

Members of the Press and Public are welcome to attend this meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (1) (2). There are no items of a confidential & contractual nature for discussion under Part B (exclusion of press and public) at this meeting.

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## **Additional Information – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

- 1 Chair Welcome**
- 2 Apologies** To consider any apologies for absence.
- 3 Declarations of Interest**
- 4 Open Public Forum** 15 minutes for members of the public to raise any issue of concern
- 5 Minutes** To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025.
- 6 Report of the District & County Councillor**

## 7 Parish Matters

### 7.1 Highways



**Marwood Road flooding**

**Scotchmead water leaks**

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## Road Markings at The Chestnuts

From Cllr Warren



This morning as seen in the photograph a tractor/ trailer mounted the verge and spread mud all over the pavement and road. This made the pavement very slippery with associated risks. I cleared the mess up.

Not shown in the photograph is a fibre optic manhole lightweight concrete cover and a fire hydrant connection which could be damaged if a fully loaded tractor or similar were to drive over them

To prevent a recurrence the PC consider purchasing asking DCC Highways for 2 3 of these black and white with red posts as in the verge below the Chestnuts prevent this occurring again.



can  
or  
or

to

## Village Way Pothole

Cllr Branson reports - ... the big pot hole in the middle of the road at Scotchmead junction has been filled in together with the fire hydrant cover!!



### 7.2 Parking in Scotchmead (incl car park surface and abandoned vehicles)

Cllr Branson has forwarded the details of 7 cars that appear to be abandoned in the car park.

### 7.3 Telephone Kiosk

Report from Cllr Owen

## 7.4 Community Infrastructure Levy Receipts – Play Area Assessment & Topics Funds

### Email from previous Topics Editor

Unfortunately, I won't be able to make the next Parish Council meeting, as we'll be away. As a former signatory, would you kindly raise the following matter at next week's Parish Council asking that it be minuted. 'the residual monies of £290.00 from the Topics account were made payable to the Parish Council via a cheque Fiona Incoll' posted to Marks house' This will give closure to our involvement in Topics.

Council to decide destination of the funds

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## Play Area

Cllr Branson has supplied photos of the play area for consideration of improvements



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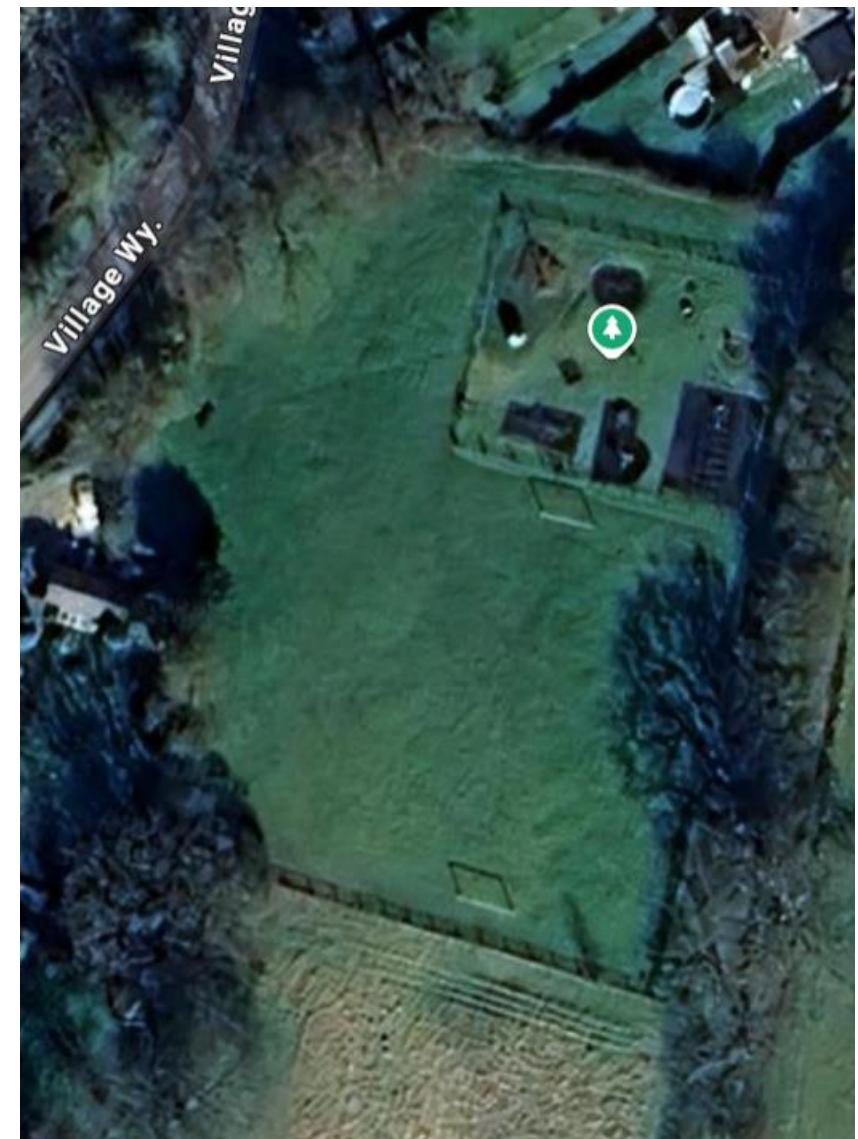
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## 7.5 Road Warden

### Email from the Road Warden

Thank you for your response. I've only picked it up this evening and not in time for tonight's parish council meeting.

After the meeting of 3rd September, I qualified what I thought the scope of the road warden role in Aylesbeare should entail and it was essentially off carriageway jobs that were not part of DCC Highways' remit, just for the purpose of keeping the village safer and tidier. However, I (or anybody else) shouldn't just start doing work on or around the highway because the road warden scheme requires participants working either on or off the live carriageway to comply with certain requirements, as detailed here:

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/communities/opportunities/road-warden-scheme/>

From both the individual's and the parish council's perspectives, it's important to engage with this properly, particularly when it comes to liability and having the necessary insurances in place.

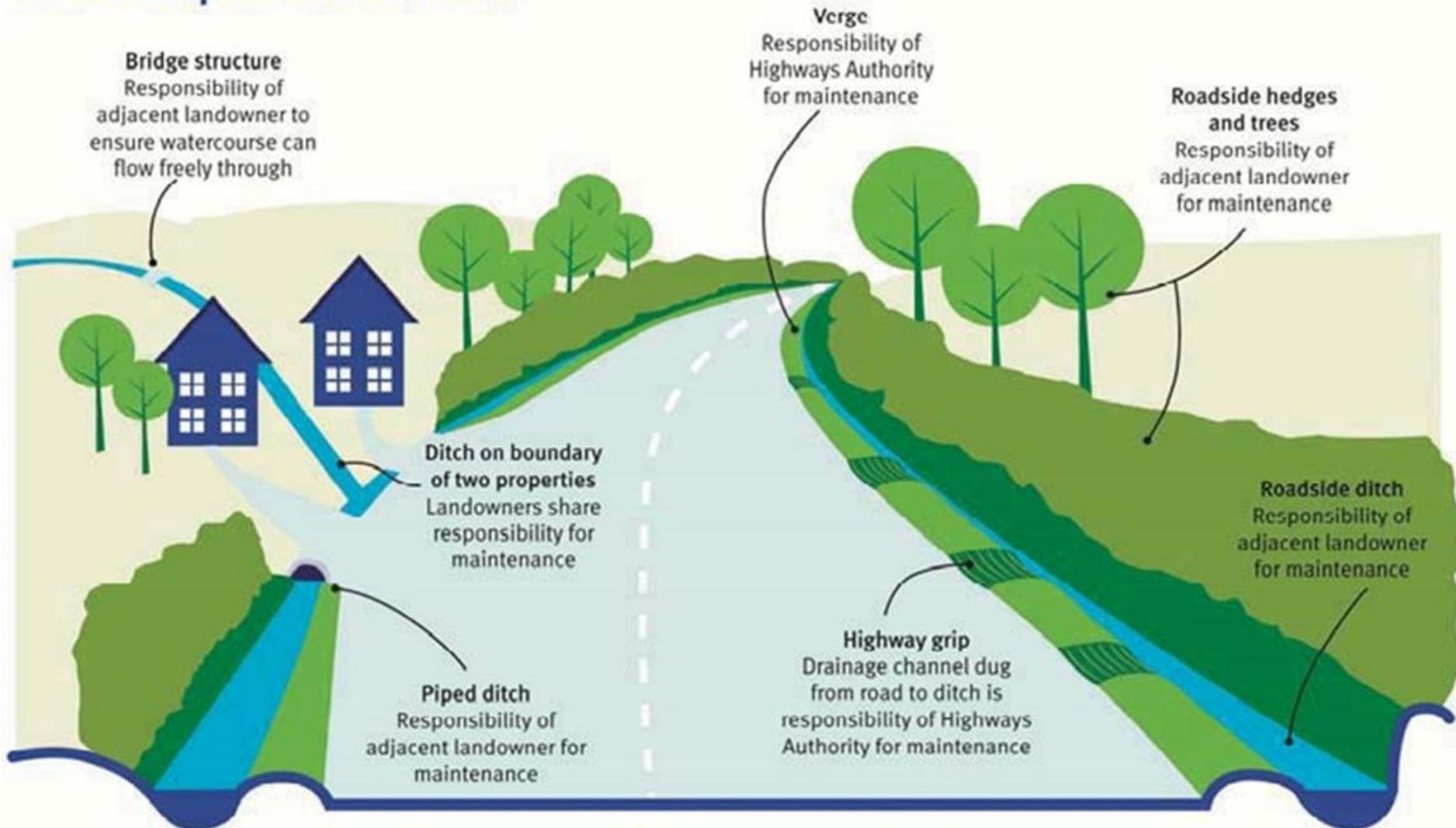
It's been 4 months since this was raised. I just want to get on with it. To move this forward, I've said from the outset that I'm happy to engage directly with DCC Highways. I'll appraise the parish council of progress and obtain its endorsement if necessary. Please would members give me the authority to move this forward.

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## **7.6 Drainage and Landowners' Responsibilities**

## Who is responsible for what?



## 7.7 Loss of BT Landlines

## 7.8 SWW Improved Water Treatment Works From Cllr Warren

Please find attached record of overflow v rainfall  
Not impressive.

Does anyone know if the road drains down village way discharge into the brook or into the sewage system as time for rain to start to overflow is very short in my opinion as for every 1mm of rain the works has been overflowing for over approx. 1 hr!!

283.04	135.6
Overflow	Rainfall.mm
Duration Hrs	

Date	Start discharging	Finish Discharging	Duration Hrs	Rainfall.mm	Rainfall during overflow	Overflow continued after rain stopped
01/12/2025	1652		rained stopped 1800 02/12	21.8		
02/12/2025		2053	28	4.3	26.1	2hrs 53mins
03/12/2025				0.1		
04/12/2025				3.6		
05/12/2025	1513		last rain on 04/12/ @0900 First rain 05/12 @ 0400 OF commenced after 4.9mm of rain at 1513	11.4		
06/12/2025				6.2		
07/12/2025				6.8		
08/12/2025				3.9		
09/12/2025			Rain sopped 1600	16.7		
10/12/2025		2340	128.45	0	48.6	29hrs 40mins
11/12/2025				0		
12/12/2025				2.8		
13/12/2025				0		
14/12/2025				0		
15/12/2025		1227	after approx 5mm of rain OF started	17.5		
16/12/2025				1.4		
17/12/2025				9.5		
18/12/2025				18.2		
19/12/2025			Rain stopped 2200	0		
20/12/2025	159		109.32	2.7	46.6	3hrs 59mins
21/12/2025				6.9		
22/12/2025	648		Last rain 0600	1.8		
23/12/2025	0.16		17.27	0		
24/12/2025				0		

## 7.9 Future of the Village Hall

### Email from a parishioner

I know that the Parish Council are trustees of the village hall and I would inform you that a number of people are questioning the amount of money that has been ploughed into the village hall and will be in the future. This is an old building well past it's sell by date. It is not a pleasant place to use. Therefore would it not make economic sense to replace it with a new hall with up to date facilities?. Perhaps it's time a referendum was held to decide it's future.

