

THROWLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Throwleigh held on 13th April 2026 at 7.00pm in Throwleigh Village Hall.

Present: Cllr R Littlewood as Chair (Chairman of the Parish Council).
9 members of the public.
Notes taken by the Parish Clerk, Kate Graddock.

01 Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

02 Matters arising from previous minutes

No matters – all agreed correct record.

03 Chairman's Report - Throwleigh Parish Council

- The Parish Council struggled to find out who owned the Cross within the Village, but Parish Council has funded the repairs to the Village Cross due to the historical importance.
- Have a good relationship with Josh, the DCC Highways Neighbourhood Officer and he has continued to support the local area with schemes. Cllr Littlewood reminded parishioners to keep reporting any potholes etc.

Report DCC Highway issues via the link:

[Report a problem - Roads and transport](#) or call: [0345 155 1004](tel:03451551004)

- Reviewed 9 planning applications.
- Grants to Church.
- Now working on Beating of the Bounds.
- Welcome any thoughts from parishioners on any community schemes or areas for improvement.

04 Police Report

None received.

05 Dartmoor National Park Report

None received.

06 Devon County Councillor – Cllr Sue Davies.

- Been a Councillor for past 11 months.
- Cllr McInnes was a councillor for 20+ years and did some exceptional work. Cllr Davies spoke to say she is very committed.
- Party is reform and is on opposition to the council which is Lib Dem led.
- On a number of committees for the Devon County Council, but most important work is working with constituents – a link between the council/staff and constituents.
- Devon is not a poor council.
- 80% of the budget is spent on children services and adult health and social care.
- £63,000 a day is spent on repayment of debts.
- Essential to keep reporting any highways concerns.
- Quality of roads has deteriorated and many need to be resurfaced rather than patch repairs.
- Local Government Re-organisation is likely to go ahead but will not know what that looks like until the Summer.

- Would be happy to help fund something for the Village Hall as part of locality budget.

07 West Devon Borough Council – Cllr Steve Guthrie.

- Local Government Re-organisation is still ongoing. Highlighting that being a Councillor should be a job.
- Go from 31 to 10 councillors if goes ahead, which will be a big difference.
- Planning for West Devon is WDBC and DNP. Greenfield sites are going to be harder to protect. Push from government for housing.
- Capital Grants for Communities and Village Halls is now available.
- Community Assets – emailed the Clerk.
- Fusion – Gone into Administration. Council will have to fund this but has now been invested by Parkwood Leisure, who will take over.
- Farm Thefts – Have spoken to the Police and the hope is that there will be additional police staffing and presence within local areas. Police recommend on larger vehicles that there are trackers and also to use SMART water. [Home - SmartWater](#)

08 Throwleigh Village Hall report

- Repairs being undertaken inside. Like to improve the kitchen.
- Will be looking to obtain funding for Kitchen.
- Over the last year, increased regular and one-off bookings.
- Host weekly groups and local organisations.
- Would love to see further groups.
- Plant sale and Fete will be taking place this year.
- Exhibition
- Changing sense of community since the war. Bring and share suppers.
- We have enough trustees and committee members but might be looking in the future to expand this.
- Looking at future legalities for any larger capital work that might need doing.
- Looking at a shower, as had several overnight stays.
- Also happy to have suggestions on events and open to collaborate with local groups.

09 Throwleigh Archive Report

None received.

10 Providence School Charity Report

- Lost 3 trustees this year but need to have two further representatives, one being from Throwleigh.
- Finances: December – portfolio valued at over £160,000. Keep around £3000 in account at any one time. In general, on first application £300.00 is awarded, and a second application is around £200.00.
- Awarded two grants this year, one being sports equipment and another for horse jumps.
- Continue to raise some funds through coffee mornings etc.
- Meet 2/3 times a year.

The Village Hall committee would be happy to donate the space for the hall if there was a group session/teaching needed and a location that was needed.

11 Providence Chapel Report

None received.

12 Throwleigh Church Report

- The Church of St Mary's in Throwleigh has had its full rota and quota of services in the last year, taken mainly by Bishop Nick McKinnel and his team and some by the Churchwarden.
- St Mary's shares the services with the congregation from Holy Trinity Gidleigh and the usual pattern is to have the service on the second Sunday of each month. The joint congregation is small - usually about 10 faithful people, however, on Christmas Eve the church was full for the candle-lit carol service and for Harvest Festival and Easter Day the congregation was larger than normal - though we could do with more children.
- We would like to thank the Friends of St Mary's for their support. The Friends organise lectures and talks in the church and other activities for children, to raise money to help repairs to church fabric.
- The prime function of this beautiful church in the centre of this beautiful village is to remain open and to hold.
- Services and nobody needs to feel shy about coming along - you might even get some food. Anyone who would like to help with the running of the church will be welcome and should talk to any member of the Church.
- Post Office within the church.

13 Friends of Throwleigh Church Report

- Last year was successful but year of change.
- Continue to raise money and conduct events.
- Roxanna stepped down as chair and showed exceptional dedication to the position and church.
- Organised a number of interesting events inc annual easter egg hunt, musical events.
- Bench repaired within the grounds.
- Andrew Forrester has stepped down and would like to thank him for his contributions.

14 Comments/Questions from members of the public.

None received.

15 Date of next meeting. 12th April 2027

Meeting ended at 8.11pm.

Signed: Dated:.....