

**Stokeinteignhead Parish Council**  
Minutes of a meeting of the  
**Parish Council**  
held at the Village Hall, Stokeinteignhead  
on Tuesday, 14 April 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:**

Councillors French (Chairman), Pedersen (Deputy Chairman), Dennis, Hobin, Horton, John, Simmons, and Stoneman.

**In attendance:**

Andrew McKenzie – Parish Clerk  
4 members of the public

*The following minutes will be considered for approval at the next meeting of the Parish Council and may be subject to change until that time.*

Part I

**188. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**190. PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

*At this juncture, Standing Orders were suspended to enable Members of the public to speak.*

- A member of the public noted a recent article highlighting increases in energy charges to public access defibrillators. The Chairman advised the Parish Council's defibrillators were powered from domestic supplies with prior agreement from the property owner.
- A member of the public suggested the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March should be amended to change the road name used (Rocombe) to 'below Ridge Road'. She reported that a fourth ambulance had attempted to use the lane which had become stuck whilst there was a patient onboard. The Police were called to assist. The Chairman suggested the Police be contacted to see if there was a log of the incident to give weight to the need for a sign to be placed at the bottom of Gabwell Cross. Such information to be passed to Highways for consideration.

*At this juncture, Standing Orders were resumed.*

## 191. MINUTES

Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 March 2026.

It was proposed that the public participation section be amended to read 'below Ridge Road'.

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 March 2026 be approved as amended and signed as a correct and accurate.

## 192. POLICE REPORT

There was no Police report.

## 193. ORGANISATION REPORTS

Councillor Simmons advised that FLICS was now at Combeinteignhead Village Hall.

There were no organisation reports.

## 194. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman advised that:

The Chairman advised that the sign at Pools Weir was to be ordered with the following wording:

*Public Notice - All vehicles are parked at the owner's risk. Stokeinteignhead Parish Council accepts no liability for any loss, damage, or theft of vehicles or their contents.*

The sign would be installed using the redundant post and clips, and would be located prior to the entrance to the car park.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

## 195. PARISH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

- Councillor Stoneman reported that the grip at Barton Hill had been dug out along half its length and thanked the Clerk for instigating.
- Councillor Dennis reported that road cones had been placed outside of Victoria Farm by contractors replacing the drain covers in situ. Further, Victoria Farm continued to be knocked by large vehicles and suggested the Council write to highways to request the reinstatement of bollards previously

located to the rear of the property on Forches Hill. This was agreed to.

- Councillor John advised:
  - she had contacted the neighbourhood plan consultant who had advised he was unable to take on new clients at present. She would research others and report back.
  - She had worked up a draft timetable for the council strategy task and finish group and would present this at the meeting in May with a view to appointing four members to that group to take the work forward.
- Councillor Pedersen advised South West Water had confirmed the water issue on Forches Hill was a mains leak – this had been marked up and awaited works to be undertaken. A request had been made for the repair to be made deeper so as to reduce the impact of large vehicles driving over it.

**Resolved** that the reports be noted.

#### **196. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

District Councillor Clarence advised that the outcome of the Government's local government reorganisation consultation would be known in July. The Teignbridge Local Plan had been found sound by the planning inspectorate.

The County Councillor's report had been previously circulated.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

#### **197. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk advised that he had been contacted by Teignbridge District Council regards the abandoned vehicle at Pools Weir and had a telephone call booked this week to discuss.

He further advised the year-end close down had taken place on 14 April and had balanced to the penny. Paperwork would now be prepared for both the internal, and external audit. The Chair thanked the Clerk for his work.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

#### **198. PLANNING**

- i. 26/00414/FUL – Higher Rocombe, Stokeinteignhead – proposed conversion of existing barn to create new dwellinghouse.

**Resolved** that this Council recommends **refusal** on the grounds of concerns regarding the underground water catchment area which was still used as a natural spring water source, and the potential impact of the proposed

development on the drainage system. In addition, there are concerns about the risk of contamination to nearby watercourses, possible damage to the existing underground pipe network, and the increased risk of flooding

To note recent Planning Decisions (for information).

- i. 26/00069/HOU – Kookaburra, Stoke Road – first floor extensions to include two new balconies and two front dormers – GRANTED
- ii. 25/01934/HOU – Orchard Farm – retention of wall-mounted EV charging point, increased height of existing chimney stack, installation of new external flue boiler flue on rear elevation and internal works to heating system - GRANTED

## 199. FINANCE

### i. Expenditure

Members considered the items for expenditure.

**Resolved** that the following items of expenditure be approved for payment:

16/03/2026	Parish Council Websites. Annual hosting & support	£273.60
17/03/2026	John Finch Computers – O365 licences	£59.40
25/03/2026	DALC – Cllr John Action Plans & Strategies	£42.00
01/04/2026	Lee Accounting – Monthly payroll / Year end	£172.80
01/04/2026	DALC Membership / NALC affiliation fee	£320.90
01/04/2026	Rialtas – Annual software support / maintenance	£252.00
14/04/2026	Clerk’s Salary – April 2026	£576.20
14/04/2026	Clerk’s Expenses – April 2026	£24.00
14/04/2026	Hire of hall	£31.00
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>£1,751.90</b>

### ii. Income

**Resolved** that the receipts and payments account be approved.

### iii. Reconciliations

**Resolved** that the bank reconciliations for March 2026 be approved.

### iv. Quarter 4 Budget Monitoring Report

**Resolved** that the quarter 4 budget monitoring report be noted.

## 200. LINHAY STRUCTURAL WORKS - UPDATE

The Chairman advised she had met with the thatcher and bat specialist on 30 March. There was evidence of bats potentially sitting on the wall plate. Practical solutions were put forward to mitigate this, and these suggestions had been put

to the Planning Department which had confirmed they were content with the proposals on 7 April. The thatcher advised works would commence in approximately 4 weeks.

It was suggested that this be put back by a further two to enable the wooden posts to be installed at the front of the building. Photographs of the posts to be used were circulate to members and had come in slightly less than budgeted for.

Further, the Planning Department had confirmed they were happy with the use of mortice and tennon joints.

**Resolved** that the modification to the proposed method of thatching, and the use of mortice and tennon joints, noting the Planning Department's authorisation, be agreed to.

## **201. FIXED ASSET POLICY AND REGISTER**

Members considered the fixed asset policy, and register.

It was noted that a noticeboard had been disposed of to St Andrew's Church.

**Resolved** that the Fixed Asset Policy and Register be approved as set out.

## **202. RISK MANAGEMENT AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

Members considered the risk management policy and risk assessment.

**Resolved** that the Risk Management Policy and Risk Assessment be approved as amended.

## **203. BIODIVERSITY**

Councillor Simmons reported that it was recommended not to feed birds during the summer months due to the potential risk of disease from parasites which had resulted in the severe decline of some species. It was suggested that feeding recommence from October of each year.

An event would be held at the Courtenay Centre, Newton Abbot regards climate concerns which she would attend and report back to the Council on. She further advised that the ACT Wildlife Wardens were preparing to undertake a biodiversity audit of the parish, and the Council would be involved at the appropriate time.

**Resolved** that the report be noted.

**204. HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES**

There were no highways and hedges reports.

*The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.39.*

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Cllr Carol French  
CHAIRMAN – STOKEINTEIGNHEAD PARISH COUNCIL