

DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH

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MINUTES

**of the meeting of Diddlebury Parish Council
held on Wednesday 23rd July 2025 at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.**

079/25– Present

Cllr. D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllr. R Povall, Cllr. R Morgan, Cllr. S Povall, Cllr. A Rattu, Cllr. T O'Boyle, Cllr. A Watson, Cllr. B Watts, Cllr. C Martyn

In attendance - the Clerk

Apologies: Received from Corvedale Division Cllr. Colin Stanford

080/25 – Declarations of Interest.

Members were requested to declare any Disclosable Personal or Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No Declarations were made.

081/25 – Public involvement session.

No members of the public attended the meeting.

082/25– Approval of the Minutes of the parish council meetings of 25th June 2025

The draft Minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting: no objections were raised to them at the meeting.

Cllr. R Povall **proposed** that the Minutes of the meeting of 25th June 2025 be approved as a correct record of the meeting.

Proposal **seconded by** Cllr. Morgan

Vote: Seven in favour, two abstentions, carried by a majority.

083/25: Matters arising from the Parish Council Meeting of 25th June 2025 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda.

046/25: Motte Farm concrete apron. This matter is now closed. Clerk to confirm situation to Mr Bithell.

070/25: Blocked footpath by bridge to Bache Mill: Cllr. Martyn will investigate and if necessary ask Highways to come and clear it.

WWI sign. The Chairman is still negotiating on a suitable location for this sign.

084/25- Reports

084/25/1 – Chairman’s Report. The Chairman reported on his discussion with Mrs Annie Brick. He has raised further issues regarding the planning issues at Green Farm, Middlehope. He completed and submitted SC’s Youth Questionnaire and this Friday he will represent DPC at SC’s Better Communications symposium in Shrewsbury: he will ask for the appointment of a dedicated member of the Highways team to be a first point of contact for DPC. He has dealt with continuing issues concerning notices on DPC’s bus shelters. He has completed a crime survey and pointed out we get no feed back or visits from the Police. Cllr. Rattu asked if fly tipping is a listed issue on the form and was advised it is not. Cllr. R Povall advised that local farmers get all their crime related information from the NFU

084/25/2 – Corvedale Division Cllr. Colin Stanford’s report. Cllr. Stanford did not attend the meeting but sent in a written report with information about major infrastructure projects to highways north of Shrewsbury. He advised SC has acquired two new resurfacing machines which hopefully will resurface and repair potholes with a pressurised mix that seals repairs. The Shropshire Local Plan was rejected by the Inspectorate in February: SC is hoping to offer training and guidance to parish councils on how to be an effective part of the call to landowners and developers to put forward proposals for site developments. He has been appointed as a member to the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Group and will attend his first meeting on 30th July.

084/25/3 - Flood Action Group report. Cllr. Martyn attended a Flood Forum meeting on 3rd July at which the problems in Bouldon were discussed: work will start in August. The wall at Peaton has been repaired satisfactorily. He has discussed with them the concerns raised by a resident about the development at 3 - 4 Mill Lane, Diddlebury. He hopes Mr Jack Wrigley takes his gamekeeper with him when he goes to inspect the leaky dam with Sarah Markness of Shropshire Wildlife Trust as the gamekeeper has much local knowledge about where leaky dams are most effective, a fact which was confirmed by Cllr. Watts. Cllr. Watts felt the dams needed to be larger than leaky dams: Cllr. Martyn advised larger dams are beyond the remit of Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

084/25/4 – Louise Powell Almshouse Trust. Cllr. O’Boyle reported on a recent meeting. The Trust’s finances are in good order, all the houses are fully let. Hoisers Almshouses in St Giles are being renovated.

084/25/5 - Diddlebury Village Hall Report: Cllr. Rattu attended a DVH meeting on 7th July. It was suggested a big sign be painted on the end wall, identifying the hall more easily from the road. There was much discussion about notice boards: the hall is planning to erect its own notice board and advised that information on the Three Castles map is out of date and it may have to be re-sited to accommodate a new dedicated DVH notice board.

085/25 – Highways, foot paths and environmental matters. The Chairman, Andy Keyland of Highways and local residents met to discuss the effect the proposed road closure scheme in Bouldon will have on residents and businesses and what steps can be taken to ameliorate the impact of the closures. Cllr. Watson reported Severn Trent’s works have been completed but they are planning to instal a new water tank at the Moors site. Cllr. O’Boyle is concerned for the safety of children playing in Mill Lane during the holidays. The Chairman felt DPC had done all it could in safety terms by erecting the recent warning signs and creating the new playground. Cllr. Rattu asked if anything further had been heard about the united approach to Highways about the speed on the B4368. Nothing further has been heard and there has been

no Police presence. The Clerk has raised the issue of a damaged bridge over a culvert in Westhope with Highways and will seek a progress report.

086/25 – Consideration of correspondence and communications - Correspondence List for meeting on 23rd July 2025

1. Bundle of correspondence between SC Planning Department and the Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, Bristol concerning DPC's submissions in support of the appeal against the refusal of permission for 24/03617/LBC and the variation of Condition 2 thereof.
2. DPC letter sent via email to SC's Planning Department in support of planning applications 25/01457/FUL and 25/01458/LBC re Bache Mill House, Bache Mill.
3. Notification from SALC that the next Chair's meeting will be on Thursday 11th September 2025, 6.00pm via Zoom. Link to follow.
4. Summer Edition of the Councillors Newsletter from Severn Trent Water.
5. Letter and email from DPC to SC Planning Department, supporting application 25/01873/FUL re 3 – 4 Mill Lane, Diddlebury.
6. Email from Stephanie Hayes re public consultation about Shropshire Hills National Landscape. Further meeting in Church Stretton 24th July 2025
7. Email SALC re a conference on 3rd October 2025 re Climate & Biodiversity Matters – book via conference@middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk
8. Weekly Briefing from SALC including item about 'Call for Sites;' notification. Call for Sites invites landowners etc to contact SC and promote any sites they have for potential development.
9. Long survey from the Police & Crime Commissioner seeking parish council's to respond to it by the 14th October 2025. Any volunteers?

087/25 - Finance Report for July 2025

Diddlebury Parish Council – Finance Report for July 2025

Balance b/fwd from June 2025

£8,934.55

Less: cheques/direct debits drawn on Precept Funds on 23.07.25

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| 1. HSBC bank charges on statement 394 | £ 7.80 |
| 2. HSBC charges on statement 395 | £ 7.00 |
| 3. Clerk's net salary for July 2025 | £286.94 |
| 4. Clerk's net salary for August 2025 | £286.74 |
| 5. HMRC – PAYE on Clerk's July & August salary | £ 48.60 |
| 6. <u>Administrative expenses for July & August 2026</u> | |
| • July/Aug contribution to Broadband/telephone | £40.00 |
| • Postage/certificate of posting to Planning Inspectorate re Donovan appeal | £ 1.70 |
| • 26.06.25 Andy Holmes: IT support – internet and Cloud back up not working – repairing same | £40.00 |
| • 03.07.25 Andy Holmes IT support – internet failure | |

again. Changed wifi adaptor and router	£20.00	
• Mileage at 45p per mile		
23.07.25 to Diddlebury Village Hall for		
PC meeting - 32 miles	£14.40	
Total admin expenses	£116.10	£116.10
	£753.18	£ 753.18
Balance of Precept Funds c/fwd to September 2025		£8,181.37

Ring-fenced funds, reserves funds and third-party funds held by Diddlebury Parish Council

CIL/Neighbourhood Fund: Balance b/fwd from June 2025		£5,500.95
Environmental/asset maintenance fund: Bal. b/fwd from June 2025		£ 530.82
Legal Expenses ring-fenced fund		£ 750.00
Diddlebury Village Hall reserves fund for car park maintenance		£3,500.00
Reserves Fund held for SC elections		£ 457.73
Ring fenced fund for WWI Information Board		£ 300.00
<u>Third Party Funds</u>		
Corvedale Walking & Footpath Group b/fwd	£850.00	
LESS: Cheque payable to Stephen Kelby	£300.00	
Balance c/fwd to September 2025	£550.00	£ 550.00
Flood Action Group		£ 228.46
		<u>£11,817.96</u>

Cllr. Watson **proposed** that cheques/dd's totalling £753.18 from Precept Funds and £300 from the Corvedale Walking & Footpath Group third party funds be approved for payment.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. O'Boyle

Vote: Unanimous in support of the proposal..

Balance of funds held by DPC following payment of July authorised cheques etc

Precept Funds	£ 8,181.37
Ring-fenced and third party funds held	<u>£11,817.96</u>
	<u>£19,999.33</u>

Verification of the Clerk's Cash book and HCBC Bank Statement No.s 394 and 395 reconciliation was approved by Cllr. O'Boyle

The proposed purchase of notice boards for Bache Mill and Sutton has been deferred to the next meeting.

088/25 - Any Other Business (for the dissemination of information only)

The various IT problems being experienced by the Clerk with DPC's computer during July were discussed at length. A new domain name for DPC, namely **clerk@diddlebury-pc.gov.uk** has now been launched but is being used concurrently with the outlook.com email address to prevent the loss of emails. The Clerk will pursue WebOrchard for gov.uk domain names for councillors.

There being no further business to conduct, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 9.10pm

The next Parish Council Meeting, commencing at 7.30pm, will be held on Wednesday 24th September 2025 at Westhope Village Hall. There will be no meeting in August unless urgent business arises.

Minutes signed by: _____

Dated: _____