gibson had not progressed the grant request for the short mat bowls club as discussed at the previous meeting. The clerk offered to follow this up and provide a copy of the application form. Cllr Hackett offered financial support if the application was not successful.

5. REVIEW OF ONGOING MATTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 County councillor report - a written report was provided and read by the clerk. Updates on local government reorganisation and highways were included, along with a note that funding is still available from the councillors' budget. A full copy is available on request.

5.2 District councillors' report - Cllr Hackett responded to the local government reorganisation stating that it would be challenging for rural villages with most funding directed to urban areas. He reported as per the boundary report that Broadheath would become a single councillor ward with elections held in May 2027. Cllr Hackett reminded cllrs of the importance of declaring interests.

5.3 New website update - Cllr Williams reported that the website was almost complete with a few minor updates to finish. The clerk will promote the website via Facebook once these have been finalised.

5.4 Update on Bush Broadband fibre project - Cllr Williams advised he is awaiting a response from Bush on the progress.

5.5 Discuss parishioner email regarding fence damage - cllrs reviewed the email and photographs received and discussed the condition of the fence posts. Several cllrs had also visited the site to inspect the posts in person. Following discussion, cllrs agreed that the damage appeared to be consistent with rot rather than being caused by a strimmer or other cutting equipment. However, to help prevent any future concerns, they agreed to instruct the grass-cutting contractor to leave a gap between the edge of the cut grass and the fence posts.

The clerk was asked to write to the occupiers of 8 Orchard Way requesting that they undertake maintenance work to the section of fencing bordering the play area.

6. REVIEWING PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

6.1 Speedwatch update - a session took place on 29/07/2026 between 12:00 and 13:00 with police officer Mick Hinton no 31482 in attendance. Vehicles travelling from the direction of Holsworthy were recorded. The speedwatch volunteers recorded 4 offences one of which was travelling at 48mph. The police officer recorded 10 offences all of which will be prosecuted. A total of 123 vehicles were recorded with an 11% offence rate. A session recording traffic in the opposite direction was not possible due to the temporary traffic lights. A further session was scheduled for 12/08/2026 but cancelled due to the extreme heat.

6.2 Playground update - the clerk had been unsuccessful in locating a contractor to carry out repairs to the rota net item. The original supplier had advised they were unable to assist but provided contact details of a possible contractor however they too had declined to offer a repair inspection and recommended replacement of the item. The clerk was instructed to seek a replacement quote for a similar item and to follow up with TDC regarding the possibility of accessing the S106 funding in advance of the completion of the Sladesmoor development. Cllrs agreed a new sign should be erected in the playground to advise children and parents that the rota net item should not be used and if

Chairman Sign and date1.....



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used it is at the users own risk. A quote for fence repairs and replacement had been shared ahead of the meeting. Cllr Russell agreed to inspect the fence before any quotes were accepted.

6.3 County Councillor grant for a replacement planter - following parishioner comments that the planter was still in reasonable condition cllrs agreed to ask the county cllr for permission to use the £200 grant funding to restore the existing planter. Cllr Fisher agreed to oversee the project once agreement had been obtained.

6.4 Emergency plan update - Cllr Bray reported that she had attended a webinar hosted by Devon Communities Together. The chairman advised she had also attended. The clerk was asked to circulate the slides for info. The chairman advised that two parishioners with experience of creating emergency plans and who work in the industry had approached her to say they would be happy to create the plan for the parish and have it in place for the winter. Cllr Fisher agreed to help as she had completed a plan for Ashwater parish. It was agreed that the parishioners would take on the project.

6.5 Community CCTV project - cllrs reviewed the quotes for CCTV installation ahead of the meeting. Cllrs agreed to proceed with M & E Alarms. Motion proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Paulger and agreed by all. The clerk was asked to notify the hall and shop committees out of courtesy.

7. FINANCES

7.1 Authorisation of expenses – Coronation Hall hire for August meeting £22, J Sanders grass cutting 04-26 £260, replacement defibrillator battery £447.00. Accounts proposed for payment by Cllr Russell, seconded by Cllr Gearing and agreed by all.

7.2 Current account as of 17th July 2026 - £11957.78. Monthly budget sheet circulated for Cllrs info.

8. Planning.

8.1 1/0493/2026/FUL - Single storey extension to the bungalow 7 Crabbs Close, St Giles On The Heath - Cllrs agreed to support the application - proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Paulger and agreed by all.

8.2 1/0581/2026/FUL - Conversion of redundant barn to 1no. Dwelling, Barn At Grid Reference 235052 087842 St Giles On The Heath - Cllrs agreed to support the application - proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Bray, Cllr Hamlyn abstained and all remaining cllrs supported the proposal.

8.3 1/0517/2026/LBC - Regularisation of west elevation and fenestration in relation to 1/1189/2015/LBC Location: Building At Grid Reference 236205 090942, Sitcott - Cllr Evans declared an interest and abstained from voting. Cllrs agreed to support the application. Motion proposed by Cllr Hamlyn, seconded by Cllr Paulger and agreed by all.

8.4 1/0333/2026/FUH - Extension to garage 10 Orchard Close, St Giles On The Heath - permission granted.

8.5 1/0279/2026/FUL 24th July 2026 Replacement windows - Linda Cottage, St Giles On The Heath - withdrawn. Cllr Fisher declared an interest and was permitted to explain that the application was not required as the works were under permitted development rights. She confirmed that the listed building consent application is still required.

8.6 1/0264/2025/FUL 4th August 2026 Part conversion and extension to existing outbuilding to form studio office space (affecting a public right of way) Little Meadow, St Giles On The Heath - withdrawn.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 The clerk was asked to write to the Sladesmoor developers asking them to remind contractors not to use the playing field as a means of accessing the shop or car park.

9.2 The clerk shared details of a traffic notice for Monday 19th October for the road from Tower Hill Cottage to Upcott cross for meter work by South West Water.

9.3 Cllrs agreed that the grass would not need cutting for a further couple of weeks. It was agreed to offer the contractor the equivalent hours work weeding the verges back to the kerbstones and the tall weeds inside the playing field.

9.4 Cllr Bray mentioned the damage caused by National Grid and will provide photos to the clerk who was asked to write to them to ensure it is rectified.

10. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

10.1 The next parish council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6th October 2026.

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

11.1 Meeting closed at 9pm.

Chairman Sign and date2.....