

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council Held on 20th January 2026 at Dinedor Village Hall

Present: Cllr. S. Penny – Chair
Cllr. N. Austin
Cllr. M. Louch
Cllr. J. Over

In attendance: Cllr. D. Davies – Herefordshire Council
Liz Kelso – Clerk
T. Griffiths – Parish Lengthsman
PCSO Lewis Thomas - West Mercia Police
5 members of the public

001/2026 Apologies, Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

Apologies for absence were noted from Cllr. T Greenow. There were no declarations of interest and no requests for dispensation.

002/2026 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2025, which had been previously circulated, were adopted and the Chair was authorised to sign the minutes as a true record of proceedings at that meeting

003/2026 Public Participation

003.1 Ward Councillor Report

The Ward councillor's report was received and the contents noted with thanks to Cllr. Davies. In addition to the written report Cllr. Davies noted that Herefordshire Council has agreed to continue with lengthsman scheme funding for 2026/7 although the rate per kilometre has been reduced by half to £60. Public Rights of Way funding and Drainage grant funding is also likely to be extended to 2026/7. The public realm contract has been awarded to the M Group with changes to the contract structure going forward.

003.2 Matters raised by the members of the public

There were no matters raised under this agenda item.

003.3 Police Matters

PCSO Lewis Thomas from the South Wye Safer Neighbourhood Team reported that there have been no police incidents in the last four months except reports of a dog attacking livestock. No information was available so the case has been closed. It was confirmed that patrols do visit Dinedor Camp with no incidents reported in recent months.

With regard to reports of vehicle speeds through the village, a request was made for the Rural Traffic Officer to contact the Clerk.

PCSO Thomas was thanked for attending the meeting.

004/2026 Clerk's Report

There was nothing to report under this agenda item other than items addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

005/2026 Financial Matters

005.1 Payments made since the last meeting

The following payments made since the last meeting were ratified:

• PrintPlus		
Printing of November newsletter		£55.00
• HMRC		
Tax & NI due on November salaries		£108.01
• Unity Bank		
Bank charges paid 31.12.2025		£6.00

005.2 Payments now due:

The following payments now due were agreed:

• M.J. & L.D.G. Meredith		
Installation of gates under footpath grant	£470.00	
VAT thereon	£94.00	
Total		£564.00
• Votex UK Ltd		
Hire of equipment	£500.00	
VAT thereon	£100.00	
Total		£600.00
• HALC		
Locum Cover for meeting	£275.00	
VAT thereon	£55.00	
Total		£330.00
• HMRC		
Tax & NI due on December salaries		£205.41

- Unity Bank
Bank charges due 31.1.2026 £6.00

005.3 Receipts since the last meeting

Bank interest of £16.99 was received on 31.12.2025

005.4 Budget review report for period to 31.12.2025

The budget review for the period to 31.12.2025 was noted with no matters raised by Members. The bank reconciliation was also noted showing a total balance of £11,759.56 as at 31.12.2025.

005.5 Budget 2026-7

Members noted the proposed draft budget for 2026-7 as presented, noting the anticipated year end balances and estimated income and expenditure for the forthcoming year. After due consideration, the budget as attached to these Minutes was unanimously agreed.

005.6 Precept for 2026-7

In accordance with the budget as agreed above, members unanimously agreed that a precept request amounting to £15,000 for financial year 2026-7 be submitted to Herefordshire Council. It was noted that whilst this is an increase on the previous year, the total weekly charge for residents of £2.03 for an average band D property still represents one of the lowest parish precepts in Herefordshire.

005.7 Annual Risk Review for year to 31.03.2026

The draft annual risk review for the year to 31.03.2026 as presented to the meeting was unanimously agreed.

