

Minutes of the meeting of East Allington Parish Council held on Wednesday 19th March 2025 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Present – Cllr. Soper (Chairman); Cllr. Toorneini; Cllr. McCoy; Cllr. Wotton; County Cllr. Brazil; District Cllr. Lawford; 2 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk). Cllr. Weeks.

1) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes. (Standing Orders 3e and 3f).

Reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when Council is in committee.

Parishioner asks if it would be possible to allocate raised beds in the Orchard, around the SUDS area. Cllr. Wotton considers this should be an agenda item for April. Clerk to check the legalities.

2) Apologies For Absence: Cllr. Hogarth. Cllr. Hannaford. Apologies accepted.

3) Declarations Of Interest: In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declaration of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at South Hams District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

4) Matters raised by the Chairman (for information only) Nothing to report.

5) District and County Councillor Reports (for information only)

District Cllr. Lawford stated a 2.99% rise in council tax as of April. New Adaptation Manager appointed for Slapton Ley. Should Council be on the Slapton Ley Partnership. Garden Waste, the discounted rate is still available prior to 1st April. The two tier parking is coming in on the 1st April – this can be done via a smartphone or the website or by phone.

County Cllr. Brazil unfortunately council tax has gone up with a poor settlement from Government. The SEND overspend is very high and likely to be higher still in the next financial year. Briefly mentioned devolution and the strategic authority, this is still very uncertain at present. Seven of the eight district councils have come together to create a divided partnership within Devon. The Locality Fund has been kept in the next financial year.

6) Minutes –the Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th February 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

7) Decision Notice of the Hearing Panel – Code of Conduct complaint made against Cllr Soper by Cllr. Toorneini. The complaint has been upheld and sanctions applied are for Cllr. Soper and the wider Council to attend training on Governance, Leadership and IT. The report has been published and is attached to the agenda of the Audit and Governance sub-committee of South Hams Council, meeting held on 30th January. An apology to Cllr. Toorneini is required. Cllr. Soper considers that all 7 councillors should be present. Cllr. Toorneini agrees. April agenda and Clerk to action all councillors to be present.

8) Asset Register – to check and confirm the asset register is up to date and correct (circulated prior to this meeting). April agenda and re-send this register on 20th March.

9) Open spaces reports –

- i. Clearing of the SUDS area – to agree quotation received from Ed Lally. Clarification on the willow in the SUDS pond. Cllr. Hannaford considers that the 'willow' should be retained. Proposed to accept the quotation of £360 twice per annum to trim the pond and shop areas. Clerk to action.
- ii. To agree work required from Martin Weeks – the list shown to councillors was approved.
- iii. Boundary between the recreation field and the Luscombe field; the fence is in poor repair and the hedge leggy. To consider re-fencing this hedge. Clerk to check the deeds as to who owns the fence.
- iv. Contractors for the recreation field shelter – to receive an update. April agenda.

10) PLANNING:

Planning Applications - South Hams District Council has asked for observations from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- i. 0686/25/FUL Application for an extension to an agricultural building, Pasture Coombe, East Allington.

No objection

Planning Decisions

11) FINANCE

Expenditure	Employment March	£335.60	BACs
	PAYE Q4	£251.80	BACs
	Parish Hall – room hire	£50.00	BACs
	Clerk's expenses Q4	£166.50	BACs
	Martin Weeks	£123.50	BACs
	Moor Trees – whips	£50.16	BACs
	Bond – clearance of tree debris	£480.00	BACs

Income

Bank Reconciliation and Statement, for information

Council resolved to accept the accounts as listed above. Proposed by Cllr. Wotton, all agreed by show of hands.

12) 'Slow road signage' – Cllr. Toorneini to report. The school are launching a competition for the children to design a sign, results after the Easter holidays. Then some signage will be printed. VAS signage was also mentioned.

13) VE Day 80th anniversary 8th May – is Council considering marking this day and if so how. Cllr. Wotton proposed a brass plaque, mounted on a piece of oak, mounted on the outside wall of the Parish Hall. All in favour by show of hands. Cllr. Wotton will order the plaque. Priced between £100 to £150. Maybe some drawings from the schoolchildren which could be displayed in the Parish Hall. Cllr. Wotton proposed a sub-committee to liaise with the school and the parish hall.

14) Annual Parish Meeting – to consider holding this meeting prior to the council meeting in April. To agree actions. To hold a meeting on the Thursday in May, 21st May prior to the Annual Council Meeting.

Clerk's report –

- i. A statement has been forwarded from Cllr. Hogarth for an overdue account of £646.63 EDF, supply address is The Car Park, Laburnum Way, Totnes, TQ9 7QY. This has been queried by email, twice now, with currently no further response. Not sure who they are going to take action against.

Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only)

Items for Information - The next council meeting will be on Wednesday 16th April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

Meeting closed at 8.29pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Email Circulation

DALC Bulletin 11 (sent 06/03)

DALC Bulletin 12 (sent 13/03)

NALC Bulletin update (sent 17/03)