



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF EAST STOKE HELD ON
THURSDAY 2nd APRIL 2026 AT LONGTHORNS CAMPSITE

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

1. **Public participation period** for 15 minutes
None
2. **Apologies**
Apologies were received, and the reasons were approved from Cllr Child, Cllr Chris Evans and Cllr Keith Evans.
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 5th March 2026.**
The minutes from Thursday 5th March, were duly proposed as a true account and were duly signed by Cllr Rebecca Cady.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - i) Dorset Council issued a generic press release regarding fly-tipping. Recently, there was another incident at Binnegar Copse, where tyres were dumped. Cllr Lewin has reported the incident.
 - ii) The Dorset Council Purbeck Watercraft Byelaw 2027 has been completed by Cllr Langley.
7. **Planning Applications or Planning Information received**
P/HOU/2026/00771 - Beehive Cottage, Holmebridge, BH20 6AF. Extensions and alterations including detached garage.
The Parish Council has no comments or objections.
8. **Update of Previous Applications or planning information**
No updates.
9. **Dorset Council Report**
Dorset Cllr Wilson's report was circulated prior to the meeting.
 - i) Cllr Wilson has been in contact with the Bridge and Structures Team Leader at Dorset Council regarding the various cracks identified at Woolbridge. The email will be forwarded to the Clerk.
 - ii) At the previous Parish Council meeting, the former system of Parish Maintenance Units was discussed. A small number of Parish Councils still employ a Lengthsman; however, it was noted that the scope of work undertaken is limited, as they are not permitted to work on A roads. Discussions will take place at County level to explore whether clusters of parishes could share resources.
 - iii) It was agreed to request litter bins for both lay-bys. **Action:** The Clerk to submit the request.
 - iv) The bus stop sign has been installed at Stokeford. It was agreed to monitor the

lay-by for any parking issues, as it is not considered necessary to mark it out at this stage.

- v) Unfortunately, Cllr Wilson is unable to attend the Binnegar Liaison meeting. Cllr Quinn will attend to obtain further information regarding the restoration plans.

10. Police issues to report or update on issues reported

Cllr Langley observed a Bulldog Armoured Personnel Carrier and a Challenger Tank sliding across the Woolbridge roundabout. This incident occurred due to poor visibility as they could not see vehicles queuing. There were discussions raised about whether the visibility spray can be improved, as there are often traffic jams caused by the railway crossing barriers being down for extended periods.

11. Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting

A response has not been received from last month's suggested speaker. **Action:** The Clerk will instead contact the Dorset Wildlife Trust and Cllr Lewin will also inquire.

12. Assertion 10 Checklist: Email addresses for Councillors

As part of the Assertion 10 Checklist it strongly recommends that every councillor have a secure, dedicated email address separate from any personal accounts. This will be investigated further. The Parish Clerk has a new .gov email address, which will be used.

13. Newsletters and distribution of Hawkins Trust gifts

The distribution of the newsletters will be decided after the meeting.

14. Highways Issues

a) Update on issues

i) The reported potholes have now been filled.

ii) The Church Lane bridges have been reported. **Action:** Dorset Cllr Wilson to obtain update

b) Speed Indicator Device

Cllr Langley to move it to the Black Dog.

c) Woolbridge Damage

Discussed 2026-4-3529i

d) Other Issues

None.

15. Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration

a) 10-week public consultation inviting proposals for new council wards and ward boundaries for Dorset Council. It will close on 1st June 2026.

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/dorset>

The only significant change in the area is that East Lulworth will now be part of the South East Purbeck Ward. This means that East and West Lulworth will be in separate wards. **Action:** Cllr Quinn to respond to consultation.

b) Consultation - Beaver Wild Release. Consultation on the potential for wild beaver release in the River Hooke and Frome Catchment, Dorset. [Public consultation on the potential for wild beaver release in the River Hooke and Frome Catchment | Dorset Wildlife Trust](#) It will close on 31st May. **Noted.**

16. Correspondence Received

a) BCP & Dorset Council Employment Land Study to Inform Local Plans. Questionnaire on commercial properties in readiness for the publication of the Local Plan Consultation. **Noted.**

b) Invitation: Dorset Council Monthly Climate Webinars for Town and Parish Councils. The first session will be on Tuesday 31st March 12:00pm – 1:30pm. **Noted.**

c) News release - council responds to huge increase in highways issues. From December to February, the council recorded a 92% increase in reported potholes, a 54% increase in other road defects and an 83% increase in emergency call-outs – compared to the same period last year. **Noted.**

d) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Temporary Road Closure B3071, Wool. This road closure, scheduled to start on Monday 9th March, has had to be revoked due to a clash of works. **Noted.**

e) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Emergency Temporary Closure Of B3070, East Lulworth. The road closure will continue until 31st March. **Noted.**

f) e-News 10 March 2026. The DAPTC website has launched a new Councillor Development Framework (CDF) and Officer Development Framework (ODF). **Noted.**

g) New Date for the DAPTC 2025 AGM – 10am Saturday 30 May 2026. This change allowed Dorset Council additional time to take the draft Statement of Reasonable Expectations (SoRE) through its internal service areas and, importantly, through its governance and elected-member decision-making processes. **Noted.**

- h) Age Friendly Dorset. 'Age Without Limits Day' will be on 10th June 2026. **Noted.**
- i) Request to use the Parish Land for grazing. **Action:** The Clerk to respond. Grazing of the Parish Land ceased approximately 10 years ago.
- j) Citizens Advice London Marathon Fundraiser. A local resident is running this year's London Marathon on the 26th April, to raise funds for Citizens Advice East Dorset & Purbeck. **Noted.**
- k) BDO LLP Limited Assurance Regime 2025-26. The deadline to submit the AGAR and supporting information to us is Wednesday 1 July 2026. **Noted.**

17. Finance

- a) **The following receipt was duly noted.**
Fyler and Butler £159.98
- 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	£87.91
T. Lee Landscaping	£942.50
Re-imburse E Maidment for Water2Business (standpipe in Churchyard)	£39.07
Dorset Council (supply & erect signs)	£1064.40
Lloyds banking charge (Direct Debit)	£4.25

- b) **To discuss donating to the Purbeck Film Festival and Citizens Advice**
It was proposed by Cllr Cady and seconded by Cllr Lewin to donate £50 to each charity, with payment to be made next month.
- c) **To approve the Fixed Asset Register, Risk Management and Financial Regulations**
The Fixed Asset Register and the Financial Regulations have been duly signed by the Chair. The Risk Management plan will be finalised at the next meeting. It was noted that a litter pick took place around Holmebridge. Additionally, there was a discussion about the possibility of extending the Wareham litter picks to East Stoke, so that the activity can be covered under the same insurance.

18. Items for information or next agenda

- a) Sample trenches have been dug along the Battery Bank. It was suggested that there needs to be signage to warn people about the excavation. Additionally, it was noted that the signs indicating various restrictions at the entrance have faded and need replacement. There are also ongoing issues with dog faeces in the area. **Action:** The Forestry Commission to be contacted.
- b) A few years ago, the Parish Council received a wayleave for the telegraph pole located on the Parish Land. Cllr Quinn believes that this wayleave is now out of date and has suggested exploring an easement payment instead. Unlike wayleaves, easements are permanent rights attached to the land and are typically established through a deed for a one-time initial payment, which is usually more substantial than a wayleave payment. **Action:** Cllr Quinn to investigate.

19. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 7th May. The Annual Parish Meeting will start at 6:30 followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7pm. Refreshments will be served.

With no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.07

Chairman: _____ Date.....