



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF EAST STOKE HELD ON  
THURSDAY 5th 2026 MARCH AT LONGTHORNS CAMPSITE

PRESENT	Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chair) Cllr Barry Quinn Cllr Keith Evans Cllr Graeme Langley Cllr Fenella Lewin
APOLOGIES	Cllr Neill Child (Vice Chair) Cllr Chris 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 and Cllr Chris 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 February 2026.**  
The minutes from Thursday 5th February, were duly proposed as a true account and were duly signed by Cllr Rebecca Cady.
- 6. Matters arising from the minutes**  
No matters arising.
- 7. Planning Applications or Planning Information received**  
**An amendment to P/FUL/2023/07467 Proposal: Use of land as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) with associated access, landscaping, infrastructure and alterations to road Location: Land South Of A352.**  
The Parish Council would like to reiterate its earlier recommendation that height restrictions be installed at the car park and that overnight camping be prohibited. Concerns were also raised about fly-tipping following incidents reported the previous weekend.
- 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.
  - Cllr Wilson has received updates from the Community Highways Officer. Work on the bridge in Church Lane is currently underway. During the meeting, it was noted that the wall on the opposite side of the bridge collapsed a few years ago and was subsequently repaired, but it will need attention again.

Repairs have been instructed for the 15 potholes along the Highwood road, and resurfacing of Church Lane has also been added to the works list. Highways are aware of the large potholes near Manor Farm Court. **Action:** Cllr Wilson will contact Highways for an update.

In addition, the drainage grips along the A352, from the Woolbridge roundabout to Binnegar, have been cleared out. The damaged deer sign will be reinstalled.

- ii) On 3rd March, Dorset Council Cabinet approved a paper entitled 'Working with Communities' which outlines plans for community conversations over the next 12 months to establish how Dorset Council can better connect with local community clusters. The paper also included a recommendation to adopt the Statement of Reasonable Expectations which explains how Dorset Council can foster better working relationships with town and parish councils. It was discussed that there used to be Parish Maintenance Units (PMUs), which were small teams that collaborated with clusters of villages to perform minor maintenance tasks, such as clearing drains and removing silt. These teams were directly contacted by Parish Councils, and the system operated very effectively.

**10. To open and agree the grounds maintenance tenders.**

Three sealed tenders were received and opened at the meeting. It was agreed to award the contract to T. Lee Landscaping, as they had provided high-quality work previously and submitted the lowest quotation. **Action:** The Clerk to forward the contract to T. Lee to be signed and to notify the unsuccessful companies.

**11. Police issues to report or update on issues reported**

There were two related incidents of fly-tipping involving waste from a cannabis farm along Church Lane and Highwood. Forensics have been gathering evidence. Dorset Council cleared the Highwood incident, and the Environment Agency cleared Manor Lane. **Action:** Cllr Wilson to obtain update from the Police.

**12. Spring Newsletter**

Suggestions for articles included a historical piece, fly-tipping, the community litter pick, and a dark skies policy. The Worth Matravers Parish Council has been exploring a dark skies policy and has reached out to other councils and organisations to gauge their interest in supporting and potentially collaborating on a Dark Skies initiative for the wider Purbeck area. It was agreed to inquire if someone could give a talk during the Annual Parish Meeting. There was a discussion about the very bright lights from some businesses along Puddletown Rd, and whether this could be changed. **Action:** The Clerk to book a speaker.

**13. Highways Issues**

**a) Update on issues**

A litter pick was held on Saturday 28th February and the organiser, Simon Cragg was thanked. It was observed that there were fewer volunteers compared to previous sessions. It was suggested that for the next event, details should be emailed to residents instead of solely relying on social media for promotion. Additionally, it was noted that the area from the old village hall to the Black Dog needs attention. There were also questions regarding insurance. **Action:** Cllr Wilson will find out if the insurance is covered by Dorset Council

**b) Speed Indicator Device**

The SID will be moved to the Black Dog for three weeks, but it will be relocated again after a few weeks due to trees affecting the solar panel's efficiency.

