

# Shobrooke Parish Council Meeting

**Minutes from the meeting of Shobrooke Parish Council held at the Village Hall on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7:30pm**

In attendance: Cllr Jones (Chair) Cllr Furse (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Collier Cllr Balkwill  
Cllr Leeming DCC Keable  
MDDC Tuffin. MDDC Jenkins  
Clerk: Mrs. Clarke 0 Members of the public

**01/09/25 The Chairman welcomed everyone.**

**02/09/25 There were no declarations of Interest**

**03/09/25 Minutes of the last meeting held** in July 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record.

**04/09/25 Reports** were received from MDDC Councillors Jenkins and Tuffin and DCC Councillor Keable, these can be seen online at:-  
<https://shobrookeparishcouncil.co.uk/agendas-and-minutes>

**05/09/25 Parish council - Matters arising-**

05.01 Wreath for memorial, it was agreed with Cllr Collier to join with the church when purchasing the wreaths for this year.

05.02 20 is plenty signs, the chair has put them together and a discussion was held on where they should be placed the chair will make sure they are placed appropriately.

05.03 £15,000 available funds in Crediton and surrounding area: This was open spaces projects however the surrounding parish councils combined together and used all the funds available. Funding emails of any type need to be forwarded to the council.

05.04 Update on the bus stop painting: both sides have been painted the front has yet to be completed, staples were a big problem and the council requests that staples are no longer used.

05.05 Policy Amendments: Statement of internal control, a discussion was held on this, amendments will be applied to the banking procedure inline with this policy first.

It was agreed that a payments list for approval to be sent to the councillors in advance each month. The Grievance Procedures and Equality & Diversity Policy were approved with a review in 2027.

**06/09/25 Mid Devon District Council**

**06.01** Planning Applications: - 25/00614/FULL was approved by the council

**06.02** Planning Decisions for 25/00347/OUT was noted

**07/09/25 Co-option** - A discussion was held about the vacancies and Cllr Leeming will be following these up.

**08/09/25 Finance** The following payments were approved

| Item     | Payee       | Purpose                      | Amount £ |
|----------|-------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 08.09.01 | Ionus       | Website Paid by DDR (August) | £7.20    |
| 08.09.02 | A. Clarke   | Salary (August)              | £255.28  |
| 08.09.03 | Lloyds Bank | Charges (August)             | £4.25    |
| 08.09.04 | HMS         | Maintenance (August)         | £461.00  |
| 08.09.05 | Allan Jones | Maintenance (August) Parts   | £39.00   |
| 08.09.06 | Ionus       | Website monthly DDR          | £7.20    |
| 08.09.07 | A Clarke    | Salary and Expenses          | £280.05  |
| 08.09.08 | HMS         | Maintenance                  | £162.00  |

**8.09.08** Parish Council receipts for £6.76 Interest was noted

**8.09.09** The Balances for the end of August were Parish Council Current Account

**09/09/25 Roads and Footpaths.**

**09.01** Placement of National speed limit signs: the end of speed limit sign needs to be moved to after the Shobrooke turning. What three words have been provided by Cllr Leeming and highways will be contacted. A number of options were discussed.

**10/09/25 Play Park** - The dates for the installation of park equipment, will be 8th October to 16th October and the Park will be closed over that period. Reference was made to Steve Densham at Mid Devon District Council, who recently removed play equipment from another village due to the expiration of a land lease. This is in storage and maybe reused. The clerk will contact Mr. Densham about this as it was mentioned that the condition of the slide has deteriorated further and the slide will soon have to be condemned.

**11/09/25 Clerks Report:** Parish website. Listings currently display only the councillor's title and surname, without contact details. All enquiries are routed through to the clerk's email. An update about the changes needed with the email addresses was provided. At present, only the clerk uses an official domain-based address, however in the next year it is expected that every councillor will have to use an official councillor email.

**12/09/25 Miscellaneous matters/ correspondence**

The reorganisation of local government provisions, the council has to consider what services the district council currently provides, as these responsibilities may be devolved in the future. Mid Devon District Council contributes to the verge cutting in certain areas, and possibly bin emptying and road sweeping three times a year. The parish estimate we are unlikely to face significant changes.

**13/09/25 Minor Matters and Items for Future Agenda**

Concerns about a broken bridge railing that has not yet been repaired, with one side now completely missing. This creates a serious hazard, especially for children during any period of flooding. This will be chased up again with Devon County Council.

**Concerns about Mid Devon Housing Allocations**

Concerns were raised about housing allocations in Mid Devon. They argue this is unfair to both the individuals and the wider community, as it isolates vulnerable people and places strain on local residents. The placement system was explained as a points-based policy, designed to be non-prejudicial, but councillors feel it is ineffective in practice. They raised issues such as the lack of transport, large underused gardens, and fear among older residents.

Suggestions include selling the existing houses and using the funds to build more suitable housing in Cridton, possibly modern modular units, or renting properties directly through the parish council. They also note the appointment of a new Housing Minister, Steve Reid, following a cabinet reshuffle.

**Cars and Containers by the Bridge**

Councillors discussed complaints about numerous cars and containers accumulating near the bridge, raising both environmental and planning concerns.

**14/09/25 Date of next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2025.** The Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.