



Draycott-in-the-Moors PARISH COUNCIL

Draycott-in-the-Moors Parish Council Meeting Minutes Monday, 8th December 2025

Attendees:

Chairman Cllr. Gordon Winfield	Vice Chair Cllr. Lisa Emery	Cllr. Robert Birds
Cllr. Mark Deaville (Parish and District)	Cllr. Pat McLaughlin	Cllr Luke Emery
Cllr. Pete Wilkinson (District)	Cllr. Alan Hulme (District)	
4 members of the public		

Minutes recorded by	Start Time	Location
Mrs D Wheat Parish Clerk	7.00pm	Draycott Church Hall, Church Lane, Draycott, ST11 9AG

- Chairman's Welcome:** Chairman, Cllr. Winfield welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Apologies:** Cllr. Bev Reardon and Cllr. Gary Bentley (County)
- Declaration of Interests:** Cllrs. Hulme and Wilkinson are members of the SMDC Planning Committee.
- Public Participation: St Margarets Church Clock**
 - A member of St Margarets PCC read out a letter asking for the Council to help with funding the maintenance of the clock at St Margarets Church as this is a community clock. 2 quotations for the work required were received.
 - A member of St Margarets PCC explained to the council that there is a Health and Safety concern with the current arrangement to wind the church clock, due to access via steep step ladders and a lone working arrangement. The Council were asked to consider funding an electric powered clock which would not require winding. The clock is currently wound twice a week.
The Chairman moved that the council discuss the request under item 7 on the Agenda.
- Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2025** were approved as a correct record.
Proposed Cllr. Mark Deaville – Seconded Cllr. Lisa Emery – all in favour
- Matters Arising:**
 - Cresswell Kiosk Defibrillator.** The council agreed to support the Cresswell Kiosk Committee to get the defibrillator electrics repaired. It was discussed that the Defibrillator could be registered and maintained by the Parish Council through the SMDC maintenance scheme. The distance between defibrillators was considered. It was suggested by AED donate that more defibrillators are still needed in parts of Staffordshire Moorlands.
Clerk to write to the Cresswell Kiosk Committee to ask if they would like this arrangement to be set up.
Proposed Cllr. L. Emery – Seconded Cllr. R. Birds – All in favour

I declare that this is an accurate account of the meeting held by Draycott-in-the-Moors Parish Council.

Signed Chairman
Councillor

Date

12th January 2026

b. Christmas Lights

- i. Cllr. Lisa Emery reported that she had fixed some new battery powered lights to the bus stops timed to be on from 3:30 – 11pm
- ii. Cllr Winfield has fitted the miniature Chapel with a new charging unit which can last for up to 2 weeks. Fitting of the fixture to Church Lane is being arranged.
Thanks were given to both Councillors for their work on the Christmas lights.
- iii. Tommy statues and lamp post poppies have been removed. These will be stored until refitted in October 2026.
- iv. Help for Homeless people: The Home Options Officer Emma Pell from SMDC has sent the following information to circulate to the community should the services be needed.

Please find below useful links and numbers that may help you support any homeless or risk of homeless people within your Parish.

- P3 provide our outreach service, and may assist with a replacement phone, and food vouchers. They may also provide blankets and other items to keep warm. They provide other useful support for people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, such as benefits advice, education and employment advice, independent living skills support, and substance misuse support. They can be contacted as follows:

Tel: 0808 196 8199 Email: DOT@p3charity.org

- P3 also provide our OOH service, and they can be contacted as follows:

Tel: 0808 1692 333 Email: outofhourshousing-derbys@p3charity.org

- Adullam provide support which includes mediation with relatives and existing accommodation providers to explore opportunities to remain or move in a planned way. Pre-Tenancy Training to prepare for the responsibilities for managing a tenancy (i.e. budgeting). Assistance is offered in finding accommodation on a shared or self-contained basis. Tenancy support is provided to set up and sustain a tenancy. They can be contacted as follows:

Email: staffsmoorlandsteam@adullam.org.uk/ highpeakbond@adullam.org.uk

- There are various food banks that can be accessed throughout Staffordshire Moorlands & the High Peak [Find a food bank | Trussell](#)
- STARS recovery who may assist with drug and alcohol misuse. [Contact us - Staff Stars](#)
- Support Staffordshire provide support to Staffordshire communities, individuals and organisations to work in collaboration to bring about positive change in their community by actively encouraging Social Action. [Training & Events for Organisations - Support Staffordshire](#)
- Mental Health services [Crisis Care Centre - North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust](#)

Tel: 0800 0328 728 (option 1)

- SMDC Homeless Team

Tel: 0345 605 3010 Email: private.housing@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk

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c. Local Government Re-organisation

Cllr. Deaville reported that SMDC have submitted their preferred option D, for a North Staffordshire proposal including Staffordshire Moorlands, Stoke-on-Trent, part of East Staffs including Uttoxeter and part of Stafford Borough including part of Stone.

Cllr. Deaville has written a letter to the Prime Minister to ask the government to consider not going ahead with the re-organisation of Staffordshire as the majority of the area do not want the current structures of the County and Districts to change.

Cllr. Wilkison highlighted the need for Parish Councils to focus on securing any assets.

The Council agreed to support Cllr. Deaville’s letter to the Prime Minister.

Proposed Cllr. P. McLaughlin – Secoded Cllr. Winfield – All in favour

- d. **Bus Stop Art Galleries project:** The Clerk gave a report on meeting with Blythe Camera Club. Members have agreed to supplying images of Draycott for the project linking with historical features of the area including Totmonslow Hundred, the Roman road Ryknild Street, an ancient racecourse, the cockpit, the blacksmith, the moat, metal detected finds and other Saxon period heritage. Images could have a double use and be included to illustrate the Website.

