

Milton Damerel Parish Council Minutes

Minutes of Milton Damerel Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 18th June 2025 which commenced at 19:30

Present: Councillors Stephen Moyse (Chair), Richard Piper (V Chair) Teresa Walters, Edgar Pett, Jim Richardson and Peter Bromley, also present were County Councillor Lynne Rowsell and District Councillor Ken James and the Clerk Jane Elliott.

1. **Apologies** were received from: Councillors *Gareth Piper*
2. **Declarations of Interest**
 - a) Register of Interest: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. *None were declared.*
 - b) To declare any personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *None were declared*
 - c) To declare any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda and their nature. *None were declared*
3. **Chair's announcements:**
None
4. **Public Comments**
There was a Village Hall meeting in the next room to organize the Midsummer Music event on Saturday 21st June
5. **The minutes of the Parish Council meeting 21st May 2025** which had been circulated by email, were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting, they were duly signed by the Chair Councillor Stephen Moyse.
6. **Reports by District and County Councillors.**

Lynne Rowsell Described the induction process for new councillors and explained she was getting out to meet people in the Parishes. She is here to do whatever is needed and is always available by email
lynne.rowsell@devon.gov.uk

Ken James Gave a round up of his recent meetings in Totnes, Honiton and Torquay as the devolution process continues. 27 District Councils and 27 County Councils will disappear. No one is yet sure what the unitary councils will look like. Plymouth wants to go it alone. How the other areas go is undecided and different options are still being considered. Torridge is the most economically stable district in Devon but may lose out in future partnerships because the North may not generate enough income. There are many roads to maintain in North and West Devon. It's still a real muddle and Torridge maybe in danger of getting left out in the sticks. The growth area is south of the A30.

TDC have a number of economic growth projects. The Marine Centre in Appledore, Operations Centre near Holsworthy, Social Housing in East the Water Bideford Brunswick Wharf project Bideford East, with a Quay wall walkway done up by the developers. The Cattle Market progress is slow in Bideford. In Torrington there are new work units. In Bideford they are turning an old chapel into an arts centre.

In answer to a question from E Pett, the Arts Centre money is not from the same budget that would to support the homeless. A pot of money is available for people in need to lift people out of poverty. Contact Ken James for details of the hardship fund. There needs to be growth for prosperity to ensure a future for our young people. Torridge is the most deprived rural area with more people aged over 65 than under. 80% of the county budget goes on adult/child care costs.

Councillor.James@torridge.gov.uk
7. **Matters Arising**
 - 1) ICO outstanding, Clerk to check requirements

8. Planning Applications

None were received

9. Planning decisions

1/0370/2025/FUL Roof over existing silage clamp Worden Farm Milton Damerel: application granted permission

1/0120/2025/AGMB Prior notification for the change of use of agricultural building to 1 no. dwellinghouse and associated building operations under Class Q: application granted

There was short conversation about planning applications and how they are assessed. What criteria is there for a “settlement”
There needs to be the right houses in the right places for the right people.

Planning Appeals

None were received

10. Financial Matters

a) It was the unanimous decision of the Councillors to approve cheque for:

i) Clerk’s salary £264.55 ii) Clerk’s expenses £18.45 iii) Audit Dr Julia Foster £55 b) Financial report to date. Clerk has not received any Bank Statements c) Cllr. Peter Bromley made a further request for more signatories to be added.

11. Correspondence as below and as available at the time of the meeting

All correspondence received by email have been forwarded to Councillors. No correspondence was received by post.

12. Matters brought forward with the permission of the Chairman

- 1) The timing of the transition between clerks and the AGAR and financial requirements has been tricky to manage.
- 2) The exemption certificate for the AGAR was agreed and signed.
- 3) There was a short discussion about the condition of the roads, the potholes and the risk of a fatality if the highways are not maintained. Lynne Rownsell assured those present she was chasing this matter.
- 4) Richard Piper reported there are large areas of knotweed which may require herbicide, the Chair asked for some guidance in this matter.
- 5) Jim Richardson reported on the village Midsummer event to be held on Saturday 21st June.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:25