



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF EAST STOKE HELD ON  
THURSDAY 7th MAY 2026 AT LONGTHORNS CAMPSITE

PRESENT	Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chair) Cllr Neill Child (Vice Chair) Cllr Barry Quinn Cllr Fenella Lewin Cllr Keith Evans
APOLOGIES	Cllr Chris Evans Cllr Graeme Langley
IN ATTENDANCE	5 Members of the Public Dorset Cllr Ben Wilson Liz Maidment (Parish Clerk)

1. **a) To elect a Chair for the coming year**

Cllr Quinn proposed Cllr Cady as Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Keith Evans. Cllr Cady was the only nomination for Chair. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Cady was elected Chair for the coming year.  
It was resolved that Cllr Cady was elected Chair.
- b) To receive the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Rebecca Cady accepted the position of Chair and duly signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.
2. **a) To elect a Vice-Chair for the coming year**

Cllr Keith Evans proposed Cllr Child as Vice-Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Lewin. Cllr Child was the only nomination for Vice-Chair. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Child was elected Vice-Chair for the coming year. It was resolved that Cllr Child was elected.
- b) To receive the Vice-Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Neill Child accepted the position of Vice-Chair and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form.
3. **Public participation period** for 15 minutes  
There was a stall at Wareham Town Hall about the potential wild beaver release project in the River Frome. A resident inquired whether the Parish Council had responded to the consultation, expressing concerns that it might lead to increased flooding. It was confirmed that the release will occur in the upper and middle catchment areas, as the habitat downstream in East Stoke is not suitable.
4. **Apologies**  
Apologies were received, and the reasons were approved from Cllr Chris Evans and Cllr Graeme Langley.
5. **Granting of Dispensation**  
No applications for a dispensation had been made.
6. **Declarations of Interest**  
None
7. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 2nd April 2026.**  
The minutes from Thursday 2nd April, were duly proposed as a true account and were duly signed by Cllr Rebecca Cady.
8. **Matters arising from the minutes**  
The tyres near Binnegar Lane were reported by Cllr Quinn rather than Cllr Lewin. Cllr Quinn and Cllr Lewin attended the Binnegar Quarry Liaison Committee meeting. Cllr Quinn will speak to Suez, as there maybe some changes to the restoration plan, as initially the plan was to level it completely.

9. **Planning Applications or Planning Information received**  
None.
10. **Update of Previous Applications or planning information**  
P/FUL/2023/07467 - Land South Of A352 Wareham Road, Binnegar. Application will be considered by the Eastern Planning Committee on 22 April 2026.  
The application was granted. There will be a further planning application with more details about the houses.
11. **Dorset Council Report**  
Dorset Cllr Wilson's report was circulated prior to the meeting.
- i) Cllr Wilson has contacted the Bridge and Structures Team Leader at Dorset Council regarding the various cracks identified at Woolbridge. The team has surveyed the area. However, due to financial constraints and the classification of the repairs as non-essential, no work will be carried out at this time.
  - ii) The consultation on Electoral Ward boundaries is being presented to Dorset Council on 14th May. There are a number of proposed local changes, including moving both East and West Lulworth into the SE Purbeck Ward and renaming it 'The Purbecks'.
  - iii) The consultation responses to the Dorset Local Plan are currently under review. There were over 9,000 responses, and some are now published on the Dorset Council website. It is expected that a further consultation of the full proposed Dorset Local Plan will be in August, with completion still due for December. Meanwhile central government are pushing ahead with planning reform, which will simplify and standardise planning regulations and potentially therefore limit some of the protections currently afforded under the Purbeck Local Plan.
12. **Police issues to report or update on issues reported**
- a) **Easter Rave**  
A rave occurred on MOD land during the Easter weekend. The Dorset Council Communications Team provided regular updates about the situation; however, this information was unfortunately not communicated to the Parish Council. Patrols were conducted over the May bank holiday weekend to prevent any further illegal gatherings. It was noted that after the event, some of the attendees participated in a litter pick.
  - b) **Other Issues**  
On 29th April, there was a multi vehicle RTC at Binnegar, whereby all three services were called out.
13. **Assertion 10 Checklist.**  
The following policies were proposed by Cllr Cady and seconded by Cllr Child. All were duly approved.
- a) Reserves Policy
  - b) Councillor allowances policy
  - c) Employment Policy
  - d) Home Working Policy
    - i) Discuss home working allowance  
It was duly approved that the Parish Clerk would receive the £6 a week home working allowance.
  - e) Equality and Diversity Policy
  - f) Internal Review and Control Policy
14. **Highways Issues**
- a) **Update on issues**  
No updates.
  - b) **Speed Indicator Device**  
This will be moved.
  - c) **Other Issues**  
None.
15. **Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration**
- a) Library Book Renewal Survey. The survey is designed to help us better understand how library members choose to renew their books and what influences their preferred method. Closes 8th June.  
<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries/book-renewal/consultation/subpage.2026-03-19.7622490664/>  
This will be publicised on the village Facebook page.
  - b) Survey Request - Community Emergency Response Plans. DAPTC are working with Dorset Council to improve support for production of Community Emergency Response

Plans (CERPs), and to promote their adoption by councils and parish meetings.  
Cllr Quinn to complete.

