

STOCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Stockland Parish Council held in Stockland Victory Hall on Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Public Participation Time** (SO 1e & f): 15 minutes in length with each person to speak once only, for no longer than 3 minutes, or shorter, at the discretion of the chairperson.
None
- 2) **To appoint Danielle Gilpin as Parish Clerk (Proper Officer) and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) of Stockland Parish Council and to recognise the end of Danian Clay's tenure in the position:** All in agreement and resolved that Danielle Gilpin be appointed as Parish Clerk and RFO. The Chair recognised the contributions of the outgoing clerk, Damain Clay, through the transition process and thanked him for all his hard work whilst in the role.
- 3) **Reports from:** Police; EDDC/ DDC Cllrs Brown, Levine and Connor.
No reports received.
- 4) **Resolve to exclude members of the press and public:** To agree any items to be dealt with after the public and press have been excluded as publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted [Public Bodies(Admission to Meetings Act) 1960].
None required.
- 5) **To record those Present and Apologies for absence;** and to consider whether to approve any dispensations.
Stockland Cllrs present were Cllrs Bright, Derryman, Durrant, Parris, Pearse, Switzer (Chair), Trott, Drew;
3 members of the public were present.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Bernhardt and Smith (SPC), and Cllr Brown (EDDC).
- 6) **Declarations of Interest:** Members to declare any interests they have in agenda items that accord with any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (s31 & 33 of the Localism Act 2011) or Personal/ Prejudicial Interests (Code of Conduct, 2012).
None.
- 7) **Council Meeting Minutes:** To confirm and sign the draft minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 25th November 2025 and the draft minutes of the Finance & Staffing Committee held on 6th January 2026.
The minutes were approved by the PC and signed by the Chair for the Council and Chair of the Finance & Staffing Committee accordingly.
- 8) **SCPL Representative:** To resolve who will represent the PC at the Annual Members Meeting on 10th February.
PC resolved for Jim Durrant to represent the PC.
- 9) **Planning:**
To review the status of all current planning proposals and their current status on the EDDC planning website:

[View planning applications, enforcements and planning appeals - East Devon](#)

26/0098/DOC
 25/2385/FUL
 25/1893/LBD
 25/1892/FUL
 25/1510/AGR

Stockland PC has no objections to the above planning applications.

25/2427/FUL

Stockland PC objects on the grounds of it being intrusive on surrounding properties and impacting the views of the surrounding districts. DG will make comments on the EDDC Planning Portal.

10) **Highways, Ditches and Footpaths**

- a) Footpaths update. None. DG to contact Charles & Juliette requesting they attend the next meeting or provide an update prior to this meeting.
- b) Highways, Footways and Drainage; any potholes reported; follow-up on overhanging hedges. At the previous meeting it was agreed that the Parish Clerk would draft a letter to the owners of the property and circulate to the Councillors. No evidence can be found of this correspondence. DG to contact DP to understand the current status and ensure that this is actioned in the next month.
 Email received from a member of the public regarding deteriorating roads outside their property due to potholes and the status of their repairs, and how to contact the neighbourhood highways officer. DG to email to advise them to contact Dave Ashford. DG will send contact information to Stockland Tree to inform parishioners that the PC fully appreciate their concerns regarding the state of the roads and potholes within the parish and share their frustrations. Message will state that we encourage parishioners to contact Dave Ashford and Cllr Connor with these concerns, cc'ing the Parish Clerk on these emails.
 Devon Highways have been contacted regarding Yarcombe Lane as the road by Lye Farm is particularly bad. This has been acknowledged.
 Cllr Hayward from EDDC has recently posted online regarding the pothole situation and the deficit already in the budget for repairs, requesting solutions or suggestions.
- c) Update on highways 'hotspots' in the Parish:
 - i) Cawleys Lane / Temple Bar Lane; continuation of this lane from Horseplot Cottage up to Shorehead (on the hill below the Hillcrest property) – remains outstanding; Cllr Bernhardt was not present to report on the outcome of his email to Cllr Connor. No improvements have been made since the last meeting.
 - ii) Ditch clearance opposite Whitehayes. Mo Lock needs to be contacted as Giga clear unable to confirm exact location of cables so that Andy Podbery can clear this ditch. Cllr Trott offered to follow up.
 - iii) Ditch and drain between Church Cottage and Churchstyle; also stream drainage by churchyard gate. Stones are potentially blocking the drain. Cllr Pearse to look at the calverts. Cllr Parris to talk to owners of Churchstyle Farm. Cllr Parris to check his side for blockages. Cllr Switzer to look at the drainage.