006/2026 Planning Matters

006.1 Applications now due for observations

- Ref: 253089
Site: Land at Glebe Farm, Dinedor
Dev: Erection of ten dwellings and associated works

Members considered this application in depth and resolved to make the following comments/observations:

Additional housing within the parish of a type that encourages young families to move into the Village was welcomed. However, the development was considered an intensive development which is quite different from the remaining dwellings in the immediate area. In particular, concern was expressed that there are no other terraced housing units in the village with the result that the overall design and layout of the proposed development is not in-keeping with the immediate surroundings. It was suggested that the visual amenity of the proposed development might be improved by changes to the roof layout of the three terraced units.

Similarly, the proposed layout of the development indicates a row of houses very close to the road edge which was not considered to be in-keeping with neighbouring properties and it is suggested that moving the front line of the development back from the road edge would not only mitigate this but would encourage residents to walk to the nearby Village Hall or other footpaths by providing space for a possible roadside footpath.

Concern was expressed regarding a number of statements contained within the supporting documents, with particular reference to road usage and road safety. For example:

- There is no formal pedestrian infrastructure along this road and the suggestion that the lane is “safe and suitable to operate as a shared surface” is incorrect.
- The statement relating to cycling fails to properly recognise that the B4399 is unsafe for cyclists to commute to Rotherwas and Hereford.
- The report states that there is access to public transport from the Village. There is not. The nearest bus stop is over a mile away from the development requiring a walk along the B4399, which has no footpath, for those requiring public transport for work or leisure journeys.
- Members supported a proposal that the applicant be conditioned to provide a pedestrian footpath from the development to the Village Hall to enable residents to access the services and activities provided there.
- The estimated additional vehicle movements resulting from this development were felt to be too low.

Concerns were also raised about provision for proposed drainage for the site particularly with regard to the risk of flooding of the proposed development itself and reference to pipes which were not felt to be in existence on site. It was strongly felt that as a condition to granting of any planning consent proposals are agreed with Herefordshire Council drainage engineers and installed before any building work commences.

The suggested provision of swift boxes was supported.

As a very rural environment, members had concerns about lighting of this development and would wish to see controls on external lighting for the site to protect wildlife.

With regard to the potential s106 contribution from this development, it was agreed that the following items be requested for consideration:

- An allocation of public open space within the village
- A pavement from the development to the Village Hall

The Clerk was instructed to notify Herefordshire Council accordingly.

006.2 Applications notified for permitted development

None

006.3 Planning Decisions

It was noted that application ref 252916 for land opposite Wye Stud Farm has been approved with conditions.

006.4 S106 Wish List

It was agreed that the creation of a s106 wish list be considered at the next meeting.

007/2026 Highway Matters

007.1 Lengthsman's Report

Members noted the verbal report from the Lengthsman on work undertaken since the last meeting. As the level of funding from Herefordshire Council is to be reduced for 2026-7, it was suggested that consideration be given to reducing the number of routine lengthsman visits for the forthcoming year. It was agreed that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.

007.2 Drainage Grant Funded Work

Members noted that final confirmation of the grant awarded under the Drainage Grant scheme for 2025-6 was received on 5th December with a grant of £2,236 being awarded compared with an application of £25,000. Work undertaken in accordance with this funding must be completed by 31.3.2026, invoices paid and evidence of work, paid invoices and a claim must be provided to Herefordshire Council no later than 10th April in order for reimbursement under the grant to be made. This leaves very little time for any realistic level of work to be completed within the time frame.

007.3 Approval to proceed with funded drainage work

After due consideration it was agreed that the funding be put to projects identified as 004, 005, and 006 in the funding application with a total value of £2,400 (excl. VAT). All other work will be deferred to the next financial year.

007.4 Footpaths Officer Report

A verbal report by the Cllr. Louch was noted and he and Peter Keyse as footpaths officers were thanked for their work.

007.5 Public Rights of Way Funding

7.5.1 Update on PROW funded activities

It was reported that using gates provided under the PROW funded scheme, a total of six gates have been installed at locations using the landowners preferred contractor in the interests of expediency. It was resolved to ratify the decision to use this contractor for the work identified.

