

**Knowstone Parish Council – Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on 25th November 2025 at 7.30pm at Knowstone Village Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Pomfret (Chair), Clarke, McGregor and Stanbury

Jane Mills, Clerk to the Council
District Cllr Milton
1 Member of the public
Prayers were led by Cllr Pomfret

25/11/67 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Maidment,

25/11/68 Declarations of interest

To receive declarations of personal interests and disclosable pecuniary interests (DPIs) in respect of items on this agenda. Members were reminded that all interests should be declared at the beginning of the meeting and prior to the item being discussed.
There were no declarations

25/11/69 To agree the Agenda as published

It was **resolved** to agree the Agenda as published
Proposed: Cllr Pomfret, Seconded: Cllr McGregor (all in favour)

25/11/70 To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held 23rd September 2025

It was **resolved** to approve as a correct record and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 23rd September 2025
Proposed: Cllr Pomfret, Seconded: Cllr McGregor (all in favour)

25/11/71 County Councillor Report

Apologies were received from the County Councillor

25/11/72 District Councillor Report

The District Councillor gave an update on LGR, final submissions on 28th November, the Police and Crime Commissioner role is ending.
There are proposals for new authorities to appoint Mayors. He spoke about trade waste collections, which have been costly. Need to be run more efficiently or could result in illegal dumping. The Climate Environment Scheme is open for grants to parish councils with a population of under 1000, this is for any projects re climate or environment. A new S106 Officer has been appointed. A housing survey may be required regarding the East Ansty area planning application. The road at Molland will be closed filled. to enable rebuilding of the bridge. Some potholes in the area are being

25/11/73 Public Participation

In accordance with Standing Order 3 (f) members of the public are permitted to make representations and ask questions, the period set aside shall not exceed 15 minutes. It should be noted that answers will generally not be given at the meeting where the questions are delivered, each member of the public is entitled to speak once.
No member of the public wished to speak

A question had been raised previously regarding maintenance of planters, Cllr Pomfret confirmed that there are 5 volunteers maintaining 8 planters and the pound. All are happy to continue and will invoice the Council for supplies.

It was **resolved** to provide each volunteer with a small gift

Proposed: Cllr Stanbury, Seconded: Cllr Pomfret (all in favour)

**25/11/74 To receive a report from the Parish Clerk
To include financial information, bank reconciliation and payments and budget update**

It was **resolved** to accept the financial information including reviewing the budget figures, and make the payments,

Proposed: Cllr Stanbury Seconded: Cllr Pomfret, (all in favour)

The Parish Clerk report requested support to attend the SLCC Practitioners Conference, cost to be shared pro-rata

It was **resolved** to support the Clerk's attendance.

Proposed: Cllr McGregor Seconded: Cllr Stanbury (all in favour)

Action Point: Payments to be made

25/11/75 To consider Action Points

Action Points were noted

25/11/76 To consider Assertion 10, web and email reports

After some discussion it was **resolved** to engage Aubergine 262 to create a new website, and to seek further information on emails and compliance

Proposed: Cllr Pomfret Seconded: Cllr Stanbury (all in favour)

25/11/77 To consider the draft budget and proposed precept

It was **resolved** to adjust the reserves to accommodate keeping the precept unchanged at £4076 as last year

Proposed: Cllr McGregor Seconded: Cllr Pomfret (all in favour)

Action Point: Advise TDC of the precept required

25/11/78 To consider an update on the emergency plan

Cllr Pomfret advised he had attended Community Resilience Training. Storm Darragh showed up a number of problems including the generator. That is now regularly tested and checked. Cllr Pomfret will take the excel data he has and make the structure more useful, communication is critical, phones, facebook and what's app are important but if the mobile signal is down then two way radios may be needed. A draft will be provided for the next meeting

Action Point: Agenda item

25/11/79 To consider planning application: 80982

Proposal and Location: Birchwood House, Knowstone, South Molton Devon EX36 4RZ. Replacement Dwelling

It was **resolved** to support the application subject to natural material being used for external cladding.

Proposed: Cllr Clarke, Seconded: Cllr Pomfret (all in favour)

Action Point: Send response to TDC

25/11/80

To receive Councillor reports

- a. **Highways Cllr McGregor** (new potholes near the Masons Arms, also by the cattle grid and Wiston Cottage) Cllr McGregor to report
- b. **Footpaths & Beaples Stone – Cllr Pomfret** (3 quotes have been obtained, best value quote accepted, if work proves satisfactory a mtce contract will be offered. Cllr Pomfret will walk the footpaths to complete the P3 forms.
- c. **Moors Management Association – Cllr Maidment** (Cllr Pomfret will attend the AGM)
- d. **Welcome Pack - Cllr Maidment** , no update
- e. **Emergency Plan – Pomfret, Maidment & the Clerk**
This was an agenda item
- f. **Parish Hall – Cllr Pomfret** report attached
- g. **Police Advocate – Cllr Pomfret** The Police and Crime Commissioner role will be abolished in two and a half years. The current Chief Constable will remain in post until 2027
- h. **Snow Warden – Cllr Stanbury.** Nothing to report

To confirm the date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be moved to the 3rd February 2026

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

SignedDated.....

For Information post meeting

Sidemoor and Moortown Picnic Areas.

Although not on the agenda as the information had arrived too late, the chairman spoke about the two picnic areas in the Parish, adjacent to the A361. He stated that he had been expecting an update from Devon County Council once they had decided a plan for the two picnic areas. When the tenancy for the Log Cabin Diner was renewed this was thought to be encouraging as it was thought to be for a further year. However, having been made aware of the “For Sale” signs we now know that both the sites are for sale and the tenancy at the Moortown site is only until a sale is completed. The decision to sell was made by the County Council Land and Property Committee on 18th September 2025. Documents regarding the sale can be found on the Rightmove website. Questions remain regarding planning requirements for any purchaser but the council will watch the situation with interest.

DRAFT