11) **Coordination with South West Water and Devon County Council regarding diversion routes.**

Serious concerns that the diversion route is not suitable. Alternative route to be defined (potentially Case Bridge) so that an email can be issued to Kier raising grave concerns about the diversion routes whilst offering a more suitable alternative. Cllr Connor to be contacted to request that she drives the diversion routes and can therefore support our concerns. Concerns are mainly regarding the state of the roads – Wytch Lane and Groundhead Road – including

the suitability for large amounts of 2-way traffic; this is even more critical for emergency vehicles or large vehicles (4.5T limit on bridge) using the route. Chair to follow up by taking photos of Wytch Lane and Groundhead Road; DG to follow up with correspondence.

12) **Stockland Victory Hall, Carpark and Grounds:**

a) Tree and shrub clearance by roadside edge of grounds, update. Cllr Pearse to get quotes for fences, including chestnut post and rail. More clearance has taken place and is looking better and has opened up the area.

b) Play park update. Urgent inspection to be arranged at a cost of £504. Chair to follow up/ DG available to support with this inspection.

13) **Lengthsperson:** Update on ditch clearing; any other updates. DG to contact Chardstock's lengthsperson to see if they would be interested in also taking on Stockland Parish.

14) **Turbaries Update:**

a) General update on Turbaries activities (Cllr Derryman).

FIPL is all sorted regarding the boardwalks. All materials in place but will need volunteers to move sleepers on the Quantock turbaries. Looking at the last 2 weeks of February. Cllr Derryman to confirm dates. Cllr Trott has volunteered to bake cakes for the volunteers. The claim must be submitted by mid-March.

£5000 maintenance loan approved.

Laurels have been cleared at Quantock.

Hi Line failed to clear the paths of debris and it is requested that they are reminded of this requirement prior to their next visit. Chair to follow up as necessary.

Next turbary meeting will be held on 4th March 2026.

15) **Resolve to agree the Meetings Calendar for 2026.** The calendar prepared by the Clerk was approved.

16) **Finances:**

a) **To review and approve the following expenditure items:**

Stockland Victory Hall invoice	£85.25
Stockland Victory Hall invoice	£139.50

The above payments were approved.

No SLCC membership to be paid this year as DG already a member via Chardstock Parish Council.

b) To agree to engage Penny Clapham for this year's internal audit. Resolved to engage.

c) To resolve to agree the budget for 2026-27. Resolved to agree a 5% precept increase, and resolved to agree the proposed 2026-27 budget.

d) To determine the capital investment projects (£3000) for 2026/27. Resolved to invest in the Play park area.

17) **Information Technology;**

a) Website. Cllr Bernhardt not present to provide an update.

b) Compliance with new Assertion 10 for the 2025/26 AGAR. DG to provide a full update/overview at the next meeting.

18) **Marquee insurance:** Update. All in place action now resolved.

19) **Japanese Knotweed:** Update. Cllr Trott to pass this over to DG.

20) **Landmark tree from Devon Wildlife Trust.**

Resolved to request a tree. First choice is a Bird Cherry and second choice is a Silver Birch. DG to follow up; arrangements will be made for delivery to the home of Cllr Durrant for temporary storage.

21) **Items of Future Business for the next Agenda:**

- Charities commission registration
- Meeting to discuss further trees
- Agreement on fencing
- Play park, Chardstock update to see what can be shared/learnt.

22) **Review Outstanding Actions from Previous Meetings:**

Date	Item	Action	Status
27/8/24	11(a)	Marquees insurance - The Village Hall Committee needs to provide a written document to the PC stating that the PC has no responsibility for any insurance, damage injuries or any other claims	Closed
27/8/24	13	The clerk will speak to Parish Council Websites regarding migrating information from the village website onto the PC website and allowing access to the village data to a volunteer from the public	Open
29/10/24	17	Clerk to contact PC website hosts for quotes to resolve the Google Drive files that remain and migrating data from the Stockland Village Website to the PC one	Open

Note that items marked as 'Complete' will remain on the above table until after the next meeting of the council and will then be dropped.

Meeting closed at 9.49pm.

R. Switzer; Chair, Stockland Parish Council, / / 2026