### Plans from the VHMC

#### Aylesbeare Village Hall Refurbishment Process 2026

For the past three years the village hall committee have been considering how we can significantly improve the comfort levels at the hall for all users, and also raise sufficient funds to complete the project.

During this time we have considered a number of different heating options, taking advice from locally based energy consultants and specialists. It has been made very clear to us by hall users that while the hall is seen as an attractive period building and remains a valuable asset for local community use, most users tell us it is cold and not a very comfortable place to spend time with friends and family during the colder months of the year

How are we going to improve this situation ?

We are going to undertake a project to upgrade the heating and significantly improve the thermal insulation.

This process will be known as THE HIT PROJECT as it focuses on three main areas of improvement HEATING - INSULATION - TECHNOLOGY

HEATING to the main hall, stage area, store room and adjacent front and rear walkways will be provided by an Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) utilising the latest technology available. It will be sited externally between the Kitchen and Toilet wings. We will install an underfloor heating system above the new concrete floor slab. This will maintain a consistent heat source

across the floor area, providing warmth for users while helping to protect the structural fabric of the building. The use of this heat source will significantly reduce our Carbon Footprint.

The two "Main Hall" Storage Heaters will be disconnected and removed.

**INSULATION** No heating system can be really effective without the benefit of high performance insulation. We recently commissioned a survey by a specialist cavity wall insulation company and the finding is that the main hall, kitchen and toilet wing cavities are suitable for cavity fill. The Foxwell room cavities have Formaldehyde insulation within them that was installed at the time of construction circa 1980, this insulation has degraded, and will be extracted. The cavities of the entire building will then receive "Thermabead EPS" fill. One of the findings of the survey is that the main hall and kitchen wing cavities are 100mm wide, this is good news as it effectively doubles the volume of insulation that can be installed.

Information available from the Energy Saving Trust informs us that 35% of heat is lost through the external walls of a building ! The new main hall floor slab will receive 150mm thick Kingspan (or similar) solid insulation.

The 3 lofts of the building and the main hall vaulted ceiling already have good levels of insulation following two recent projects and will remain as existing. The double glazed windows and doors (installed 1998) are effective and in good condition and will remain as existing.

**TECHNOLOGY** We intend to use currently available technology and Apps to control the heating output, ensuring that we have a more flexible system to cope with both "booked" and "vacant" periods at the hall. We are fortunate to have Solar Panels installed on the roof, we will now be able to make better use of these as we reduce our reliance on storage heating.

#### **THE PLANNED TIMESCALE OF THIS PROJECT**

The last event to take place at the hall pre refurbishment will be Live Music Night on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January

From 24th January the hall will be closed for building preparation work.

Monday 2nd February our main civil contractor CDT will commence works at the site.

Early May the hall will reopen (further details to follow)

#### **HOW WILL WE FUND THIS PROJECT**

It will be funded from cash held within the AVH savings account, a donation from a private donor, funding from an energy distribution company, and we anticipate a grant from a locally based renewable energy provider.

#### **DISRUPTION TO USERS DUE TO TEMPORARY CLOSURE**

We are very aware that the closure of the hall for a period of approximately 3 months will have a

significant impact on our regular hall users which we regret. We will stay in touch with users and the community as the project progresses.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

The external features of the building will remain unchanged. Internally all features will remain the same, with the exception of the timber floor (which most of us really like !) It will need to be removed ! It looks fine from above the floorboards, but below the supporting structure has is a mix of "Wet Rot", "Dry Rot" and "Woodworm", so it has effectively reached the end of its life.

The Stage will be dismantled temporarily so that our builders can gain access to the timber floor below and remove it. Our thinking currently is that the new stage construction will have an area within it that is removable. This will enable the playing of Short mat Bowls (with the benefit of league rule compliance), and Skittles if there is the interest to do so. Other thoughts on activities would be welcome from the community !