7.5.2 Delegation of authority to use funding

It was unanimously agreed to authorise the Clerk, in conjunction with Cllr. M. Louch, to agree projects and expenditure in accordance with the agreed Public Rights of Way funding application (minute ref. 54.4/2025) up to a maximum expenditure of £5,216 to include labour and materials, provided such expenditure is reported to the next available parish council meeting.

007.6 Traffic Calming Measures

As requested, the Clerk has spoken to the Traffic Management Team at Herefordshire Council regarding options to reduce traffic speeds through the village. Herefordshire Council prioritise traffic regulation order requests at an annual meeting in January and the Ward Councillor has submitted a request for consideration for the next financial year. It is not yet known if this request has been successful.

008/2026 Dinedor Camp

008.1 Report from Camp Steering Group

The report from the Steering Group meeting held on 27th November 2025 was noted.

008.2 Dinedor Camp Access Road

There was no further news on the report from the consultant engaged by Herefordshire Council to review whether the road should be maintainable at public expense. It was agreed to submit a Freedom of Information Request for the cost of this report.

009/2026 Village Hall Matters

Members noted that it has been agreed not to increase room hire charges for the current year.

It was also noted that the property is now vested with the Official Custodian of Charities.

010/2026 IT Policy

A draft IT policy in accordance with the new assertion 10 requirement for the Annual Governance and Accounting Return, as submitted to the meeting, was agreed.

011/2026 Councillor Training

There were no requests for Councillor training.

012/2026 Reports from Councillors

There was nothing to report under this agenda item.

013/2026 Date of next meeting and items for the agenda

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 6.00pm in the Village Hall. There were no additional items raised for the agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed.

DINEDOR PARISH COUNCIL
Agreed budget 2026-7

	Actual Expenditure 2024-5	Budget Year to 31.3.2026	Agreed Budget Year to 31.3.2027
RECEIPTS			
Precept	£ 9,500.00	£11,000.00	£ 15,000.00
Grants		£ 6,879.00	£ 2,237.00
Insurance Premium Reimbursement	£ 1,069.44	£ 1,200.00	£ 800.00
Other Income: Transmitter income	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00	£2,000.00
VAT Reclaim	£ 621.25		
Interest	£ 48.26	£ 25.00	£ 70.00
Total Income	£ 13,238.95	£21,104.00	£ 20,107.00
PAYMENTS			
Staff Costs	£ 5,667.28	£ 6,200.00	£ 6,000.00
Temporary Staff costs			
General Office Costs	£ 461.57	£ 1,000.00	£ 750.00
Room Hire/meeting costs	£ 264.00	£ 300.00	£ 250.00
Insurance	£ 1,805.46	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Repairs & Maintenance/Lengthsman	£ 1,864.00	£ 2,950.00	£ 1,500.00
Dinedor Camp			
Maintenance	£ 8,105.49	£ 3,250.00	£ 3,000.00
Equipment	£ -	£ -	
Repairs & Maintenance (other)	£ -	£ 3,929.00	
Legal Expenses	£ -	£ -	
Purchases	£ -	£ 600.00	£ 500.00
Subscriptions	£ 483.48	£ 600.00	£ 600.00
Audit Fees	£ 283.25	£ 510.00	£ 350.00
Election Costs	£ -	£ -	£ -
Advertising/Publicity	£ -	£ -	£ -
Training	£ 50.00	£ 60.00	£ 60.00
Website Costs	£ 225.00	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
Newsletter	£ 330.00	£ 330.00	£ 350.00
Neighbourhood Plan costs	£ -	£ -	£ -
Grants and Donations	£ 560.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Miscellaneous	£ -	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
VAT	£ 2,262.81	£ -	
Total Expenditure	£ 22,362.34	£23,079.00	£ 16,710.00
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	-£ 9,123.39	-£ 1,975.00	£ 3,397.00
RESERVES			
Opening Balance	£ 17,897.08	£ 8,773.69	£ 6,798.69
Add: Net expenditure	-£ 9,123.39	-£ 1,975.00	£ 3,397.00
Closing Balance	£ 8,773.69	£ 6,798.69	£ 10,195.69

Agreed at a meeting held on 20.1.2026