

Minutes of the meeting of East Allington Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st January 2026, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Present – Cllr. Soper (Chairman); Cllr. Hannaford; Cllr. Hogarth; Cllr. Weeks; 5 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Clerk); County Cllr. Brazil; Cllr. Toorneini.

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 has heard rumours about a roundabout to be installed in the village. This is untrue.

Parishioner mentioned the Village Voice as the treasurer is leaving as well as two of the distributors. Cllr. Hogarth has offered to be one of the distributors.

Parishioner mentioned the building of the new houses. Cllr. Hannaford responded.

Parishioner also raised the issue of the parking in the village.

2) Apologies For Absence: Cllr. McCoy. District Cllr. Lawford. Apologies accepted for the reasons given.

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)

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

County Cllr. Brazil reported that it is budget time; the financial settlement was not helpful to Devon. Local Government Reorganisation is being looked at by Government at this moment in time. Considers the process towards unitary is being rushed. Exeter City Council have decided not to hold elections. Road closures in Kingsbridge. The culvert under the road has collapsed on top of a sewer – will take a while to repair. Slapton Line is still with us, just. This is a crucial piece of infrastructure.

Cllr. Toorneini arrived at 7.50pm.

6) Minutes –the Minutes of the meetings held on the 19th November and 22nd December 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

7) Budget – to resolve to agree and set a budget for the financial year 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027. Resolved. Cllr. Hogarth proposed and Cllr. Soper seconded, all agreed by show of hands.

8) Precept – to resolve to set the precept for the financial year 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027 based on the agreed budget. Resolved to set a precept of £28,000 (increased due to forthcoming legal costs). Proposed by Cllr. Toorneini, seconded by Cllr. Hannaford, all in favour by show of hands.

9) Open spaces –

- i. Car park wall – to receive an update. Cllr. Hogarth has been in touch with the builders, still awaiting a quote.

- ii. Recreation ground shelter – to receive an update. Cllr. Hogarth reported that the weather has been against much work being done as yet.
- iii. Playground – Sovereign Play report yet to be received regarding safety issues. Still awaiting for a date to be arranged. Clerk to action.

10) PLANNING

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

Planning Decisions

HHO application received after the November meeting. Discussion by email with No Objection recorded. Approval has now been granted.

11) FINANCE

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| Expenditure | Parish Hall rental Oct/Nov | £74.00 | |
| | DALC – Planning course for clerk | £42.00 | |
| | Microsoft 365 annual renewal | £84.99 | CARD |
| | Clerk’s expenses Q3 | £169.00 | |
| | Employment January | £415.80 (Inc. 4 Hrs Overtime) | |
| Income | P3 Footpaths grant received | £560.00 | |
| | December interest | £171.61 | |

Bank Reconciliation and Statement, for information circulated prior to this meeting.

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

12) Gritter route – Lisa Edmonds our highways officer has twice now reported cars parked on the corner by the bus stop, causing the gritter problems to do its job in icy conditions. For discussion – does Council still wish for the road in and out of the village to be gritted. Council wish for the road to continue to be gritted. Cones required order 6. Perhaps Council will have to apply for yellow lines to prevent parking on this corner. Clerk and Cllr. Hogarth will put a piece into the Village Voice.

13) Grant request – Citizens Advice are requesting financial support from all parish councils to enable them to continue with their work. Granted £300 proposed by Cllr. Hogarth, all in favour by show of hands.

14) Clerk's report –

- i. A request has been made to Jean Turrell to cancel the Parish Hall wifi with BT as it is registered in her name. Update.
- ii. Clerk has signed up for the Practitioners Conference 3rd June to be held at Taunton – cost shared between East Allington and Colebrooke at £51 each council inclusive of VAT. Council agreed.

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

Cllr. Hannaford reported that a fir tree has been planted in the orchard – who? Cllr. Hannaford will walk the footpaths to determine repairs.

Items for Information - The next council meeting will be on Thursday 26th February 2026 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall

PART II

16) Council are excluding members of the public and the press to progress a matter of a confidential nature. Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings Act) 1960.
Local Government Act 1972, ss 100 and 102.

17) Agreement of Surrender of Leases and Grant of new Lease – to receive an update from Council’s solicitors. Cllr. Hannaford and the Clerk held a teams’ meeting with the solicitors. Letters have been sent on behalf of Council.

Meeting closed at 8.37pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Email Circulation

Chief Executive’s Bulletin Nov 25 (sent 02/12)

DALC Bulletin 52 (sent 04/12)