The Storage heaters in the Kitchen, Foxwell Room and Toilet Wing will be retained in the short term. Likewise the infrared Heaters will remain in place until system analysis has been completed on the performance and anticipated flexibility of the new heating system.

Storage: Items that are owned by the various clubs will be safely stored within the Foxwell Room for the duration of the project, unless we are advised otherwise

#### OTHER NEWS

Our Website ([www.aylesbearevillagehall.com](http://www.aylesbearevillagehall.com)) is now fully operational. The "hall master' booking system is available on our website and can be viewed by potential hirers, with the ability to pre book accommodation, subject to approval by our Booking Secretary

In recent months we have lost the much liked "Move it or lose it" sessions on Thursdays due to a reduction in visits to outlying sites by the instructor.

The Toddler Play Group is not active at the moment

Two Nurseries have viewed the hall in the past twelve months with an interest in renting floor space.

As a committee we will always consider options that help fund the up keep of our Village Hall for

the benefit of the community !

8 Planning

8.1 Decisions

8.1.1 22/2259/PDQ Shutebridge Meadows, Marwood Rd New Dwellings PRIOR APPROVAL GRANTED

8.2 Applications

8.2.1 None

8.3 Consultation & Events

8.3.1 EDDC Rolling Community Hub

Email from EDDC

I'm reaching out to you as I hope you can help me get in contact with the right people.

Part of my role is to find, support, and help to create accessible spaces - in the locations where we have housing stock - where communities can come together.

In our more populated areas, we run weekly Community Hubs. These hubs are open to all, usually in an EDDC community centre: they are a welcoming space to gather, enjoy free hot drinks and lunch, and take part in activities that bring people together. They also help to facilitate relationship building with Housing and other services.

One of our challenges at EDDC housing is reaching residents in our pepper-potted housing stock across the district.

To meet this challenge, we're planning to take our Community Hub on the road— to support connections in villages like Aylesbeare where we potentially have isolated tenants.

As a 6-month pilot, we are looking for 4 locations across East Devon to hold 1 session every 4 weeks, so each location would have 6 sessions. After this trial period we will assess the scheme with a view to continuing in the most successful locations.

To help me with my research I would like to find out:

What is already going on in the village? We'd be keen to strike up partnerships with established groups.

Who should I speak to? Who could help me?

I'd also be grateful if you'd let me know about any potential venues.

## 9 Ford Oaks Solar Park – including Church Funding

Church funding letter

From Cllr Branson

I have spoken to Sarah Ringe about the above solar funding. They need a letter from us detailing the sum and any conditions of payment or use sending to them so that they can send an acceptance email to create a paper trail.

## Road Closure

Cllr Warren has asked FOSP about this closure (nb 2 Feb date)

The image displays two side-by-side screenshots of the Devon County Council's Roads and transport website. Both screenshots show a map of a road with a red 'closed' sign and a red 'detour' arrow pointing to an alternative route. A green dot marks the location of the closure. A red 'Feedback' button is visible on the right side of the map.

**Planned Activity**

**Works Promoter:** NATIONAL HIGHWAYS  
**Website:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england>  
**Reference:** FN48754217114  
**Proposed Start Date:** 19 January 2026 20:00  
**Estimated End Date:** 23 January 2026 06:00  
**Works Description:** - Replacement of 2 BEJ bridge Joints  
**Street Description:** ROAD FROM FAIR OAK FARM TO DEER PARK  
**Working Hours:**

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devon.gov.uk

## 10 Finance

10.1 Current balances Current £20,422.57 Other accts £5,036.00 + £722.94 £ 26,181.51

### 10.2 Budget and Precept for 2025-26

#### 10.3 Payments Council to consider the following payments:

10.3.1 J P Roberts - clerk pay, (December) £ 356.53

Reimbursements: Pension payment for (December) £ 85.27

VH Internet Cuckoo Fibre (December) £ 17.50 £ 459.40

10.3.2 HMRC Clerk's PAYE Income Tax for December £ 83.80

## 11 Next Meeting & Venue (Village Hall Temp Closure) Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026