## 16. Correspondence Received

- a) BDO LLP Limited Assurance Regime 2025-26. The deadline to submit the AGAR and supporting information to us is Wednesday 1 July 2026. **Noted.**
- b) Dorset Citizens Advice Immigration Advice Appointments. Citizens Advice East Dorset & Purbeck is offering monthly immigration advice appointments for clients starting on Thursday 23rd April. These will be held at their Wimborne & Wareham offices. **Noted.**
- c) Meeting Reminder - Winfrith SSG - Tuesday, 12 May 2026. The meeting will take place at Winfrith Village Hall from 13:45 to 17:00. **Noted.**
- d) e-News 7 April 2026. Includes information on the invitation on neighbourhood governance. **Noted.**
- e) Your input matters: Please join our Dorset Council sessions to help design 'Community Conversations' events. Online sessions include on Wednesday 13 May, 4pm-5pm Friday 15 May, 10am-11am. **Noted.**
- f) Youth Grant Fund Release. This will reopen for applications from 22 April for a four-week period.  
<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/news/new-funding-round-opens-for-dorset-s-youth-services>. **Noted.**
- g) Parish Council advert from the Environmental Enforcement Team at Dorset Council. Advice on 'duty of care' regarding using waste disposal companies. **Noted.**
- h) Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for Church Lane, East Stoke. To carry out essential highway maintenance works, they plan to close East Stoke ii Bridge, Church Lane, between 15th June and 26th June 2026. This is a 24 hour closure the road will not be open during this period. **Noted.**
- i) Temporary Traffic Regulation Order for Bovington Lane, Bere Regis. The works will be carried out 29th May and 2nd June. The road will be closed daily, between the hours of 08:00 and 18:00, and will be re-opened to traffic overnight. **Noted.**
- j) Winfrith SSG Chair: Winfrith Planning application. The Winfrith planning application is now live on the Dorset Council website. **Noted.**

## 17. Finance

- a) **The following receipt was duly noted.**

1st Half of Precept	£4625.00
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- b) **The following payments were duly approved and will be paid electronically. Cllr Cady and Cllr Quinn to approve the payments**

	Amount
Miss E Maidment	£302.12
Dorset Council Pension Fund	£81.53
Information Commissioner's Office	£52.00
DAPTC Subscriptions	£264.44
Print In The Bag	£46.66
Lloyds banking charge (Direct Debit)	£4.25
- c) **To discuss and approve the annual insurance.**

Quotes were received from Zurich £418.47, Community Insurance £518.40 and Clear Insurance will be in the region of £700. It was proposed by Cllr Cady and seconded by Cllr Keith Evans to continue with Zurich. The payment was then added to the payment schedule.

Zurich	£418.47
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- d) **To receive the Fourth Quarter Bank Reconciliation**

The Receipts and Payments Cashbook balance was £34,047.02, which agreed with the reconciled bank balance as of 31st March 2026.
- e) **To agree the Fourth Quarter Budget Report**

The Fourth Quarter Budget Report was noted and £10,008.38 has been spent in this financial year.
- f) **To consider and approve the Annual Statement of the Receipts and Payments Account year ending 31st March 2026.**

To be approved next month.
- g) **Parish Council Annual Return**

**To complete, approve and sign Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Return.**  
To be approved next month.
- h) **Approval of Annual Statement of Accounts**

- i) To note the restatement of the Annual Statement of the Receipts and Payments Account year ending 31st March 2026 and notes to these accounts.  
To be approved next month.
- ii) To consider and approve Section 2 of the Annual Return, end of year bank reconciliation and the explanation of differences  
To be approved next month
- iii) To confirm no conflict of interest with the Auditor BDO LLP.  
It was confirmed that there was no conflict of interest with BDO LLP. The form was duly signed by the Chair and Clerk

**i) To approve the Risk Management**

The Risk Management Policy was duly signed by the Chair.

**18. Items for information or next agenda**

A resident contacted Cllr Quinn to report that three silver birch trees were felled with an axe. The resident spotted it during a walk around the common land on 4th May. The trees were located on Battery Bank, near the old pond and slightly west of the old shed. The landowner has been notified about the incident. It was agreed to send an email to all residents reminding them that trees should not be felled.

With no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.19

Chairman:

Date.....