

Draft Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council

Tuesday 30 June 2026, 7pm

Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall

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

Cllrs Spearing, Lloyd were co-opted during part B of the meeting.

Apologies: None

Part A – Reconvened Annual Council Meeting

1/2026 Election of Chair

It was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Murray that Cllr Ebdon is elected as Chair. All agreed. RESOLVED

2/2026 Chairs Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Complete

3/2026 Election of Vice-Chair

It was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Abbott that Cllr Latimer is elected as Vice Chair. All agreed. RESOLVED

4/2026 Absence with apologies

None

5/2026 Declarations of Interest

None

6/2026 Note that previous Annual Council meeting did not happen

The Chair advised that the previous meeting did not happen due to failure of a Chair being elected.

7/2026 Election of Planning Representatives

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Cox that the following are elected.

Cllr Abbott – Alton Pancras
Cllr Lock – Piddletrenthide
Cllr Murray/Larden – Piddlehinton

All agreed. RESOLVED

8/2026 Election of Emergency Officers

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Murray that the following are elected.

Piddlehinton – Cllr Lock
Piddletrenthide/Plush – Cllrs Cox, Abbott
All agreed. RESOLVED

9/2026 Election of DAPTC Representatives

It was proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Latimer that Cllr Larden is elected.

All agreed. RESOLVED

10/2026 Appointment of members to existing Working Groups;

a. Finance and Clerk's Terms & Conditions Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Abbott and seconded by Cllr Murray that Cllrs Cox, Latimer & Ebdon are elected as this working group for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

b. Defibrillator Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Lock that Cllrs Ebdon and Larden are elected as this working group for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

c. Playing Field/School Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Lock that Cllrs Cox and Larden are elected as this working group for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

d. Road Safety Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Murray that Cllrs Ebdon and Lock are elected as this working group for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

e. Rights of Way Officers

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Cox that Cllr Lock is elected for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

f. Policy Working Group

It was proposed by Cllr Lock and seconded by Cllr Murray that Cllrs Cox, Ebdon & Latimer are elected as this working group for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

11/2026 Appointment of new committees or Working Groups in accordance with standing order 4

NONE

12/2026 Review and adoption of appropriate standing orders and financial regulations

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Murray that the Standing Orders are re-adopted for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Murray that the Financial Regulations are re-adopted for the next year. All agreed. RESOLVED

13/2026 Review of inventory of land and other assets including buildings and office equipment

It was agreed that this needs a review.

14/2026 Confirmation of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insurable risks

Agreed no changes required.

15/2026 Review of the Council's and/or staff subscriptions to other bodies

It was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Latimer that the current subscriptions continue. All agreed. RESOLVED

16/2026 Review of the Council's Code of Conduct

It was agreed that this needs a review.

17/2026 Review of the Council's complaints procedure

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Cox that no changes are required. All agreed. RESOLVED

18/2026 Review of the Council's policies, procedures and practices in respect of its obligations under freedom of information and data protection legislation (see also standing orders 11, 20 and 21)

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Murray that no changes are required. All agreed. RESOLVED

19/2026 Review of the Council's policy for dealing with the press/media

It was proposed by Cllr Ebdon and seconded by Cllr Latimer that no changes are required. All agreed. RESOLVED

20/2026 Review of the Council's employment policies and procedures

These need to be drafted and approved.

21/2026 Review of the Council's expenditure incurred under s.137 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the general power of competence.

This was agreed. RESOLVED

22/2026 Confirm ordinary meetings of the full council will take place on the last Tuesday of every month commencing at 7.30pm excluding December up to the next annual meeting of full council

All agreed. RESOLVED

Part B – Ordinary Meeting

23/2026 Democratic Period

Cllr Ebdon advised that Piddlehinton Gym have been granted a 50% grant towards a solar solution. This was scheduled to be installed in June and should make the Gym net zero in terms of electricity for the years ahead.

Dorset Cllr update

Dorset Cllr Haynes gave apologies for the meeting but advised a report would follow.

Police/Home watch update

18/06/2026 Alton Pancras – theft of business road signs.

