



# Coffinswell Parish Council

Serving the Communities of  
Coffinswell & Dacombe

The Cirl Bunting is the UK's rarest farmland bird. The entire breeding population is found between Exeter and Plymouth.

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## MINUTES OF THE COFFINSWELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2025 7PM AT ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH

**Present:** Cllr S Avery (Vice Chair), Cllr C Bell, Cllr M Atkinson, and Cllr. A Brent.

**In attendance:** Devon County Cllr A Dewhurst,  
District Cllr J Radford  
Mrs L Moorese – Parish Clerk

1. Cllr Avery (Vice Chair) opened the meeting at 7.00pm, welcoming everyone in attendance and received apologies from Cllr N Orchard and Cllr S Spokes.
2. **To declare any interests arising at this meeting.**  
None
3. **Reports:**
  - 3.1 **County Councillors' report.** (Read by Cllr Dewhurst and is available to view on the website).
  - 3.2 **District Councillors' report.**  
Cllr Avery invited District Cllr John Radford to give his report in which he reported that Teignbridge District Council is undergoing managerial restructuring, but he emphasised that critical services must continue despite financial constraints and outdated infrastructure. Discussion followed concerning the democratic impact of the changes, with larger electoral areas making it more challenging for independents and smaller parties to stand for election due to increased campaign costs.
  - 3.3 **Police Advocate and Neighbourhood Watch reports and updates.**  
Nothing to report.
4. **Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council and approve the minutes of the following meeting:**

It was agreed by all to approve the Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2024.
5. **Finance**
  - 5.1 It was agreed by all to approve the payments schedule.
  - 5.2 It was agreed by all to approve the Bank Reconciliation for the months of November and December 2024.

**5.3** The budget update for period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 was presented with no matters arising.

**5.4 To discuss and agree the Chairman's report, budget and precept for 2025 – 2026.**

Cllr Avery referred to the Chairman's report which was previously circulated to the Councillors regarding the proposed Precept for 2025-2026, and it was agreed by all those present that the Parish Clerk should submit the request for £6785.00.

**6 Funding & Grants:**

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the grant for the Strimmer training (which the Chairman had requested) was still awaited but should be received within the next few days.

**7. Footpaths & Highways:**

Cllr Brent confirmed that the annual P3 report is due, and this would be discussed with Tim Rumball.

Cllr Avery advised the Councillors that following the "Certas" lorry incident in Dacombe (which resulted in a punctured main tank causing an oil spill that reached the watercourse), whilst the smell has mostly dissipated, oil residue remains. "Certas" have confirmed plans to remove the verge along the boundary of the affected property. The owner is consulting with them directly and in the meantime the situation is being monitored. It was also confirmed that any blocked gullies would be addressed as needed.

**8. To note any correspondence received**

None.

**9 Parish Matters:**

**9.1 Strimmer Training – 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

It was confirmed that the three volunteers attending on this date will be Neil Bowers, Mark Claydon, and Mike Harris

**9.2 Traffic notice regarding St. Marychurch Road, Coffinswell.**

This was duly noted to be with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 for temporary speed restrictions in force regarding development and installation of Solar Farm.

Cllr Avery also advised that he still had some "20 is plenty stickers" which he will further distribute for placing in strategic places.

**10 Planning:**

**10.1** To review and note the following:

**Ref: 25/00007/AGR - The Maples, Pitland Lane, Coffinswell Devon**

**Applicant: Mr G Cottrell of G J Cottrell Builders**

**Application** for Barn and tool storage.

*(The TDC has until 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to decide whether the proposed development comes under the permitted development rules thereby not requiring prior planning permission).*

The Council discussed this proposed development on recently purchased land on Pitland Lane by Mr. Cottrell of Cottrell Builders. The proposal is for a barn to store tools and equipment for maintaining fruit trees, crops, and hedges. However, concerns were raised about the scale of recent land alterations including regrading, etc., and it was agreed that the Council would draft a response highlighting their concerns and questioning the intended use of the land.

To note following no objection by TDC decision notice:

**Ref: 24/01953/CAN - Dodwell Cottage, Road from Westcombe Park To Princess Cottages**

**Proposal: Horse Chestnut (T1) - fell**

**11. Correspondence received by the Parish Clerk**

None

**.12. Enforcement Issues:**

None

**13. General Public Question Time:**

No public in attendance.

**14. To note the date of the next meeting:**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Cllr Avery thanked everyone for attending the Meeting which ended at 7.46 pm.

Signed:  
Chairman of Coffinswell Parish Council

Dated: