



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF EAST STOKE HELD ON THURSDAY 6th
SEPTEMBER 2026 AT LONGTHORNS CAMPSITE

PRESENT	Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chair) Cllr Neill Child (Vice Chair) Cllr Chris Evans Cllr Graeme Langley
APOLOGIES	Cllr Barry Quinn Cllr Keith Evans Cllr Fenella Lewin
IN ATTENDANCE	1 Members of the Public Dorset Cllr Ben Wilson Liz Maidment (Parish Clerk)

1. Public participation period for 15 minutes

Nick Barnes, Chairman and Chief Flying Instructor of Purbeck Flying, attended the meeting and gave a brief overview of the organisation and its activities at Eyres Field. Following the relocation of Dorset Gliding Club, a number of its original members wished to continue flying from Eyres Field. Purbeck Flying was therefore established and has negotiated a new lease with the landowner. The organisation currently has approximately 20 members.

Mr Barnes explained that Purbeck Flying does not currently own any gliders or a tow plane, although they have access to a motor glider and several light aircraft. Approximately £5,000 has been raised in pledges towards purchasing equipment. An example given was a K13 training glider is expected to cost between £4,000 and £6,000, and the organisation also hopes to acquire a winch and tow plane in due course. Eyres Field is now an approved UK Border Force regulated airfield for international arrivals and departures.

Mr Barnes emphasised Purbeck Flying's commitment to working with local residents. The organisation hopes to support the local community through aviation education, opportunities for young people, support for local businesses and community events. Recent fundraising activities have included curry nights and coffee mornings. The club has a clubhouse which is available for use for events and community activities. It was agreed that Mr Barnes would write an article about Purbeck Flying for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received, and the reasons were approved from Cllr Keith Evans, Cllr Quinn and Cllr Lewin.

3. Granting of Dispensation

No applications for a dispensation had been made.

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6th August 2026.

The minutes from Thursday 6th August 2026, were duly proposed as a true account and were duly signed by Cllr Rebecca Cady.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

None

7. Planning Applications or Planning Information received

None.

8. **Update of Previous Applications or planning information**
None.
9. **Dorset Council Report**
Dorset Cllr Wilson's report was circulated prior to the meeting.
 - i) It was noted that the Local Government Boundary Commission has published its draft recommendations for new wards, ward boundaries and ward names for Dorset Council. A public consultation on the draft recommendations is now underway and will close on the 9th November 2026. The main proposed change affecting East Stoke is that the parish would form part of the new Wool and Bovington Ward, together with Wool, Bovington and East Holme. The proposed ward would be represented by one Unitary Councillor rather than two. The neighbouring proposed Purbeck Ward would include East and West Lulworth. Cllr Cady raised concerns about the potential workload for a single councillor representing the proposed Wool and Bovington Ward, particularly given the area would include new housing developments, mineral extraction sites and an MOD base. **Action:** It was agreed that the Boundary Review would remain on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting and that details of the consultation would be publicised in the Parish Newsletter.
 - ii) The next Community Conversation event will be on Friday 11th September from 9.30am to 12.30pm at Harman's Cross Village Hall.
 - iii) An update was provided following concerns raised at a previous meeting regarding the loss of mobile phone signal during power cuts. This can leave residents unable to contact the emergency services, with particular concern for vulnerable residents. Various Parish Councils have been consulted on the issue and the matter is currently being reviewed. Information is due to be provided to households on resilience planning and what to do in different emergency situations. It was requested that this information be distributed by a household mail drop rather than solely by email, as a number of elderly and vulnerable residents may not be online. It was asked if the EE mobile mast at Trigon will be updated. **Action:** Cllr Wilson to obtain an update about the mast.
 - iv) Cllr Cady reported that she had contacted a representative from More Bus, who advised that bus operators contribute to a central fund administered by Dorset Council, which is used towards items such as bus infrastructure. Cllr Cady had subsequently contacted the Dorset Council Bus Stop Team but had not yet received a response. Cllr Langley had carried out a site visit to Winterborne Kingston to view its bus shelter and considered that a similar design could be constructed. The proposed shelter would consist of approximately ten courses of brickwork with a timber structure above. The suitability of the existing base was discussed. If this is found to be insufficient, a concrete slab could be laid over the existing base. **Action:** Cllr Langley to draw up plans for the proposed shelter. Cllr Wilson to contact the Dorset Council Bus Stop Team.
10. **Bus Shelter**
Discussed 2026-9-357/9iv
11. **Finger Post**
Cllr Quinn has been liaising with Dorset Fingerpost Restorers and Wareham Mens Shed.
12. **Emergency Planning**
It was agreed that the development of a Parish Council Resilience Plan would be included on the agenda for the next meeting. Before any work is undertaken at Parish Council level, the Clerk will ask Cllr Wilson for a copy of Dorset Council's emergency/resilience plan covering the East Stoke area and seek clarification as to whether emergency hubs are established in Wareham and Wool. It was also discussed that the emergency services, MOD and utility companies may have existing emergency plans and procedures which could potentially be incorporated into, or inform, a Parish Council Resilience Plan. **Action:** Clerk to contact Cllr Wilson for further information ahead of the next meeting.
13. **Police issues to report or update on issues reported**
It was reported that a RTC had occurred near High Tor, Worgret, approximately 10 days prior to the meeting. The collision was understood to have involved a deer.
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) Dorset Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) Consultation. This is the formal 3-month consultation for the draft Dorset's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2026 to 2036. The

