

Beer Parish Council

The Parish Council Meeting was held on **Wednesday 9th July 2025**, copies of minutes and reports are available on request.

Present:	Cllr M Richards	Cllr M Shobbrook
	Cllr M Westlake	Cllr C Arnold
	Cllr S Whitelock	Cllr S Reeve
	Cllr M Shobbrook	Cllr C Thompson
	Cllr J Heath	

Minutes were taken by the Clerk: Mrs Nicky Ingarfield

1. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs L Reeve & Cllr T Stevens, work commitments.

2. Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the adopted Code of Conduct. (N.B. this does not preclude any later declarations). To consider dispensation requests: None were declared.

3. To agree any items to be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded: None

4. To receive the written application for the office of parish councillor and to co-opt the candidate to fill the existing vacancy: The application to join the Parish Council from Carole Arnott was shared with Council prior to the meeting. Cllr M Shobbrook proposed accepting the application, seconded by Cllr M Westlake, proposed all in favour. Cllr Arnott completed the Declaration of Office which was signed by the Clerk, the Declaration of Interests was also completed to be sent to EDDC.

5. Public Participation: The Council were joined by a Governor from Beer Primary School who updated the Council on the progress on road safety around the school. Concerns were raised more than two years ago with Cllr Hartnell, Cllr Hartnell visited the school with a representative from the Highways Team at DCC, who suggested several areas of improvement. There is a budget at DCC for road safety improvements around schools. Cllr Paul Arnott is now continuing to push the project forward. The School also wanted to acknowledge the support they have received from PECO in supporting the safety of the children by providing cones. All Councillors were pleased to hear that progress is being made.

6. Police: Link to the police page shared prior to the meeting, there were no questions.

7. To consider and approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on the 11th June 2025: Council agreed the minutes were a true reflection of the meeting.

8. EDDC and DCC Cllrs: to discuss reports already submitted and consider matters for the attention of EDDC/DCC Reps: There was no report from the DCC Cllr. Cllr Heath has shared his report prior to the meeting, Cllr Heath added that he was meeting the housing officer tomorrow at Peazan Flats regarding the subsidence.

9. Financial Reports:

9.1: To approve the monthly bank reconciliations to the end of June 2025: Approved

9.2: To receive monthly Alpha software reports for June 2025: There were no questions.

9.3: To approve the schedule of payments for July 2025: Payments were approved and each invoice checked and initialled by the Chair.

9.4: To note that the AGAR has been submitted to PKF Littlejohn: Noted.

10. Environment and Community

10.1: To receive any updates on the Old Chapel, Beer: Cllr Whitelock updated Council on the response for donated help and support via Facebook and costs for scaffolding. The patching of the roof is not believed to need consent whereas replacing the whole roof does, Cllr Whitelock to contact the listed building team for advice.

10.2: To discuss the fence at Townsend Coach Park: Western power have confirmed that the fence does not belong to them, the land registry searches undertaken so far show that the fence does not belong to BPC, Council asked the Clerk to complete further land registry checks on No.1 Townsend to try to confirm ownership.

10.3: To discuss the cliff: Cllr Whitelock discussed the drains and the gully that crosses the allotments and down the cliff, there are concerns over safety should there be a cliff fall, Council is keen to maintain the pedestrian access to the village to preserve the commercial businesses. Clerk to contact Cllr Arnott & Richard Ford to arrange a site meeting. Cllr Heath will also contact EDDC as the refuse collection lorries are going up through the hill, the lorries are over the width limit for the top part of the hill. Councillors raised the possibility of holding a traffic survey. Clerk to also contact Clinton estates to see if a geological survey was completed.

10.4: To discuss traffic issues: The disabled parking bay opposite Woozies is still causing issues with buses and lorries unable to make the turn due to the parked cars, Clerk to contact DCC highways again and include Cllr Paul Arnott in the email.

11. To review the following Policies & Procedures:

11.1 Subject Access Request – Reviewed no changes

11.2 Planning Committee ToR - Reviewed no changes

12. To receive an update on the Mariners Hall and discuss whether the trustee parish councillors are members of the MHMC and attend meetings as observers or full committee members: The Parish Councillors who are Trustees are Full Committee Members, not observers, they are vital voting members of the committee, if there are concerned about a conflict of interests they must declare this, the same as all other members.

13. To note the resignation of the Clerk & RO and discuss the role: Clerk to advertise the role as 15 to 20 hours a week to cover the time needed for events, and set up interviews, Cllrs M Richards, Cllrs S Reeve, Cllrs C Thompson and Cllr M Shobbrook will sit on the interview panel with the Clerk supporting, the Clerk will complete a thorough handover to the new Clerk & RO.

14. To receive an update on the Asset Transfer: Council noted the reply from EDDC but in the absence of Cllr T Stevens will discuss at the September meeting.

15. Correspondence – No questions

Date of next meetings: Full Council Wednesday 10th September 2025.

Signed

Date