**Chittlehampton Parish Council Minutes for 03/09/25 Meeting**

**Held at Chittlehampton Methodist Rooms**

**Clerk to the Council: Faye Davies chittlehamptonclerk@gmail.com**

**Meeting commenced:** 19:32

**Those in attendance:** Cllrs Wheaton, Beauregard, Hoare, Brooks, Alford, Blyther, Seatherton, Ditchburn, Williams, and County Cllr Tyldesley.

Six members of the public also in attendance.

**Apologies**: District Cllr Whitehead and Cllr Jones – approved.

**Declarations of Interest**: None

**Minutes**: 23/07/25 minutes approved.

**District and County Councillor reports:** Nothing to report from District Cllr Whitehead.

County Cllr Tyldesley reports that some funding is available for speed activated signs and that the speeding through Umberleigh is being reviewed.

Cllr Tyldesley requested the exact location of the missing Cobbaton sign be sent to him and he will pursue this for the Council.

**Members of the public open session:** A member of the public requested that advertisement for public events be publicised in the Chronicle.

It was suggested that the Council put in steps on the playing field slope as a lot of the public tend to walk up and down the slope itself rather than the path around the back of the village hall, and Hobbslee is available to apply for funding.

The village hall may also potentially be hosting ‘BBC Any Questions’ on Friday 24th October 2025.

**Community Speed watch Report:** Speed watch report attached to the end of this document and available on the Parish Council website.

County Cllr Tyldesley reports that from tomorrow there will be funding available again to change speed limits from 30mph to 20mph. He also informed that changing where the white lines are located in Umberleigh is at least 2 years away. County Cllr Tyldesley also informed he would find out if the flashing school signs could be replaced as they currently do not work and positioned in better locations.

The community speed watch is keen for speed activated signs to be installed within Umberleigh near the school.

**Chairmans report:** VJ Event 31/08/2025 was not as well supported as the Chair would have hoped, however it did raise £121 for the Veterans Charity.

**Clerks report:** Request for the Council to go paperless as much as possible, with policies and invoices/payments for approval being sent and signed electronically rather than hard copies.

Atherington Clerk was contacted regarding speed camera companies and quotations but has had no response back.

**Payments for approval**

* 1. Community speed watch signs £49.01 – approved.
	2. “20 is plenty” stickers £29.75 – approved.
	3. Umberleigh village hall booking 23/07/25 and 31/08/25 £20 & £15 – approved.
	4. Water Butt cost £25 – approved.
	5. VJ event band £75 – approved.
	6. UK Hardwoods invoice £48 – approved.
	7. NDDC dog bins invoice £269.57 – approved.
	8. Community Interest Company Broadband £77 – approved, these costs will continue for the foreseeable, Council agreed to fund these costs and reimburse CIC each payment.
	9. Chittlehampton Play Area signs £460 – approved.
	10. Green bin collection for the church £60 – approved, however it was noted that the receipt provided stated £120 and not £60 as previously informed, so Council agreed to pay the £60 originally stated.
	11. Councillors to determine an annual donation fee towards the church to help with their maintenance costs – postponed until the next meeting.
	12. Councillors to determine funds/cost towards the play area flower beds being maintained by a volunteer - £100 with Clerk being given additional spending powers specifically for this to go up to the £100 rather than £50 as usual.
	13. Reimbursement to Cllr Williams for competition prizes £20 – approved.
	14. Reimburse Cllr Brooks for purchase of flowers given to the locum clerk to thank them for their service £6.50 – approved.

**Planning Applications –** No comment for planning application 80641.

**Council Phone –** to consider the different purchase options (examples given from local stores, cost is potentially subject to change) – approved, with a £100 budget for a phone purchase.

* Samsung Galaxy A8 unlocked £58 CEX
* Samsung Galaxy A10 unlocked £70 CEX
* TCL 605 Tesco PAYG £75

Councillors agreed a £100 budget for a council phone.