**c) Flooding**

Discussed 2025-2-350/9i

**d) Bus Shelter**

Cllr Lewin suggested Sheds Direct and will look into it further. The new bus stop sign states that the layby is exclusively for buses. This could lead to problems in the future, as the layby is also used by people visiting the churchyard.

**e) Other Issues**

None.

**14. Consultations for consideration or New Items for Discussion/Consideration**

- a) Dorset Council Purbeck Watercraft Byelaw 2027. Dorset Council is consulting on proposed updates to the Seaside Pleasure Boats Byelaws 2013, which are set to become the Dorset Council Purbeck Watercraft Byelaw 2027. These changes aim to improve safety, protect the environment, and ensure that everyone using Purbeck's coastal waters can enjoy them responsibly.  
<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/place/purbeck-byelaws-consultation/>. Closing date 15th April.

This will be completed by Cllr Langley and will be forwarded to the Flood Wardens.

- b) Ptag Meeting Notes & Survey Form. Questionnaire/survey to gather feedback on Transport Needs in Purbeck. Responses need to be returned by email by 1st May. **Action:** To be included in the newsletter.

**15. Correspondence Received**

- a) Are blocked drains to blame for recent flooding, have your say on proposed speed

- b) limit reductions and much more. Latest news from Dorset Council. **Noted.**
- b) Ground water flooding: Amber warning issued for Dorset. This was in place on 31st January. **Noted.**
- c) Sent on behalf of the NDA - NDA stakeholder survey - coming soon. The consultation starts on 9th February and will run for four weeks. **Noted.**
- d) Urgent Closure Of Grange Road Church Knowle. The works are expected to be completed by 03-02-2026. **Noted.**
- e) Dorset Council Town & Parish Council Forum - Planning and Building Control. Slides from the seminar. **Noted.**
- f) Fwd: Fw: News release - Dorset communities urged to prepare for groundwater flooding. The warning was for Thursday 5th February. **Noted.**
- g) NEWS: How is Dorset Council responding to flooding? Update from Cllr. Nick Ireland. Crews are currently out day and night, fixing urgent issues, and officers have been asked to look at bringing forward extra investment for places that flood repeatedly. **Noted.**
- h) Purbeck Film Festival Application for Funding 2026. Request for funding letter. To be discussed in April.
- i) Letter of Support request from Wareham Men's Shed. **Action:** Clerk to write letter of support.
- j) Car park resurfacing, care leavers ask us to 'put yourself in our shoes', extended library hours in Gillingham and plans for Shore Road Swanage. The resurfacing includes Park Street and Governors Lane in Weymouth and Durngate Street, Dorchester. **Noted.**
- k) Litter Pick Session. The next East Stoke Trash2Go session will be on Saturday 28th February. **Noted.**
- l) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 Temporary Road Closure B3071, Wool. The road will be closed from 9th March until 20th March; [ii] Phase 2 will close B3071, Wool from junction with Colliers Lane to junction with Wood Street. Resident and business access will be maintained throughout the closure. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by 27th March 2026. **Noted.**
- m) Sent on behalf of the NDA - NDA Strategy published. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) strategy can be viewed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nda-publishes-latest-nuclear-decommissioning-strategy> **Noted.**
- n) Letter to all councillors from Mr Vaughan - St John Dorset. Request assistance in promoting the new volunteer recruitment initiative. **Noted.**
- o) DAPTC AGM - New Date Saturday 30 May 2026. This change has 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.**

#### 14. Finance

- a) **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
Re-imburse E Maidment for A4 paper	£11.34
Lloyds Standing Charge (Direct Debit)	£4.25

- b) **To approve the Fixed Asset Register**

The litter signs will be added once the invoice has been received. The Fixed Asset Register was duly approved and signed by the Chair.

#### 15. Items for information or next agenda

None.

#### 16. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd April.

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

Chairman:

Date.....