

Draft Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council

Tuesday 28 April 2026

Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Ebdon (Chair), Lock, Latimer, Cox, Abbott, Murray, Larden, Bishop

Apologies: Cllr Howard

Democratic Period:

Dorset Cllr Haynes attended the meeting and gave an update on the following.

- Currently awaiting a response from the Greenspace team regarding the mess outside the camp entrance at Piddlehinton.
It was agreed that Cllr Ebdon would write to the Executive Director at Dorset Council responsible for these services.

Action: Cllr Ebdon

- Awaiting further response from the Council Tax team at Dorset Council regarding second homes as the response received does not address the queries raised.
- The first draft of the new Cllr wards has been produced; this has been done on numbers and not the rurality/compatible communities of the County. The consultation for the proposed areas commences in September.

Cllr Ebdon asked Dorset Cllr Haynes about the proposed closure of Maiden Newton fire station.

These proposals are nothing to do with Dorset Council and therefore has no Cllr influence.

Cllr Ebdon asked all Cllrs if they agree that the consultation should be completed. Due to the number of thatched properties in the Valley and the flooding incidents that occur, it was agreed that the Clerk should complete the consultation.

Action: Clerk

Cllr Lock asked Dorset Cllr Haynes about the various road signs and bollards being left throughout the Valley. These should be reported to Highways.

Signs being turned by hedge cutters should also be reported.

Cllr Cox reported on behalf of a parishioner the loud music being played from the old shop.

184/2025 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Latimer & Bishop declared an interest in item 7a), P/VOC/2026/01733, Butts Cottage

185/2025 Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 31 March 2026

It was proposed by Cllr Larden and seconded by Cllr Cox that these should be accepted as a true record of the meeting. Agreed with one abstention.

186/2025 Action points from last minutes

- a) 176a)/2025 – All Cllrs to read DAPTC Statement of reasonable expectation – Agenda item
- b) 179a)/2025 – Cllr Murray to raise motion for Traffic Calming – Agenda item
- c) 179b)/2025 – Cllr Lock to raise motion for speed limit extension – Agenda item

187/2025 Planning Matters

- a) Planning consultations

P/LBC/2026/01722 – Muston Manor Lane to Muston Manor Farm, Piddlehinton - Replacement of 2 No. windows.

Cllr Lock presented this application and advised that the proposals should be supported.

It was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Bishop that the proposals are supported. All agreed.

P/FUL/2026/01554 – Land south of Bourne Park, London Row junction London Close to entrance Bourne Farm, Piddlehinton - Erect 6 no. industrial units with parking

Cllr Lock presented this application and advised that there are no material planning objections but does not support the proposals on the grounds of increased traffic and concerns that there are already vacant units so there shouldn't be a need for any new units currently. It has not been identified as a key employment site within the local plan.

It was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Cox that the application should not be supported for the reasons stated. All agreed with one abstention.

P/VOC/2026/01733 - Butts Cottage Park Farm to Brace of Pheasants Plush - Conversion of barn to single dwelling (With Variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/FUL/2023/07048 to amend approved plans)

Cllr Ebdon presented this application and reminded the Cllrs that the original application P/FUL/2023/07048 received no objections by Piddle Valley Parish Council, subject to the understanding between the neighbour's concerning height of the back elevation and the roof. The access, parking and turning area should be in place prior to the works commencing. Subsequently approved by Dorset Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Murray that this application is supported with the previous comments made. Agreed with two abstentions.

- b) Decision Notices

P/TRT/2026/00973 - Piddlehinton Village Hall Rectory Road Piddlehinton - T1 Horse Chestnut - Reduce back to previously cut points (approximately 2m all around) - Decision: Tree Works - TPO – Consent - Decision Date: 30/03/2026

P/TRT/2026/01163 - South House B3143 From Southover Close Piddletrenthide - T43 Beech - Remove branches overhanging neighbouring property back to suitable growth points (2m of growth & no pruning wound greater than 75mm) - Decision: Tree Works - TPO - Consent
Decision Date: 17/04/2026

P/CLP/2026/00572 - Lower Southcombe Farm Church Lane Piddletrenthide - Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed garage conversion to a kitchen/dining room - Decision: Granted

Decision Date: 25/03/2026

P/TRC/2026/00506 - The Manor House Main Street Piddletrenthide - T1 Sycamore - Fell
Decision: Tree Works - CA – Acceptable - Decision Date: 07/04/2026

188/2025 DAPTC meeting & training update

- a) DAPTC AGM – Statement of Reasonable Expectation

Cllr Ebdon reminded the Cllrs what this statement means.

The Statement of Reasonable Expectations (SoRE) has been created as a shared understanding of: what parishes and town councils can reasonably expect from Dorset Council, and what Dorset Council can reasonably expect from parish and town councils.

The statement aims to foster better working relationships, enhance democratic representation, and ensure effective service delivery for the benefit of local communities around 5 areas:

1. Mutual Respect and Recognition
2. Communication and Engagement
3. Support and Capacity Building
4. Collaborative Working
5. Transparency and Accountability

To support constructive engagement and a smooth decision-making process ahead of the AGM, councils are asked to provide feedback on suggested alterations, how it will be measured and whether we support it.

189/2025 Defibrillator Working Group update

Cllr Ebdon advised of the following.

- Spare Pads eventually received and fitted in Alton Pancras Defib 18 April. Alton Pancras Defib in service again with South West Ambulance Trust. Pads good till 08/2028
- Battery in Rugby Club Defib has reached expiry date but still showing full charge.
- All other pads set to expire March 2027
- Thanks to Cllr Bishop for cleaning the Plush Defib

190/2025 Financial Matters

a) Payments

Mrs Paulley April expenses	£15.30
Reimbursement of plaque for playground	
To Cllr Ebdon	£56.32
Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall	£27.50
Community Heartbeat – Pads	£17.94

It was proposed by Cllr Bishop and seconded by Cllr Abbott that these payments are made. Agreed with one abstention.

b) Review end of year accounts

A discussion took place regarding the labels of some of the columns which were resolved at the meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Bishop that with the amendment to some of the labels that these should be approved. All agreed.

191/2025 Highway Matters

a) Defect responses

- Debris on pavements from potholes has been completed. Report that not all debris has been cleared.
- The verge opposite The Manor. Response received stating the verge hasn't met intervention levels.

b) Traffic Calming – Cllr Murray

This item was discussed and it was agreed that exploring the possibility of a 20mph should be considered.

Action: Cllr Murray to review criteria for a 20mph

c) 30mph extension, Recommendation circulated– Cllr Lock

Motion: Piddle Valley Parish Council to submit the recommendation to extend the 30mph limit on Church Hill south of Borne Drove to Dorset Council. Proposer Cllr Lock Seconder Cllr Ebdon

All agreed.

Action: Clerk to submit to Dorset Council Road Safety team.

192/2025 News & Information

No updates.

193/2025 Playing field & Playground

- a) Grass cutting agreement

A discussion took place and it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Academy Trust to express concerns regarding the costs compared to what Dorset Council is providing for neighbouring Parishes.

As a parish council we are required to follow our financial regulations, so need clarity around the contract, costs and any tender process carried out.

Action: Clerk to contact Academy Trust

194/2025 External Correspondence received

- a) Community Conversations events by Dorset Council – Invite received to join online sessions
- b) Alton Pancras concerns with road to church – Clerk to check status of responsibility.
- c) Sewer renovation works in Piddle Valley from Wessex Water – Clerk to post on website
- d) ROSPA - SaferPlay, a user-friendly software solution designed to help you carry out your own routine playground inspections with confidence and ease.

195/2025 Agree date for AGM

It was agreed to hold the AGM on Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 7pm.

196/2025 Items for next agenda

Grass cutting agreement
20mph request update
DAPTC AGM
Parish meetings

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2124 with notice that the next meeting will be the AGM held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 7pm, followed by the May meeting at 7.30pm at Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall.

All Agendas & Minutes can be viewed at www.piddlevally-pc.org.uk