

EAST LULWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of East Lulworth Parish Council held on
Thursday 15th January 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Harness Room

Councillors

Present: Matthew Barnes (Chairman)
Annie Lovelass
Louise Wathen
Fiona Fryer
Chris de Hauteville Bell

In attendance: Liz Maidment (Clerk)

25/26/057 Public Participation Period

No members of the public were in attendance.

25/26/058 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Weld, Cllr Northover, Dorset Cllr Beddow and Dorset Cllr Baker

25/26/059 Declarations of Interest and Grant of Dispensations

None

25/26/060 Minutes of the previous meetings held on 26th November 2025

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th November were an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by Cllr Barnes.

25/26/061 Unitary Councillor Report

This was circulated prior to the meeting.

25/26/062 Planning Applications, Planning appeals or Tree Works

A tree works application for the Weld Arms was received after the agenda was published; therefore, it could not be commented upon.

25/26/063 Highways and Footpaths

a) **Bypass update**

No update

b) **Community Speedwatch**

The Speedwatch Group will run another session in the next few weeks.

c) **Speed Indicator Device**

To be discussed under finance.

d) **Road Markings**

Numbers have been sprayed on the road, but no work has been undertaken. **Action:** The Clerk to contact Highways.

e) **Signage Improvement**

No update

25/26/064 Camp Bestival

Cllr Lovelass attended the wash-up meeting and expressed concern about the welfare of some staff who were working 12-hour shifts without access to toilet facilities, food and drink, or rest breaks. The representative from Coombe Keynes highlighted issues related to security. Additionally, there were concerns about speeding vehicles, as some drivers were overtaking at the traffic lights. It was noted that attendance numbers appeared to be higher than in previous years, particularly in the Castle Stage area, which was especially busy. However, the organisers stated that they had not exceeded the capacity limit. **Action:** It was agreed to contact Camp Bestival one month before the event to remind them of their responsibilities regarding staff welfare.

25/26/065 Articles for Lulworth Parish News

Cllr Lovelass submitted an article about the carol singing. It was all agreed that it was a

successful event.

25/26/066 Correspondence

- a) The Jurassic Classic 2026 Event Plan. The event will take place on Saturday 16th May. **Noted.**
- b) Camp Bestival 2025 | Parish Council Feedback. The meeting took place on 16th December. **Noted.**
- c) Taxbase 2026/27. The Final Precept Notification form will need to be returned, electronically, by 31st January 2026. The Tax Base for East Lulworth has increased by 15.1%. **Noted.**
- d) Statement relating to the Dorset Council Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans (2). Dorset Council will consult on a publication (regulation 19) version of the plan in the summer of 2026 before submitting the plan for examination by the end of 2026. It is anticipated that the plan will be examined and adopted by the end of 2027. **Noted.**
- e) EV Charging Webinar Dorset Council - New Year Rollout. The webinar was held on Thursday 11th December. **Noted.**
- f) Save the date - Winfrith SSG - Tuesday, 12 May 2026. Site Stakeholders Group meeting. Cllr Barnes and Cllr Lovelass to attend.
- g) Dorset Community Transport Grant 2025-26. The aim of the Dorset Community Transport grant is to support Dorset residents with the continued cost of living challenge delivered by Dorset Council services and with our Voluntary Community Sector (VCS) partners. The fund aims to invest in the sustainability of Dorset's community transport network. Applications must be in by midnight on Thursday 15th January 2026. **Noted.**
- h) Festive period service update, off shore wind port at Portland and much more. The Crown Estate is backing a study to explore whether Portland Port could become home to a new offshore wind port – the Channel Gateway. **Noted.**
- i) Citizens Advice in East Dorset & Purbeck Impact Report. During FY2024-2025, they have helped over 5,000 people with over 28,000 issues. **Noted.**
- j) Dorset Council Town and Parish Council Forums 2026: Planning and Building Control. The first scheduled one will be on Tuesday 3 February: in-person forum at the Corn Exchange, Dorchester 10am-12.30pm; and virtual forum (to cover the same updates) 2.30pm-4.30pm. **Noted.**
- k) Grant Request from Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck. **Noted.**

25/26/067 Consultations and New Items for Discussion

Survey from Age Friendly Dorset.

<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/adults/age-friendly-dorset-2025/>. Closes 30th January 2026. **Noted.**

25/26/068 Finance

a) Payment Schedule.

The following payment schedule and pay increase was proposed by Cllr Lovelass and seconded by Cllr Weld

Payee	Cheque Number	Amount	For
Miss E Maidment	000571	£246.70	Salary
Dorset Council	000572	£834.00	Speed Survey
To note the following			
Income Tax paid 22nd October		£54.00	
Bank Service charges		£8.50	
E.Maidment	000570	£399.00	Re-imburse for laptop purchase

b) To receive a copy of the cashbook and the third quarter budget report as of 31st December 2025.

This was proposed by Cllr Lovelass and seconded by Cllr Barnes. It was duly

signed by the Chair. The cashbook balance as of 31st December 2025 was £12379.96

c) To agree the Budget for 2026/27 and to agree the Precept.

The East Lulworth tax base has undergone one of the largest changes in Dorset, with an increase of 15.1%. The number of properties paying Council Tax has risen from 83.6 to 96.2. This change is largely due to policy updates that now impose a 100% charge on holiday homes and empty properties, effectively doubling the rate to 200% of the standard amount. During the previous meeting, it was suggested that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) could be purchased in the financial year 2026/27. The discussion revolved around whether to install the device at two or three locations, and it was ultimately agreed to place it at three locations. Cllr Barnes proposed purchasing the posts this year and acquiring the device in the financial year 2027/28, a motion that was seconded by Cllr Lovelass. To fund this project, it was proposed to increase the precept by £250. However, due to an increase in the tax base, this will actually result in a 8.33% decrease for Band D properties, translating to a reduction of £2.11 in the East Lulworth portion of the Band D Council Tax. The precept was proposed by Cllr de Hauteville Bell and seconded by Cllr Lovelass. The Clerk duly signed the Precept Form. **Action:** Clerk to submit form to Dorset Council and to contact the SID Team.

25/26/069 Items for inclusion on next agenda

- a) Cllr de Hauteville Bell suggested that the village hold a New Year's Eve party at the Shoot Room.
- b) Cllr Wathen has observed that there is a shortage of benches in the village. Several locations were suggested for new benches, including the cemetery at Mount Pleasant, the phone box library, and near Cockles. It was agreed to discuss this issue further at the next meeting. To help cover the costs, a quiz night could be organised.

25/26/070 Date of the next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 12th March at 7:30pm and the Annual Parish Meeting will be on 5th May.

With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:22hrs.

Chairman: Date: