

Lewdown Grouped Parish Council

Coryton, Lewtrenchard, Marystow and Thrushelton

Minute No 792 Ordinary Meeting Held on Monday 18th August 2025 at Lewdown Victory Hall

These minutes are provisional until they signed by the chair at the next meeting of the parish council.

Meeting opened 7.30pm

Present:- Cllrs Yeo (Chair), Alexander, Andrews, McSmythurs, Metherell, Perkins, Southcott, P. van Delft (clerk).

1. Apologies for absence: Cllrs Mincher, Wilkinson, Cllr Mott (WDBC) Cllr Grainger (DCC)
2. Members of the public open forum – None present
3. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Alexander – Item 9
4. Minutes of previous meeting 790& 791 being a true reflection of those meetings were approved and signed by the chair. Meeting No 790 proposed Cllr Andrews seconded Cllr Metherell, motion carried. Meeting No 791 proposed Cllr Andrews, seconded Cllr Alexander, motion carried.
5. Cllr Mott (WDBC) report – no reports this month yet.
6. Cllr Reports - Cllr Metherell asked if Cllr Wilkinson could attend to a broken tree limb in the vicinity of Thrushelton Church. Cllr McSmythurs enquired how to identify Avian Flu as a cause of death when reporting dead birds, no information was available to councillors at the meeting.
7. Finance –
 - 7.1 Payments were authorised for the following; Dean Elliott – Grass cutting July £60.00, motion proposed Cllr Andrews, seconded Cllr Perkins, all were in favour.
 - 7.2 External auditor report for financial year 2024-25 – The R.F.O. reported that the external auditor examination had now concluded.
8. New Councillors - vacant seats for Coryton and Marystow – despite a new advertisement had gone in the Newslink and Facebook page no interest has been expressed.
9. Play area updates
 - 9.1 Draft lease agreement – update – Cllr McSmythurs reported that all the outstanding points has been agreed by both parties, the official lease agreement will be available for signature when the Recreation Field Committee and the auditors for the Baring Gauld Trust have agreed the text of their lease.

Discussion took place if a qualified solicitor was required to overlook the details of the draft lease. It was resolved that since the lease agreement was of a 'simple agreement' it would not be necessary to seek any additional legal advice, motion proposed Cllr McSmythurs, seconded Cllr Perkins, motion carried.
 - 9.2 Planning application – Cllr Perkins informed that the planning application can be submitted once an approved supplier has been selected.
 - 9.3 Review of the play equipment quotes – Cllr Perkins informed that 2 revised quotations has been received and is still waiting for the third and final quotation.

Cllr Southcott suggested that a play equipment maintenance bank account is set up and budgeted for when the Ramps play area is open for use. Details to be considered nearer the time.
 - 9.4 Section 106 – update. The clerk had requested details of the drawdown procedure from WDBC. The WDBC officer will provide the information shortly.

Peter van Delft
Lewdown Grouped Parish Clerk

Parish Councillors

Graham Yeo (chair): Paul Mincher (vice chair)

Richard Alexander: Tom Andrews: Andrew McSmythurs: George Metherell: Nicola Perkins: Terry Southcott: Brian Wilkinson:

Clerk: Peter van Delft, Telephone: 01566 783023 Email: clerk@lewdowngroupedpc.org.uk www.lewdowngroupedparishcouncil.org.uk

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10. Highways – Chillaton parking issues – After much discussion it was considered that whilst there was a safety concern of parked vehicles in the vicinity of Chillaton Garage, it was thought that the issue should either be addressed by Milton Abbot Grouped Parish Council or that concerned individuals could report the problem with Devon Highways or Devon County Council.
Cllr Southcott observed that there is no “junction warning” sign at the village side of the Wye junction in Lewtrenchard, Cllr Southcott to report.
11. Correspondence – Local government pay agreement 2025-26 for clerks increased by 3.2%

Date, place and time of next meeting Monday 29th September, Lewdown Victory Hall, 7.30pm

Peter van Delft
Lewdown Grouped Parish Clerk

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