

BUCKLAND FILLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Community Day Centre, West Heanton

Thursday 3rd July 2025, 7.30pm

Present, Cllr Bond (Chair), Cllr Nethercott (Vice Chair) Cllr Balsdon, Cllr Salter. Selina Woollacott (Clerk)

1. Apologies. Cllr Davies. County Cllr Cottle-Hunkin, District Cllr Wheatley.

2. Declarations of interest, Councillors to declare any interests in matters on the agenda. None.

3. Open Session for members of the public to speak.

3.1) Discussion of matters raised by members of the public. No members of the public present.

4. Reports

4.1) Report from District Councillor. No Report.

4.2) Report from County Councillor. Clerk read out the following.

Hope you are all well and please do let me know if there's anything that councillors would like me to follow up in the parish. The NFU organised an event for county councillors this afternoon on a dairy farm down near Ivybridge which was great and particularly beneficial for those who don't come from a farming background. They spoke about various issues and challenges including the family farm tax and closure of SFI applications. We also heard a little bit about rural crime and the need for everyone to report anything suspicious.

5. Approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 1st May 2025.

6. Approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 1st May 2025.

7. Approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the 1st May 2025.

The above were sent to all Councillors prior to the meeting. All Councillors agreed that the minutes are an accurate record of each meeting. Cllr Bond signed the minutes.

8. Urgent matters raised by the Chairperson which are not included in the agenda. None.

9. Website. Clerk has been trying to move this issue forwards. It was agreed that Cllr Bond and the Clerk have until the September meeting to sort the current website out and have it back up and running. If not, the Clerk can use a website company to set up a website for the Parish Council.

10. Clerk's Report. Sir Geoffrey Cox office email. Clerk read the following email out.

Thank you for your enquiry on behalf of the Parish of Buckland Filleigh.

I have looked into the situation for this parish and can report the following.

Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) contracted with broadband supplier Airband in late 2020 to deliver fibre broadband to communities across Devon & Somerset over the course of three years, concluding at the end of 2024.

Your area is covered by cluster NF38. Unfortunately, Airband has faced a range of challenges over the intervening years which have delayed delivery of these contracts.

However, following Airband's restructure last year, the company is seeking to maximise take up across its existing network while slowing down on build activity which means it can no longer complete its contracted build for CDS in full. As a result, in April 2024, Airband sought a change to its contract.

Since then, CDS has worked closely with Airband to retain as much coverage across as many communities as possible under the scope of our contracts. This process has had some success in allowing further clusters to be built and I'm pleased to be able to let you know that NF38 is one of them - however, there will be a delay.

This will clearly be extremely disappointing for you, and we share your frustration.

Please keep an eye on the CDS website for a more detailed update on the timeline of build to your premises

Connecting Devon and Somerset - rural broadband programme

I am sorry that we cannot bring you more definitive news on the matter, and please do keep Sir Geoffrey updated as to any further news you may receive.

Thank you again for bringing this to Sir Geoffrey's attention.

Councillors discussed this reply. No future action at this time. Clerk informed Councillors that Sir Geoffrey will be in Shebbear and Sheepwash on the 29th July 2025 meeting members of the public.

11. Finance

11.1) Bank Account Balance and update on accounts.

On the 5th June 2025 the bank account balance was £13,779.73

Outstanding Cheques

£167 Shebbear Youth Club

£179.12 Insurance

The account holds £398.22 of P3 Money. Still waiting for 2025/2026 P3 funds

Cheques on this agenda total to £400.27

This leaves a useable balance of £12,635.12

11.2) Grit Bin payment. £350

11.3) ICO payment £40

11.4) Paper and folders £10.27

11.2 - 11.4 All Councillors agreed the payments cheques were signed.

11.5) Invoices to be paid not listed above. None.

12. Planning.

12.1) Review of Planning Applications in Buckland Filleigh and adjoining parishes. None.

12.2) Planning Decisions. None.

13) Asset Review. Clerk read through the list of assets. Most have been checked recently. Clerk will check the Filing Cabinets in the hall soon. Currently no issues or concerns with any of the Assets.

14. Footpaths and Roads

14.1) Footpath update. Clerk has asked Carey Valley Woodlands and Estate Management to complete the next stage of work needed on The Glebe footpath. This is the company who completed the bridge work on the footpath.

14.2) Drainage update. Clerk has asked Highways officer for an update on the Galmington Road and The Glebe Road drains issue. No reply yet. The Clerk will forward the reply to Councillors once received or will email again and copy in our new County Councillor, Cllr Cottle-Hunkin.

Cllr Bond asked for Horseshoes bridge to be reported as it has been hit.

Cllr Bond asked for the Grit Bin at Filleighmoor Gate to be reported as it has been hit.

(Clerk took photos of both on the way home and has reported both)

15. Correspondence email to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Housing Monitoring Dashboard from TDC. Councillors talked about this new dashboard and how it will be helpful for most Parishes.

Email from Sir Geoffrey Cox office with regards to broadband.

16. Matters for inclusion in the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 4th September 2025 at 7.30pm. Grit Bin checks.

Part 2. Clerk Appraisal. Appraisal completed. Please see the Appraisal form.

Meeting Closed 8.02pm