ROWIP sets out how Dorset Council will develop a modern, accessible and better-connected network of public rights of way that supports everyday walking, cycling and access to natural green and blue spaces.

<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/c-e/dorset-rights-of-way-consultation/>

Closes 12th October.

This will be completed by Cllr Child.

- b) Increasing dog fouling and abandoned dog-waste bags in our area. Complaint from local resident. Councillors agreed that there was a particular problem in the Binnegar Lane area. It was also reported that dog fouling and discarded dog-waste bags were an issue in Hethfelton Woods.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Forestry Commission to request that signage be installed reminding visitors to take their litter home. The Clerk will also contact Dorset Dogs to seek advice on measures that could be taken to address the problem. An article will be included in the Autumn Newsletter reminding dog owners of their responsibilities.

16. Correspondence Received

- a) Dorset Council Planning and Building Control Town and Parish Council Virtual Forum. The in-person event is taking place on Tuesday 8 September from 10am-12.30pm at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester. **Noted.**
- b) Dorset Council Parking. DAPTC held briefing sessions on parking review listening events starting 28th July. The formal consultation will start in November. **Noted.**
- c) Proposed Temporary Closure Of East Holme Access Road. The closure has been requested to provide Openreach with a safe working area to replace a telegraph pole. These works are programmed to commence from 23rd November until 24th November. **Noted.**
- d) Hot weather advice; behind the scenes at Dorset History Centre; and much more. Dorset have joined Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole (BCP), Somerset and Wiltshire councils in expressing interest in forming a Mayoral Strategic Authority for Wessex. **Noted.**
- e) Wessex Water update – hosepipe ban introduced. From Tuesday 18 August at 00:01hrs 1.4 million customers – in areas including Dorset – must not use a hosepipe for activities such as watering gardens, washing cars, patios, paths and driveways, cleaning windows or filling swimming and paddling pools. **Noted.**
- f) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Overnight Temporary Closure Of B3070 At Holme Level Crossing. Closure required for Network Rail culvert jet washing between 31st Aug and 2nd Sept. **Noted.**
- g) Introducing your new look Dorset Connect: Swanage network meetings. The next meeting will be on Monday 30th November from 13:00 to 15:30 at Herston Village Hall. **Noted.**
- h) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary Closure Of Highwood, East Stoke. It will come into operation on 7th September between 09:30 and 15:30 and remain in force for five days, but it is anticipated that the works will be completed by 11th September. **Noted.**
- i) e-News 25 August 2026. Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2026/27. The agreed pay award for the current year which is backdated and effective from 1 April 2026. Pay rates will be increased by 3.3%. **Noted.**
- j) Proposed Temporary Closure Of B3070, East Lulworth. These works are programmed to commence between 08:00 until 18:00 from 13th November until 16th November. **Noted.**
- k) Plea for volunteer drivers with Share & Care in Wool. To volunteer, please call 07751 968 944. This will be publicised in the Autumn Newsletter.
- l) Request from Wessex Internet.

The new Community Engagement Manager for Wessex Internet has been in contact with the Parish Council requesting details of the appropriate person to contact regarding Hethfelton. Cllr Cady subsequently spoke with her and explained that the Parish Council had previously worked with Wessex Internet when they were proposing to install fibre broadband in the Middlefield area. At that time, engagement events were organised and supported by the Parish Council, including an event at the D'Urberville Centre in Wool and a pop-up event on Middlefield Green. During these events, the Parish Council and local residents asked whether the proposed scheme could be extended to include Binnegar Lane and the Farrer Estate. Wessex Internet initially agreed to look at including these areas; however, this did not come to fruition.

A closed meeting with Wessex Internet has now been arranged for Thursday 1st October at

6.15pm, prior to the Parish Council meeting. The Parish Council meeting will follow at 7.00pm.

17. Finance

- a) **The following payments were duly approved and will be paid electronically. Cllr Child and Cllr Evans to approve the payments.**

	Amount
Miss E Maidment Salary, Backpay, Allowances	£388.11

The backdated pay from 1st April has been included. The Clerk's rate has increased by £0.46 an hour.

18. Items for Information or next agenda

None. The date of the next meeting will be Thursday 1st October 2026.

With no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:14

Chairman:

Date.....