Woodbury Parish Council

(serving Exton, Woodbury, and Woodbury Salterton)

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. Anne-Marie Bates
Woodbury Parish Council Offices,
Greenside, Greenway,
Woodbury, Devon EX5 1LP

Telephone: 01395 233791
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Annual Parish Meeting

13th April 2026 – Woodbury Village Hall, Woodbury

Minutes

Attended: Cllrs R. Ball, J. Pyne, Mrs. S. Cole, K. Perry, S. Parks, Mrs. S. Knighton, R. Parr.
District Councillor B. Ingham
County Councillor -
Residents - 9
Apologies: Cllrs Mrs. C. McGauley, C. Hoar, Mrs. M Wright, I. Hunt, A. Wills.

1.	**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Annual Report for 2025-2026 was received and noted. Accounts: Accounts for 2025-2026 will be available when the close down has been completed. These will be on our Parish Website, available from the Parish Office and published in the Woodbury News.
2.	**TO ACCEPT AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.** The minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2025 were found to be a true record, this was noted.
3.	**PARISH QUESTION TIME:** Matters that were raised by residents: • Globe Hill developments update and how many of the dwellings will be affordable housing? • Traffic implications for Woodbury, especially with the proposed developments in Exmouth especially Exmo 20 and the Dinan Way Link. Will there be traffic calming measures? Concerned Exmo 20 will be at what cost to others! • Will a 20mph limit be implemented? • Parking Issues will there be another car park near to The Arch? • There is a need for village gateway signs to help to reduce speed. • Concerns with potential industrial development, especially near Pink House Corner.

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	The Chairman provided an update regarding the proposed developments at Globe Hill / Broadway and Gilbrook. The Broadway site is a Taylor Wimpey site, Gilbrook 3 West Group and the sites on Globe Hill are both at early stages. We have had discussions with 3 West Group and Taylor Wimpey to try and get the best we can for residents and traffic calming measures including gateways etc. These discussions will continue. One of the Globe Hill sites is offering a public car park. We are responding to the appeal for the proposed educatering industrial site near to Pink House Corner as the location is just not appropriate. We have put up a Vehicle Activation Sign in Exton which has had a positive. The Chairman thanked those residents who attended the meeting and raised their concerns.
4.	**County & District Councillors Annual Reports** **Cllr J. Trail** submitted the following report; Firstly, I would like to thank those residents who supported former DCC Cllr Richard Scott and myself at the DCC Elections last May. It was not the outcome we expected and sadly Richard was not re-elected. I would publicly like to thank Richard for all he did within the Ward. We were a hard-working team who worked for the local community and put residents before politics. Since the elections it has been a difficult time for local communities and me, due to the Governments changes to Planning, Finances and Governance. The Government has given Local Planning Authorities a difficult time by changing planning legislation which has meant developers are able to submit planning applications on Green Belt land, and if the local authority has not produced a full quota of land supply (5 years). Local objections, to some applications, are not being listened to and I urge residents to continue to fight for their communities. Where you and the Council do have a say I have been lobbying for extra works which will benefit the Village. Rural Grant funding for DCC and DSFRS has been withdrawn by the Government along with a change in Investments and Pensions which is costing ratepayers extra for the services it requires and its responsibilities to its staff and pensioners throughout the County.

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With the impending change to Local Governance known as (LGR) we are still unclear how or what is to happen, but we will lose DCC, other Authorities and all District Councils. Elections are to take place in May 2027 and the new Unitary Authority to be in place by 2018.
What will this mean? I wish I could tell you, but in my opinion, I do not think it can work in an area such as Devon, purely because of the geography we live in unless it falls under one administration (One Devon).

Locally, I have continued to work as hard as before the elections and have kept the Parish Council informed at Parish Council meetings and extra meetings when and where necessary for the benefit of residents within the Parish.

Highways issues have been an issue but again I have been working with Managers at DCC to try to minimise the inconvenience caused, especially with the New Dinan Way Link Road. It is to be open by 1st June as I have Woodbury closed for six weeks to install new SWW Piping along the main Woodbury Road from 1st June.

With development within the village, I am trying to keep you informed and the disruption to a minimum, but Utility Emergencies do happen. We try to limit the time to complete works, but we are unable to stop works.

I hope the following year will be a lot clearer for us all and thank you for listening.

Cllr G. Jung gave the following report;

Protecting nature and rivers
Following on from the Devon County Councils **Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy** we at East Devon District Council followed a similar plan and this is now out for public consultation

It's known as the **East Devon Local Nature Recovery Plan**. The consultation will help the Council understand how people experience and value nature in East Devon and what matters most to local communities. It will also help shape how the East Devon DC Countryside team continue to support people and wildlife in the future. This work supports the Council's declaration on nature recovery and its enhanced biodiversity duties.
The consultation closes on the 22 of May at 5pm. I would encourage everyone and parish councils to take part and the link is to do this. https://eastdevon.gov.uk/edlnrpconsultation.

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	Nature recovery supports a wide range of local priorities. These include action on climate and biodiversity, flood resilience, public health and wellbeing, access to green space, air and water quality and place-making. The draft plan has been developed to support realistic and achievable action through existing services, policy, partnerships and influence. This approach takes account of local government reorganisation and restricted funding. Following the consultation the feedback will be used to shape the final version of the Plan. This will set out the required outcomes, timelines, key partners, resource implications and priorities. **Rivers** Again, following Devon County Council EDDC unanimously voted to formally recognise and protect the **"Rights of Rivers"**. This landmark decision makes it the 12th council in the UK to adopt such a motion, reframing local waterways as living systems with intrinsic value rather than just resources to be managed. While the council does not hold direct regulatory power over water quality (which remains with the **Environment Agency**), this motion integrates river protection into local governance: **The Pledge:** The council recognizes the intrinsic rights of rivers, including the right to flow naturally, exist free from pollution, support biodiversity, and regenerate. **Purpose:** The initiative aims to shift the view of rivers from mere property to living entities, ensuring stricter scrutiny in development, planning, and environmental management. **Next Steps:** While a landmark, councillors have stressed the need to turn this policy into actionable measures, with involvement from Parish and Town councils, action groups, through the East Devon Catchment Partnership to monitor progress. **Cllr B Ingham** reported that he was concerned with the poor planning especially with Exmo 20, 700 dwellings North of Exmouth. This site will affect Woodbury, Dinan Way Extension and the A376 which is already at capacity. Poor planning has meant more housing for this area.

Signed by Chairman: Date: