



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF EAST
STOKE HELD ON THURSDAY 6th MARCH 2025 AT LONGTHORNS
CAMPSITE

PRESENT	Cllr Rebecca Cady (Chairman) Cllr Barry Quinn Cllr Fenella Lewin Cllr Neill Child Cllr Chris Evans
APOLOGIES	Cllr Graeme Langley 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 from Cllr Keith Evans and Graeme Langley
3. **Granting of Dispensation**
No applications for a dispensation had been made.
4. **Declarations of Interest**
No declarations of interest were made.
5. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 6th February 2025**
The minutes from Thursday 6th February 2025 were duly signed by Cllr Cady. The words "of deer" was added to the line regarding the drone survey.
6. **Matters arising from the minutes**
 - a) The Stokeford Farm solar grant is awaiting the final steps of commissioning. Articles about the wind farm have been published in various media outlets, including the Wareham Gazette.
 - b) There were concerns about possible delays in the planning process for the Farrer Estate development due to an officer at County incorrectly marking fields as part of the mineral rights area. However, this issue has now been resolved, and no additional information will be required. The SANG will proceed once the rest of the development has been approved.
7. **Wessex Internet**
A residents' meeting took place at the D'Urberville in Wool on Wednesday 19th February. Unfortunately, there was not a great turnout, so it was decided to organise another event to promote the full fibre broadband project. A total of forty-five properties have been earmarked for connection, with an additional thirteen properties to be included at a later stage. These additional properties will be notified through a letter drop.

The Farrer Estate will be included in a later build phase. A list of potential dates for an event on the green at Middlefield will be circulated to the Parish Council. An article has

been prepared for the Spring Newsletter by Wessex Internet. It was agreed that, if necessary, the Parish Council can make amendments to the article and will send it back to Wessex Internet for proofreading. **Action:** The Clerk will contact Aster to inform them about the event.

8. Planning Applications or Planning Information received
None.

9. Update of Previous Applications or planning information

P/NMA/2024/07529 - Solar Farm Stokeford Farm. Non material amendment - to allow amendments to the layout of the development and to increase the height of CCTV posts from 2m to 3.5m to planning permission 6/2020/0158 (variation of conditions 2, 3, 6, 9, 12, 13 & 15 of planning permission 6/2015/0516 (Construction of a solar photovoltaic park with ground mounted photovoltaic arrays and ancillary equipment including substations, inverters, fencing and security cameras) to revise the layout and the drainage scheme, and increase the period of operation to 40 years and 6 months).

Granted. Noted.

10. Dorset Council Report

- a) An enforcement notice has been issued to the landowners regarding the hazardous trees along A352. If the necessary work is not completed, Dorset Council will remove them.
- b) The contractor is ready to do tree work on Binnegar Lane; however, the project has been delayed because it takes 13 weeks for Dorset Council to arrange a road closure, which is needed for the use of a cherry picker. It was observed that some road closures can be organised much more quickly. **Action:** Cllr Wilson will investigate whether the road closure process can be hastened, as no businesses will be affected and the properties are located at either end of the lane, meaning access is not required during the work.
- c) The Middlefield drainage report has been circulated. Aster has confirmed that the drains on their property are clear. However, it was noted that the outflow into the ditch and the land drain owned by Highways are both blocked. The brick rear boundary walls built behind neighbouring properties have created a funnel effect, causing excess surface groundwater to flow into the affected garden. It was discussed whether Aster could address this issue by constructing a garden wall.
- d) Dorset Council hosted a Question and Answer session on Facebook about their budget on Wednesday 5th March.
- e) A recruitment process is currently underway to appoint a new Chief Executive of Dorset Council.
- f) The auditor's annual report on Dorset Council for 2023/24 identified weaknesses in the council's governance and procurement arrangements.
- g) Two new consultations have been launched: the Dorset Open Land (Number 2) Anti-Social Behaviour Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2025, which addresses issues related to fires started by disposable barbecues and campfires on open land, including heathland; and the Dorset Beaches [Studland] Anti-Social Behaviour Related Public Spaces Protection Order 2025, that relates to wild camping on beaches.
- h) There have been no further updates regarding the Studland Ferry Inquiry.

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

There were no issues to report. There was a representative from a wayleave company knocking on doors. It was discussed that a wayleave payment maybe due on the parish land and to investigate whether to claim. **Action:** Cllr Quinn to research.

12. Spring Newsletter

The Spring Newsletter will be ready by 17th April. Articles will include Wessex Internet, litter picking, a historical article and information about Easter services.

13. Highways Issues

a) Update on issues

No updates.

b) Speed Indicator Device

The battery has been charged and the SID has been moved.

c) Trees

Discussed Item 2025-3-338/a

d) Other Issues

i) The Azets Spring Classic bike race left some signage in Binnegar Lane.

Action: The Clerk to contact the organisers.

ii) There was a deer carcass on the road. Due to the 40 mph speed limit, the Waste Service team cannot remove it without traffic control. **Action:** Cllr Wilson will find out when the deer drone survey will be conducted.

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

a) Leaders' reflections on devolution, first homes, junction safety improvements and much more... Wessex not accepted into Devolution Priority Programme.

Noted.

b) DAPTC e-News Latest Edition - 14 February 2025. The next Purbeck branch meeting will be via zoom on 19th March at 7pm. **Noted.**

c) Royal Garden Party 2025 Delegate for Dorset. This will be the Town Clerk from Corfe Mullen. **Noted.**

d) Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary 30mph Speed Limit, B3070, East Lulworth. This will be in place until 28th February. **Noted.**

e) Notes from Climate and Nature Action Support Group and agenda for Tues 4th March 7.30pm. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th March 7.30pm.

Noted.

f) DAPTC e-News Latest Edition - 21 February 2025. The National Beekeepers' Association would like people to report any sightings of Asian Hornets. **Action:** To be forwarded to the local beekeeper.

g) Join us for our budget special Facebook Live, hear from one of our Ukrainian refugees and much more. Facebook LIVE Q&A – our budget explained Wednesday 5 March, 6pm. **Noted.**

15. Finance

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

Fyler and Butler dividend £156.24

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 Salary	£292.77
Dorset Council Pension Fund	£85.19

c) **The following grant requests were considered Citizens Advice and the Purbeck Film Festival**

It was agreed to donate £50 to each charity.

d) **To approve the East Stoke Asset Register.**

The value of the information boards will be changed to state £500 each. Oil will be purchased to varnish the benches.

16. Items for information or next agenda

A quote of £125 has been received for the auditing work. It was agreed to ask DAPTC if they have a list of recommended auditors and to obtain additional quotes. **Action:** The Clerk will contact DAPTC.

17. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday 3rd April

With no further business to transact the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.04

Chairman:

Date.....