24/06/2026 Enterprise Park – damage to gates to temporary traveller site

25/06/2026 Enterprise Park – Break to Ashley Wood and electric bikes stolen

26/06/2026 Bourne Park – security reporting two males on site

24/2026 To consider Co-option applications

Two applications were received for Cllr positions and the applicants were present at the meeting. Following an introduction from both of them it was proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Lock that Nicholas Spearing and James Lloyd are co-opted on to the Council. All agreed. RESOLVED

25/2026 Minutes of Piddle Valley Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2026

It was proposed by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Larden that these minutes are accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. All agreed. RESOLVED

26/2026 Action points from last minutes

- a) Democratic Period – Cllr Ebdon to write to the Place Executive Director at Dorset Council regarding the entrance to the camp – COMPLETE

Cllr Ebdon advised that a response has been received which included the following.

The Gypsy and Traveller team have been actively addressing this matter with all residents, to remove any unused, untaxed, and unroadworthy vehicles across the site this has already resulted in some progress, including the removal of two vans and the caravan you mention.

The team is regularly attending the site to improve the appearance and reduce mess. Over the past week the grass has been cut, and dirt and debris cleared from around the kerbstones.

There are still some items remaining at the entrance, including tyres, a wooden unit, a gas bottle, smaller debris, and one unroadworthy van as shown in your photo. The resident responsible has assured the team that these will be removed as soon as possible.

A member of the team will check on progress and remind the resident of the urgent need to remove these items.

We do acknowledge that the condition of the entrance has been unsightly, and I want to reassure you that we are working closely with residents to ensure the area is cleaned, tidied, and maintained to an acceptable standard.

- b) Democratic Period – Clerk to complete the consultation relating to the Miaden Newton Fire Station proposed closure – COMPLETE
- c) 191/25b) – Cllr Murray to explore criteria for a 20mph through Valley – Agenda item
- d) 191/25c) - Clerk to submit 30mph extension at Piddlehinton to Highways – COMPLETE
- e) 193/25 – Clerk to contact Wessex Academy regarding grass cutting contract – COMPLETE

27/2026 Tree notifications

As below item.

28/2026 Tree notifications

P/TRC/2026/02591 - The Manor House Main Street Piddletrenthide - G1 Ash x 3 – Remove

P/TRC/2026/02495 Proposal: G1 Ash x 3 - Fell Location: The Old Vicarage B3143 From Junction Church Lane to The Poachers Inn Public House Junction Smiths Piddletrenthide

b) Decision Notices

P/TRC/2026/01983 - 10 Rectory Road Piddlehinton - T1 & T2 Ash - Reduce by 3-4m in height & deadwood (30%) (cut size approximately 30cm) - Decision: Tree Works - CA - Acceptable

Decision Date: 01/05/2026

P/TRT/2026/01330 - The Old Vicarage B3143 From Junction Church Lane To The Poachers Inn Public House Junction Smiths Piddletrenthide - T8 Beech - Reduce lowest right hand branch extending towards the house by 3m (pruning no greater than 80mm) - Decision:

Tree Works - TPO – Consent - Decision Date: 21/04/2026

P/LBC/2026/01722 - Muston Manor Lane To Muston Manor Farm Piddlehinton - Replacement of 2 No. windows. Decision: Granted - Decision Date: 26/05/2026

P/TRD/2026/02950 - West House Kingrove Farm Access Road Piddletrenthide - T1 Horse Chestnut - Remove Under Regulation 14 (S198) Decision: Tree Works - Reg 14 - Does not require consent - Decision Date: 05/06/2026

P/TRC/2026/02591 - The Manor House Main Street Piddletrenthide - G1 Ash x 3 – Remove Decision: Tree Works - CA – Acceptable - Decision Date: 17/06/2026

P/TRC/2026/02495 - The Old Vicarage B3143 From Junction Church Lane To The Poachers Inn Public House Junction Smiths Piddletrenthide - G1 Ash x 3 – Fell - Decision: Tree Works - CA – Acceptable - Decision Date: 03/06/2026

29/2026 DAPTC meeting & training update

a) Action Briefing / Register of Interests (RoI) Process Change

The Clerk advised that the RoI system is changing and that all Cllrs are required to submit their declarations again and the biggest change is that no addresses will be published on the new system. Clerk will forward relevant links once received.

Action: Clerk to circulate links once received

b) Survey Request - Community Emergency Response Plans

Cllr Cox confirmed that he has submitted a response on behalf of the Parish Council.

c) Email host

The Clerk advised the council that the host for the generic email address needs changing but although previous requests to the current website provider have been made, the necessary documents haven't been received.

It was agreed to chase the current provider once more and if unsuccessful, explore other options.

Action: Clerk to contact providers

30/2026 Defibrillator Working Group update

Cllr Ebdon advised that the Rugby Club defib Battery is out of date, replacement costs £320.08 and needs to be paid for before despatch. This defib was bought by Rugby Club, taken over by Parish Council, maintained under agreement by British Heart Foundation. Cllr Ebdon will approach Rugby Club regarding payment.

Cllr Larden agreed to take on the online reporting for the defibs in Alton Pancras, Plush and Piddletrenthide.

31/2026 Financial Matters

a) Audit

Internal Audit Report 2025/26 - To receive and note the completed internal audit report (AGAR page 3).

This has been received and will be reviewed.

Action: Clerk/All Cllrs

AGAR Section 1 — Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 - To consider and approve each statement in order.

It was proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Larden that these statements are approved. All agreed. RESOLVED

AGAR Section 2 — Accounting Statements 2025/26 - To receive the signed Accounting Statements from the RFO and approve them. The Chair to sign Section 2 following approval.

It was proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Larden that these statements are approved. All agreed. RESOLVED

Approval of the Period for the Exercise of Public Rights - To approve the dates for the exercise of public rights and delegate publication to the Clerk

The Clerk advised that the inspection period will be 1 July – 11 August.

b) Payments

May:

Mrs Paulley May expenses	£23.40
Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall	£27.50
Play Safety – Playground Inspection	£99.60
DAPTC – Annual subscription	£682.67

June:

Mrs Paulley June expenses	£29.70
Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall	£27.50

It was proposed by Cllr Murray and seconded by Cllr Larden that these payments are made. All agreed. RESOLVED

32/2026 Highway Matters

a) Defect responses

The only response received is to advice that the street name plates at Piddlehinton have been erected.

The following defects were reported:

- The safety mirror at Piddlehinton Cross - vegetation has been cut on one side but the other side is in need of clearing.
- The 30 repeater sign is missing near Racklands
- Road works signs have been left opposite Rectory Road
- General comments made about road closure signs with no location details along with visibility issues with placement of signs.

b) 20mph update – Cllr Murray

Cllr Murray reminded the meeting of the purpose of this item and has circulated the application process to all Cllrs. A discussion took place regarding the criteria which needs to be met with one of these being the concern of the parishioners and them requesting a lower speed limit. To date this has not been received.

c) 30mph extension update

The Clerk advised that a response from Dorset Council's Road Safety team has been received which advises that traffic data needs to be sought in the first instance and this would be at a cost to the Parish Council.

This was discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk should request information on where the counters would be placed and if these could be extended or additional tubes put throughout the Valley to help consider the 20mph around the school.

Action: Clerk to respond to Road Safety

33/2026 News & Information

No updates.

34/2026 Playing field & Playground

a) Grass cutting agreement

As agreed at the previous meeting, the clerk has contacted the Wessex Academy Trust who has responded apologising for the delay but that a response would be sent soon.

35/2026 External Correspondence received

a) Alton Pancras Church lane update

The Clerk advised that an email from the parishioner who raised the concerns with the state of the road and they have advised that repairs have now been completed.

b) Advance Notice of Repairs to Private Road - Bourne Park Industrial

These were circulated to all Cllrs.

- c) Request for dog fouling signage – Piddlehinton
- d) Dog Fouling in West Lane, Piddlehinton

It was agreed that for both items above the Clerk will contact Dorset Council for some signs.

Action: Clerk to obtain signs

e) Watermark Town or Community Award – Wessex Water

An email has been received from Wessex Water about an initiative from Wessex Water called the Watermark Award. We are working with Town and Parish Councils across our region to support their work within their communities, raising awareness of saving water, managing waste water and rainwater and helping the environment. More information here: <https://www.wessexwater.co.uk/become-a-watermark-town>

f) Fish survey – Wessex Water

An email has been received from Wessex Water informing the council that they are undertaking ecological surveys of the River Piddle and have identified the reach in Piddletrenthide as being suitable for a fish survey.

Cllr Larden confirmed that he has responded on behalf of the Parish Council.

36/2026 Items for next agenda

Grass cutting invoice
30mph extension
Internal Audit action plan
Email hosting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2100 with notice that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28 July 2026 at 7.30pm at Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall.

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