**Noticeboards –** To consider the replacement of noticeboardsat Stowford, Furze, and Cobbaton – locality budget can be applied for to cover some of the costs for this. Cllr Ditchburn offered to quote a cost for making three noticeboards.

**Woodland trust tree grant –** Where 500+ trees are planted on at least half a hectare of land, the Woodland trust can cover up to 75% of the cost – approved for clerk to apply for the grant.

**Policies due for review:**

* Anti-fraud and corruption policy – approved.
* Biodiversity policy – approved.
* Financial Regulations – approved.
* Complaints procedure – approved.
* Co-option policy – approved.
* Dignity at work policy – approved.
* Document retention policy – approved.
* Equality, diversity, and inclusion policy – approved.
* Financial Risk Assessment – approved.
* Grievance procedure – approved.
* ICO Freedom of Information policy – approved.
* Reserve’s Policy – approved.
* Standing Orders – approved.
* Whistle blowing policy – approved.
* ToR Staffing Committee – approved.

**Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only) –** Cllr Williams informs that the delivery date for the play area equipment is 26th September, she will update with an installation date.

Cllr Blyther informs she has contacted the lengths man for Atherington; they are currently off work but will be contacted again.

Cllr Alford informed that parishioners who do not use technology would like a postal address for the Council, as the Council has no offices the postal address for the Council is the Clerks home address, who agreed for this to be used.

**Date of next meeting -** Chair is away for the original date of Wednesday 15th October and proposed the meeting be changed for 22nd October 2025 , this was seconded and the date change was approved.

New date for the next council meeting is 22nd October 2025.

**Meeting concluded at:** 21:20

**These minutes are a draft copy until signed as a true account**

**Speedwatch Report**

**From Community Speedwatch Group - Umberleigh**

*Report prepared and presented by Andy Laming and Jim*

*Atherton, CSW Coordinators*

Date: 03/09/2025

**Chittlehampton Parish Council**

North Devon

REPORT PERIOD – **JULY AND AUGUST 2025 (Meeting held 3.9.25)**

Umberleigh

6 sessions carried out over the reporting period. The issue of speeding drivers and drivers generally having complete disregard to the speed limits **IS NOT IMPROVING**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Volume of vehicles passing during the session  | Number of vehicles recorded at 35mph or more  |
| 161  | 62  |
| 140  | 33  |
| 210  | 31  |
| 131  | 40  |
| 51  | 11  |
| 136  | 26  |
| **829**  | **203 (25%)**  |

* Total vehicles recorded since start - 1528
* Max speed **- 62mph**
* Abusive drivers - several.
* Multiple oKenders – 44 recorded twice, 6 vehicles recorded 3 times or more

During any given speed watch session between **20-40% of all vehicles passing the speedwatch location are exceeding the speed limit** by 10%+2 (ie 35 mph or more).

This highlights a **more severe issue** than broader regional averages (~10%). **The average in July and August was 25%.**

Chittlehampton

Thanks to Steve and Angela who have carried out sessions in Chittlehampton, the stats they have gathered for the two sessions clearly demonstrate that there is not a speeding issue in the village (at least at the sites approved). A total of 31 vehicles passed during the two sessions and no vehicles were recorded at 35mph or above.

Conclusion

The conclusion has not changed from the previous report. The evidence gathered indicates that unless some permanent traKic calming measures are implemented, there is going to be an accident on this stretch of road. We urge the Parish Council to support the implementation of traKic calming solutions such as speed bumps, chicane’s, additional signage, flashing speed signs, extending the 30mph zone, or other measures that can help reduce speeding and improve safety on this stretch of road.

Thank you for your time.

Umberleigh Community Speedwatch

CC County Councillor Ed **Tyldesley**, North Devon, division of Chulmleigh & Landkey

(ed.tyldesley@devon.gov.uk)

CC Ian **Roome** MP North Devon (ian.roome.mp@parliament.uk)