

Minutes of the meeting of East Allington Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th April 2025, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Present – Cllr. Soper (Chairman); Cllr. Wotton; Cllr. Weeks; Cllr. Hannaford; Cllr. Toorneini; District Cllr. Lawford; 3 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk). County Cllr. Brazil.

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 regarding raised beds around the Orchard. Cllr. Weeks reported that Martin Weeks has had to clear out sticks/stones from the SUDS area, which were all thrown back in the next day after Martin Weeks had mowed the area. Cllr. Toorneini mentioned that the allotments when in place were looked after. The strip of land alongside the rented football ground is unlikely to be available for allotments. Cllr. Hannaford suggested a site meeting at the Orchard to further discuss the option of raised beds.

2) Apologies For Absence: Cllr. McCoy

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) None raised.

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

County Cllr. Brazil with the elections coming up there is not a lot happening at County level. Five different possibilities have been put in to Government regarding devolution thoughts. The formal process will need to be put in place by the end of November 2025.

Cllr. Hannaford brought up the issue of car parking charges in the South Hams, and the steep increase that has been put in place. This is being monitored at present by the district council.

District Cllr. Lawford – changes at Kingsbridge leisure centre with the installation of solar panels and new dry changing rooms. Used some of the second home council tax to purchase 3 homes for social rent in St. Annes Chapel. Community composting day coming up. Help is available for residents with damp/mould.

6) Minutes –the Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th March 2025 were approved 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. Toorneini read a statement regarding this complaint.

Cllr. Soper read a statement. It is time to draw a line under past actions and it is time to move on.

Cllr. Wotton mentioned that Council have received some training from DALC. Clerk to source some suitable training, particularly in IT.

Cllr. Hannaford commented that he felt more comfortable with the Council now than in the past.

8) Open Spaces –

- i. The fence alongside the playing field is owned by Council. It is in poor condition. To discuss whether this fence should be repaired and if so when. To agree actions and associated expenditure. Cllr. Soper stated that as the field is one day going to be developed there is no requirement to repair it. Cllr. Hannaford considers the fence should be repaired. Clerk to action.
- ii. Contractors for the recreation field shelter – to receive an update. May agenda.
- iii. The 'bear' bin located near the shop (now gone), is badly corroded and needs to be replaced. Council to decide whether to replace this bin. To agree actions and associated expenditure. There are still some actions required at the car park area where the shop was. Cllr. Wotton will take a look at the site and come back to Council in May. The bin will be disposed of.

9) Asset Register – to confirm this asset register is up to date and correct. Sent to councillors 20th March. Confirmed, proposed by Cllr. Hannaford, all in favour by show of hands.

10) PLANNING

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

- i. 0582/25/FUL Erection of covered yard and store, Higher Fallapit Farm, East Allington.
No objection
- ii. 1057/25/VAR Variation of condition 9 (agricultural occupancy) of planning consent 1912/24/FUL
Supported
- iii. 0756/25/HHO Application for additional storey to existing dwelling and proposed detached garage, Pondfield, East Allington.
Standing orders suspended for applicant to speak.
Standing orders resumed.
No objections

Planning Decisions

11) FINANCE

Expenditure	DALC annual subscription	£315.10	BACs
	Employment April	£335.80	BACs

Income

Bank Reconciliation and Statement, for information

Council resolved to accept the accounts as listed above. Proposed by Cllr. Toorneini, all in favour by show of hands.

12) Internal Audit Report – No issues have been raised.

13) Annual Governance Statement – to resolve to agree the Annual Governance Statement is accurate. Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. Hannaford, all in favour by show of hands.

14) Annual Accounting Statement – to resolve to agree the Annual Accounting Statement is accurate. Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. Toorneini, all in favour by show of hands.

15) Public Rights – to resolve to agree the dates of the public rights to inspect the accounts to be from 3rd June to 14th July as determined by PKF Littlejohn the external auditor. Resolved.

16) Reserves 31st March 2025 – to note that the unallocated reserves at the end of the financial year 31st March 2025 stood at £5,401. Noted.

17) Financial Regulations – updated to the latest version. Council to resolve to adopt. Adopted, proposed by Cllr. Toorneini, all in favour by show of hands.

18) Standing Orders – updated to the latest version (changes in code of conduct and procurement). Council to resolve to adopt. Resolved. Proposed by Cllr. Toorneini, all in favour by show of hands.

19) Clerk's report – nothing to report.

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

Cllr. Hannaford as footpaths officer, footpath 2 where it crosses Bowling Green, the gates at either end need repair and replacement of their posts – to please put this on the warden's list. Clerk to action.

Items for Information - The next council meeting will be on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7.45pm in the Parish Hall, preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.56pm.

Email Circulation

DALC Bulletin 14 (sent 31/03)