7. Items on Notice: St Margaret’s Church Tower Clock:

The Council discussed various ways to fund the Clock project. The Solar Array fund might be needed to part fund the Highways projects in progress (Pedestrian crossing or refuges).

A JCB social club Tote fund was suggested. A Lottery Grant application might also be possible.

The Friends of St Margarets Committee funds are for the restoration of the Church Building.

The Clerk will ask the Parish maintenance team (Lengths person and Litter picker) if they would consider teamwork to wind the clock on a weekly basis to avoid loan working.

It was decided that other funding opportunities need to be explored to upgrade the clock, before using the Councils reserves. Clerk and PCC members to research opportunities.

Item to be on the January Agenda.

Proposed Cllr. Deaville – Secoded Cllr. Birds – All in favour

20.10 Cllr. Wilkinson left the meeting

8. Planning Applications:

a.

SMD/2025/0013 and SMD/2022/0267	Scentarea Limited	Land At Blythe Park, Sandon Road Cresswell	Variation of conditions 4 & 12 of SMD/2021/0829 to replace PD-21-555-150 with revised plan PD-21-555-150e
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The Planning Committee for the application has been postponed until January. Progress of information gathering and a series of inaccuracies was reported on by Cllr. Luke Emery

It was agreed that Cllr Luke Emery, Cllr. Birds and Cllr. Deaville would speak at the Planning Committee meeting.

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b) Other Planning Correspondence:

Several complaints have been received about the erection of a metal structure at a property adjacent to St Margarets Church. It has blocked the view both to and from the Church which is a listed building. Planning enforcement have been informed.

The Clerk to write to the residents to ask them to consult with the Planning Authority.

c) Neighbourhood Plan:

Urban Vision have responded to say they could support the Parish to complete their plan but clarified that funding has now ceased for support of the process. **Clerk to ask for a quotation.**

9. Lengthsperson & Litter picker: November reports were received (see attached)

10. Finance and Governance:

a. Payments were authorised for December

D Wheat	Clerk Salary Month 9 (Nov/Dec) – (SPC rate 12 £ £14.82 p/h) Total - £322.00 per month	Gross £322.00 TAX £64.40	Net £257.60	Cheque 2050
HMRC	PAYE (Nov/Dec) Month 9	£64.40	£64.40	2051
Draycott Church Hall	December meeting 2hrs (hire rate £30 p/session)	£30.00	£30.00	2052
J Swarbrooke	Litter picking work @ £12.50 per hr 18.5 hrs September	£231.25	£231.25	2053
R Fox	Lengths person work @ £15 per hr 13 hrs October	£195.00	£195.00	2054
G Winfield	Christmas Lights maintenance parts X 3 receipts	£115.68	£115.68	2055
Clerk Expenses: Smarty Clerks Milage	Internet package p/m 9 miles @50p	£9.00 £4.50	£13.50	2056
Protech Domestic Appliance Ltd	RCD unit and wiring for new Draycott Church Hall Kitchen	£300.00 Net £60.00 Vat	£360.00	2057
		TOTAL PAYMENTS	£1,267.43	

The above payments proposed Cllr. Deaville and cheques duly signed Cllr. McLaughlin

- b. **Budget Report:** The Clerk will prepare a full financial report for the January meeting. The current position shows low reserves due to the transactions for the Draycott Church Hall kitchen for the fulfilment of the UKSPF grant criteria. These amounts will be refunded when the kitchen project is complete.

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It was agreed that the Council prepare a strategy for the projects they wish to complete in the next two years.

Proposed Cllr. Birds – Seconded Cllr. Lisa Emery – All in favour

11. Project reports in progress were noted:

HIGHWAYS

- i. **Crossing and pedestrian refuges:** MP Dr. Allison Gardener has responded to say she will support the Parish, but that it is the County Council that pressure needs to be put on to get this project completed.
- ii. **Village gateways:** Clerk to contact the County officer and to research Land Registry for location land ownership.
- iii. **VAS signage and Community Speedwatch:** These signs and the data collected are proving a valuable investment.
- iv. **Cheadle Road Railings:** Awaiting Cllr. Bentley to find out if the Parish would be allowed to self-repair the rails as offered by a local tradesperson.
- v. **Speed Reduction:** No further progress

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY.

- vi. **Kissing Gates:** Collection and fitting is arranged.
- vii. **Cresswell to Cheadle Railway Track:**
Clerk to ask other Parishes for a working group meeting.
Clerk to ask Highways Officer for any availability of old chippings.
- viii. **Bins:** New bins have been delivered to Blythe Cricket Club and one for the Railway track.
Clerk to arrange for the Cricket Club bin to be moved.
- ix. **Footpaths:** The County Council have a large backlog of issues to solve.

COMMUNICATION

- x. **Membership of NALC – Local Councils Award Scheme:** to progress in New Year
- xi. **Training Policy:** to progress in New Year to be ready for the Annual Meeting in May.
- xii. **Calendar of Events:** Clerk to set this up and invite the Councillors to join.

PROJECTS

- xiii. **Best Kept Village Community report:** Sessions for Councillors to attend to gather information about 2026 entries have been circulated.
- xiv. **Bus Stop Art Project:** In progress
- xv. **Draycott Church Hall Kitchen Refurbishment:** Fitting completed. Grant criteria now to be submitted to UKSPF for grant completion.

12. Correspondence:

Local Help My Way: Information leaflets were circulated about the new initiative.

13. Matters pertaining to issues in the Parish or items for the next Agenda:

Meeting closed 20.49

The Chairman provided festive refreshments for those present

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