

Stokeinteignhead Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the
Parish Council
held at the Village Hall, Stokeinteignhead
on Tuesday, 6 October 2026 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

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

In attendance:

Andrew McKenzie – Parish Clerk
2 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

82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

84. PUBLIC DISCUSSION

There was no public discussion.

85. MINUTES

Members considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 September 2026.

Resolved that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 September 2026 be approved and signed as a correct and accurate record.

86. POLICE REPORT

In the period, 1st September 2026 to the 30th September 2026, there were 4 recorded offences in the Stokeinteignhead area, made to the Police.

Violence less serious (domestic common assault) 1

Other notifiable crime (stalking) 1

Violence less serious (male has received threats from cared for person) 1

*ASB personal (Female suspect has put both middle fingers up and told female aggrieved to f**k off) 1.*

Resolved that the report be noted.

87. ORGANISATION REPORTS

There were no organisation reports.

88. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported that the noticeboard in the centre of the village had become detached and required securing. The Friends of the Village would assess the situation and consider appropriate remedial action.

Resolved that the report be noted and the options for safely reinstating the noticeboard be investigated.

89. PARISH COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor Stoneman

- Councillor Stoneman reported concerns regarding bonfires, an incident of verbal abuse towards a resident and the use of e-bikes around the village. Relevant matters had been reported to Teignbridge District Council and the Police.

Councillor John

- Councillor Johns reported on a discussion with the local MP concerning community emergency planning and suggested that the Parish Emergency Plan be revisited.

Resolved that the reports be noted.

90. COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

The County Councillor's report had been circulated previously and was available as an appendix to the Minutes.

District Councillor Clarence

Councillor Clarence provided an update, including reference to the shuttle bus service in Shaldon.

Resolved that the reports be noted.

91. CLERK'S REPORT

There was no Clerk's Report.

92. PLANNING

- i. 26/01490/VAR - Shirburn, Stokeinteignhead – variation of condition 2 on planning permission 05/02141/FUL (Extensions and alterations and erection of new garage) to amend external appearance.

Resolved that this Council has **no objection** to the application.

To note recent Planning Decisions (for information)

There were no recent Planning Decisions of the Planning Authority that required noting.

93. FINANCE

- i. Expenditure

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

17/09/2026	John Finch Computers – O365 Licences	£59.40
01/10/2026	SLCC National Conference	£190.50
06/10/2026	Clerk's Salary – September	£613.83
06/10/2026	Clerk's Expenses – September	£24.00

Totals: **£887.73**

- ii. Income

Resolved that the receipts and payments account be approved.

- iii. Reconciliations

Resolved that the reconciliations for September 2026 be approved.

- iv. Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring Report

Resolved that the Quarter 2 Budget Monitoring Report be noted.

94. THE LINHAY

Members considered proposals from a local resident for interpretation boards within The Linhay. The proposals were welcomed, with consideration required regarding planning consent, wall finishes, flooring and accessibility. The potential inclusion of the school's mosaic project was discussed, including the possibility of picnic benches being sited.

Resolved that the proposals be supported in principle, with the resident invited to the November Council meeting to discuss them further. Members were requested to submit any comments to the Clerk in advance.

Councillor Hobin advised he would liaise with the contractor regarding outstanding matters, including warranties, and obtain photographic and video records relating to the cracked supporting post recently installed.

95. THE LINHAY FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

Members considered the Fire Risk Assessment and discussed the remedial measures required, including the possibility of installing a separate electricity meter for any lighting required for the cart shed.

Resolved that the Fire Risk Assessment be received and noted, with further consideration to be given to the identified remedial actions.

96. REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Members considered arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday service, particularly the reading of prayers and the involvement of children from Stokeinteignhead Primary School.

Resolved that the Chairman continue to read the names of those listed on the War Memorial at the Remembrance Sunday service, whilst supporting the continued involvement of schoolchildren in reading prayers and poems. The Church would be consulted regarding arrangements for wreath laying.

97. BIODIVERSITY

Resolved that the Bereavement Policy be approved and adopted.

98. STRATEGIC PLAN WORKING GROUP

Members received an update on the Working Group's progress. Councillor Hobin and a representative of the Village Hall were developing a community questionnaire, with a view to distribution during December to coincide with village events.

Resolved that the update be noted and draft questionnaire questions be prepared for consideration at the Working Group meeting on 21 October 2026, with the aim of distributing the questionnaire in early December.

99. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Members reviewed the Council's Financial Regulations. The Clerk advised that no changes had been proposed.

Resolved that the Council's Financial Regulations be approved and adopted.

100. PARISH CLERK'S APPRAISAL

Resolved that the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman be appointed to undertake the Parish Clerk's annual appraisal, at a mutually convenient date.

101. BIODIVERSITY

Councillor Simmons reported on seasonal bird-feeding advice, including recommendations to avoid feeding during the summer months due to the risk of disease transmission. RSPB guidance regarding the resumption of feeding from November to the beginning of April was noted.

Resolved that the update be received and noted.

102. HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES

Members reported that Gabwell Lane had recently been swept which had resulted in a marked improvement.

Resolved that the update be received and noted.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:58.

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Cllr Karl Pedersen
CHAIRMAN – STOKEINTEIGNHEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix I – County Councillor’s Report

Cllr Horner Report to Stokeinteignhead Parish Council

October 2026

Devon County Council Full Council Meeting

The meeting was held at County Hall on 3 September 2026 and covered issues relating to governance, planning and democracy.

The meeting was dominated by motions. Brexit, a tourist tax, quarry dust and planning reform were debated and decided. Several Reform and opposition motions were referred to Cabinet without debate. The Council also formally objected to proposed national planning rules that would reduce councillor involvement in planning decisions.

The changes to national planning legislation could significantly affect what local councils can decide. Parish councils, community groups and residents should take these changes into account when making representations on planning matters.

Conversion Practices Draft Bill

At the Full Council meeting, the Council agreed to invite the appropriate Scrutiny Committee to consider the safeguarding, legal and operational implications of the Government’s draft Conversion Practices Bill for Devon County Council.

As a member of the Children’s Scrutiny Committee, I have raised this directly with the committee for its meeting on 8 October 2026.

The matter will also be discussed in a podcast conducted by an Exeter County Councillor colleague, in which a local safeguarding campaigner will explain the issues and potential risks of the Bill, particularly for young people.

A379 Collapsed Wall Update

Engineers have confirmed the programme for the utility diversion works required before the wall reconstruction can proceed.

Openreach is scheduled to install new ducts and cables during the week commencing 9 November, followed by connection and cable recovery works during the week commencing 16 November. Temporary turning restrictions and three-way traffic lights will be required, with the current two-way traffic-light arrangement expected to return by the end of 20 November.

South West Water has confirmed that its pipe will not need to be diverted. Repairs are also being pursued for damage to the highway drainage identified during site investigations.

Further investigations are being arranged to establish the exact location of the gas main. This information is required to finalise the design and reduce the risk of further delays.

Marine Parade Shaldon

Following notification of the closure of Marine Parade from 28 September until 20 November to enable the cliff repair works to be undertaken, it became clear that the restrictions would have a

significant impact on the village, local businesses and planned community events, including the annual Bonfire Night celebrations.

A particular concern was that visitors parking in the Ness Car Park would only be able to access the village via the A379. Given the recent fatal road traffic incidents on this route, including a fatality and a serious bus collision, I raised urgent concerns with Devon County Council Highways officers regarding pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Following these discussions, officers responded positively and agreed to provide a dedicated shuttle minibus service operating between the Ness Car Park and the village every 20 minutes, from 9.00 am until 11.00 pm each day throughout the closure period. I would like to thank both the relevant Devon County Council Portfolio Holder and officers for their prompt and constructive response in helping to mitigate the impact on residents and visitors.

Unfortunately, despite these efforts, sufficient assurances could not be given that the contractors would be able to remove traffic management and reopen the road in time for the Bonfire Night celebrations. As a result, Shaldon's organisers have taken the difficult but understandable decision to cancel this year's event.

I will continue to monitor the situation and work with Devon County Council to ensure disruption is minimised wherever possible and that residents are kept informed of any further developments.