SHALDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Bonfire and Fireworks Committee Meeting
held at the Hub at 7 pm
Tuesday 17 March 2026

Committee: Cllr Andy Burnham (AB), Cllr Danielle Westlake (DWest), Cllr Jo Cumbley (JC).

Also attending: Nickie Hamblin (the Clerk), and Mel Giesens from ITUS.

1. **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES:** for absence received prior to the meeting these are to be noted. **None**

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** acknowledgement of any such interests received for any part of the agenda or any request for dispensation made prior to the meeting to the Clerk – **None.**

3. **RATIFICATION OF MINUTES** of Committee meeting on 26 November 2026. **Agreed and approved.**

4. **FINANCIAL –** bank account/reserves balance. Projected income for 2026. The reserves balance is £18,084.75. If the event is to continue this year then the additional costs would total approximately £2,500, however there is no cost for the closure of the point car park to date. It is hoped that through the bucket collection on the Teignmouth side (which we approximate at £2,000) the business sponsorships in Teignmouth and the on-line fundraising the additional cost at the point would be covered. DW has a list of sponsors and AB will assist with this aspect of the fundraising.

5. **INSURANCE –** cover for both sides of the River. The insurance is slightly less than it was last year even though we are covering the additional area of the point beach in Teignbridge.

6. **EVENT MANAGEMENT COSTS** - to include additional paperwork and manpower costs for Teignmouth. Went through the estimate provided by ITUS which is just over £4,000 for the whole event. There are additional first aiders because the guidance given by the authorities, based on the numbers, requires this many. There will be 8 Marshalls plus 1 road manager and JC asked MG to amend the quote to reflect these small changes. The dynamic cordon for the fireworks is 170m to start with and there will be 4 marshals and security personnel to move it back if necessary. The beach hut owners will be written to and advised of the event and timings and ask that there is no-one in them just before the event begins. The beach huts will be visited at 6 pm and again just before firing to explain this to owners. The Itus staff will also be given loud hailers.

7. **REVIEW OVERALL FINANCIAL SITUATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES** available to decide feasibility of holding the event this year. It was agreed that volunteers from the air show committee could come along to the Committee meetings, as can any member of the public. It is likely that they can arrange for at least 12 bucket collectors on the Teignmouth side of the river. The Committee has been overwhelmed by the level of support given by Teignmouth residents. TDC have been asked to close the car park from 5.30 pm and radio communication will be across both sites mobile phones only used as an emergency. A Beach clean (the point) on the following day to be covered hopefully by the volunteers who helped out the previous

night. JC will also speak to Celebration clear up and potentially for Tom to take it away. Considering the logistics and additional costs the Committee considers the event should continue this year from a firework perspective. For Shaldon side AB has agreed to build the Bonfire again but pallets will have to be bought as he will be unable to source that many himself. It was agreed that it will be pallets only and no wood from the community will be accepted as it is proving too difficult to collect and organise, often the wood has nails in and could potentially prove a hazard to the volunteers building the bonfire. There was a discussion about future years and it was agreed to review it after this event.

The feasibility paper was discussed (which will be provided to Councillors for the Full Council meeting) with regard to potential firing points and with everything taken into consideration, including cost, logistics and health and safety measures it was decided to recommend to Full Council to go ahead using the point Beach.

The recommendation to put forward to Full Council is therefore to go ahead with the event using the Point as the firing location for the fireworks and it will be held on 31 October 2026 with a Halloween Theme. The workplan was considered and if the event is approved at full council will press ahead with the paperwork etc.

8. **REVIEW OFFERS OF VOLUNTARY HELP & SPONSORSHIP SOURCES.**
Covered above.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING –** Wednesday 1 July 2026 at 7pm.

Signed ……. **Date …….**
Andy Burnham, Chairperson B&F Committee