

**Modbury Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 3rd February 2026, 7.00 pm**

Draft minutes

In attendance B Price [Chair] P Smith [Vice Chair]

T Price, D Trigger, C Field, B Cole

**Public Forum: Members of the public and press are welcome to attend
Reports from Devon County and Souths Hams District Councillors**

To receive Devon County and District Councillors' Reports

Report from L Wainwright DCC Councillor

LW apologised as unable to stay for the entire meeting. Addressed MPC priorities list and thanked PS for all his hard work on this and apologised for not responding sooner DCC are consulting with main highways contractor to improve efficiency and produce better results sooner within existing budget constraints. PS observed that repairs carried out by MPC RW last longer than the repairs by DCC contractor. LW understands the frustration poor repairs are causing and assured PS this topic was given top priority at the most recent full council meeting.

Meanwhile DCC is dealing with impact of severe storms on roads and infrastructure. LW has created Road Warden WhatsApp group for approx. 12 parishes - Dan Thomas willing to talk to this group. MPC parish clerk to join group.

SHDC report – apologies from B Taylor – unwell. Cllr S Dennis attended

SD briefly reported on SHDC producing a balanced budget raising council tax by 2.9% equivalent to £5.88 for Band D households. Street cleaning – schedule been tested and due for publication soon. SHDC launching a Tourism survey looking at challenges Council asset refurbishment phase 2 for facilities such as toilets. Modbury not listed in this phase. LGR – Gov't consultation with statutory bodies - still unclear if parish councils will be included. BC asked about timetable for dissolution of SHDC. SD said still unclear. Gov't due to publish more information later this year.

BP raised the issue of decision made at recent DMC planning meeting and negative impact on Modbury NP which contradicted letter from SHDC February last year. BP confirmed letter sent to SHDC DMC outlining MPC concerns with no reply as yet. SD sympathised and suggested MPC submit letter again as a complaint. Will be dealt with differently. **Clerk to submit via SHDC portal**

2026 187 Apologies: To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence.

S Wyatt – Apologies for absence – vacation
A Turner - unwell

2026 188 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

Register of interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests within 28 days if there have been any changes to their circumstances.

None

2026 189 To confirm minutes of the last meeting – previously distributed

Proposed T Price
Seconded P Smith

Agreed. All in favour

Matters arising

River Erme – awaiting feedback from LW. BP requested it be referred back and removed from agenda. **Clerk to contact AT and LW**

Feedback from SHDC re play areas. PS gave full explanation to SD about discrepancy over the safety of equipment because of conflicting opinions between SHDC

inspections and contractors. **Awaiting definitive opinion from SHDC before further talks – due end Jan.**

Community support info telephone lines i.e. Samaritans, Child-line etc. to be added to MPC website – **Action, still to be done by Clerk.**

Modwag application still required further costings to be submitted for consideration. MODWAG have stated that after two full years they hope the areas would be well established and then it's a matter of making sure the regular contractors do what they are supposed to in terms of cutting less frequently but at the right time.

Also the Palm Cross wall strip has been substituted as a trial area for the proposed area by the play park. Council agreed that more definite answers were needed on ongoing maintenance costs before final decisions could be made. It was agreed to **Reschedule as agenda item for March meeting**

2026 190 To confirm minutes of Extra-ordinary meeting 27th January – previously circulated

Proposed T Price

Seconded P Smith

Agreed. All in favour

1. Submission to SHDC and others – Clerk confirmed letter sent to all members of SHDC DMC and all council officers on DMC

BP confirmed she had spoken to DALC about a possible legal challenge to process and decision

2. To agree next steps

BP confirmed MPC wished to arrange a public meeting to enable residents to have an opportunity to raise their concerns to Planners and Developers in regard to the development.

All options for a legal challenge should be explored

Resolution – to arrange a public meeting, date to be agreed and have further discussions with DALC about legal advice &/or challenge

Proposed B Price

Seconded P Smith

Approved. All in favour

Clerk to speak to Mem Hall re availability. BP to talk to DALC

2026 191 Finance

1. To approve payments as listed in Appendix 1 - £5,193.95. **Clerk gave breakdown including quarterly HMRC PAYE payment**

Proposed B Price

Seconded D Trigger

Approved. All in favour

2. To note the reconciliation between Lloyds Bank and Rialtas. **Bank account reconciled to accounting system**

3. Insurance – tender process for 2026/27 – update. **1 rejection. No other responses received yet. BP will look at Tender document again.**

4. Confirm precept submission to SHDC for 2026/27. **Submitted 27th January**

2026 192 Modbury Recreation and Sports Trust

1. Agree lease between MPC and MRST – To be reviewed by councillors with final draft ready for approval at March meeting. Councillors were asked to raise any queries about the lease to BP before the next meeting date. **Draft circulated for review**

2. To note Charity Commission decision – Charity Commission confirmed status. Charity Commission website

<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/5283304/charity->

- 2026 193 Health & Safety**
1. Play areas – **PS stated topic covered off under SHDC report earlier**
- 2026 194 Devolution**
1. To monitor developments regarding Gov't LGR plans - local and national
Including Neighbourhood Area committees [NAC]
BP reported that 3 different unitary authority models for Devon were still being assessed.
Neighbourhood Area Committees - DALC are on steering group looking at best way forward. Unclear at present if parish councils will be represented. LW to arrange another meeting as follow up to Salcombe meeting held in December
- 2026 195 Maintenance**
1. To note minutes of last meeting 27th January – previously circulated
2. Priorities list. **PS stated topic covered off under DCC report earlier with Clerk to circulate response from LW**
BC confirmed meeting with DCC Utilities manager later this week, inspection of manhole covers and fire hydrant
- 2026 196 Sustainability**
1. Sustainable South Hams – Report back on event
BP gave brief description of event and said it was well attended with interest from residents to borrow thermal imaging camera. Some learning outcomes from event when planning the next one
- 2026 197 Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups:**
To receive updates (If any) from Committees, sub-committees, working Groups not dealt with earlier.
Community engagement –
Still looking at telephone box refurbishment and possible community Fridge being installed somewhere in the town
Dementia Friendly are attending the next meeting of the committee
March Modbury messenger to feature an article on councillor recruitment
Committee looking at Youth engagement activities
A number of submissions for Community awards have been made
- 2026 198 To agree the Saturday Rota:**

T Price 7th Feb
Bill Cole 14th Feb
D Trigger 21st Feb
Phil Smith 28th Feb
S Wyatt 7th March
C Field 14th March
T Price 21st March
D Trigger 28th March
- 2026 199 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 3rd March 2026 @ 7pm**

P Smith to chair next meeting. BP will be absent

Meeting closed at 8.48pm

