

Minutes of the Meeting of Broadhempston Parish Council
Thursday 8 January 2026

Present: Cllrs Wright, Widger, Bamford, Stevens, Clarke.

Also present: County Cllr Stuart Rogers
 District Cllr Paul Parker
 3 members of public
 Cathy Aubertin (Clerk)

No	Subject	
2025/ 26/145	The Chair will open the meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Wright opened the meeting at 7.32pm. Apologies received from Councillors Goddard and Miles.
2025/ 26/146	To declare any interests at this meeting.	None.
2025/ 26/147	Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council, and approve the minutes of the following meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 December 2025. 	<i>It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes.</i>
2025/ 26/148	<p><u>Public question time:</u> a period of 10 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comments regarding the work of the Council or other items that affect Broadhempston.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Councillor report. • County Councillor report 	<p>A member of public raised a concern with storm drains. He has raised these with Devon County Council, who have stated that they will not attend. The member of public has rodded some of the drains but one of them has a blockage, which needs repairing (near the garages). County Cllr Rogers asked that the member of public send the clerk the reference numbers so that they can be forwarded to him for further investigation, and he agreed to do so. It is possible that the drain near the garages has been damaged by a utility company, who were working in the area recently, as has happened near No Place Hill. Cllr Bamford has photographic evidence of such damage which he will forward to the clerk. The clerk will forward reference numbers and photographs to County Cllr Rogers.</p> <p>District Cllr Parker advised that the work at Market Square in Newton Abbot is nearing completion. He further advised that, in respect of the NA3 site, Baker Estates have appealed the Teignbridge District Council (TDC) decision and that the Planning Inspectorate will hear evidence from both sides.</p> <p>County Cllr Rogers advice that he has asked for a quote for carrying out surface work in the play park where there is now a problem with waterlogging. He further advised that the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) now has an emergency fund for people who have problems paying their energy bills. He will send on details to the clerk so that it can be published.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Councillor reports • Grounds maintenance work. • Parish Lengths-man work. 	<p>County Cllr Rogers has been in discussions with the Head of Highways about lack of joined up working with parish councils and will feed back any updates to the council.</p> <p>He informed the council that Devon County Council (DCC) are currently holding meetings about next year's budget, and he will keep the council updated.</p> <p>He noted that there is an emergency meeting tomorrow, with district and the county council, regarding the government's wish to postpone local council elections.</p> <p>County Cllr Rogers advised that there is new Government funding available for Community Land Trusts (CLTs) and that he will send information on to the clerk.</p> <p>Cllr Bamford advised that he has added defibs onto parish council's mapping system, available from the website, and is now in the process of adding grit bins.</p> <p>Councillors thanked Cllr Widger for carrying out his snow warden duties in the recent cold spell.</p>
2025/26/149	<p>Climate change emergency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bee Square. • Tree planting. 	<p>The clerk confirmed that the bee saving kits have been ordered. Cllr Clarke will confirm whether the community shop will be willing to give these out when she knows.</p> <p>The owner of part of the community woodland attended the meeting to help with this discussion. He confirmed that there is space available for tree planting. He noted that a mix of trees are appreciated by the members of public who visit the woodland. He suggested that the land near Knowle, where other new trees have been planted, would be the best place to plant further new trees. It was suggested that grant funding may be available and that Tree Council might be an option. The clerk will research possible grant funding.</p> <p>In addition, the owner of the community woodland agreed to talk to his woodland agent about possible funding streams and will attend the next meeting to help with progressing the project.</p>
2025/26/150	<p>Open spaces update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small playing field. <p>To consider the condition of the fence and gate at the entrance from the square and whether maintenance work should be undertaken.</p>	<p><i>It was RESOLVED that the clerk should talk to a local contractor to request an estimate for the required work, including a self-closing gate that will be safe for children to use.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the clerk will ask a local contractor for a quote to sort out the entrance, where it is now flooding regularly.</i></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easterways play area. • Headlands. <p>To consider a request from the Headlands Committee to increase the annual grant from the parish council from £1,000 to £1,500.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kings Close Field. • Community Orchard. • Allotments. Review of allotment fees for 2027-28. • Car Park. 	<p>The clerk advised that two quotes have been received for the required tree works and that she is awaiting the third before arranging for the work to be carried out.</p> <p>The play area is still closed pending a post-installation inspection. The clerk is working with the CLT in this respect.</p> <p>A member of the Headlands committee advised that new signage will be erected shortly which will limit the number of dogs for each dog walker to four.</p> <p>A member of the Headlands Committee attended the meeting to answer questions from councillors about the requirement for additional funding. Councillors agreed that Headlands is a fantastic resource and are grateful to the committee for all their hard work. <i>It was RESOLVED that the grant should increase to £1,500 from next financial year for two years and that it should increase in line with inflation each year from financial year 2028-2029.</i> The clerk will ensure that arrangements are put in place for this.</p> <p><i>Following consideration of a report from the Clerk it was RESOLVED that there should be no increase of allotment rents for 2027.</i> The clerk will advise allotment holders.</p> <p>Cllr Bamford volunteered to add the allotment plots, with plot numbers, to the council's mapping system and Cllr Wright agreed to provide the plans to facilitate this.</p> <p>Cllr Stevens volunteered to continue with the hedge maintenance at the allotments.</p>
2025/26/151	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree payment of accounts. 	<p><i>It was RESOLVED that payments should be approved.</i> Clerk to make payments.</p> <p>All councillors were asked to look at the reports, created using the new financial system, and give the clerk feedback on what is useful and what else may be needed.</p>
2025/26/152	<p>Clerk's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of actions in previous minutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Wright agreed to discuss rainwater storage with a parishioner who might be able to advise further on such a project for the allotments. The parishioner who advised on this is going to talk to a specialist and come back to Cllr Wright.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Wright has arranged for the welding to be done to the mesh at the base of the basketball hoops, and it will be done shortly. Cllr Wright will chase this work. • All councillors will check which bins need grit in them and report them to the clerk for action by DCC. Councillors were reminded of this requirement. • It was noted that the self-seeded cherry tree in the allotments has outgrown its space. Cllr Wright and Cllr Stevens will inspect and either fell if necessary or prune. • In respect of the drain near No Place Hill, Cllr Stevens has emailed the contractor who was working in the area to ask if they will also inspect for damage. • Following a report of an issue, Cllr White will be asked to look at the drain at Lee when he is back, although a parishioner has also done some work to clear it. • In respect of the churned-up grass area in the small playing field, Cllr Goddard volunteered to rope the area off so that people won't walk over it. Cllr Goddard confirmed that this will be done at the weekend. • Cllr Wright has 3-D printed dog waste bag dispensers, and he and Cllr Goddard have started to mount these throughout the village and will continue. • Cllr Bamford volunteered to add these to the Parish Online mapping system. • In respect of the request from the school for someone to talk to the children about how democracy in the local area works, Cllrs Wright and Goddard confirmed that they will be attending to do this on the afternoon of Friday 23 January 2026.
2025/26/153	<u>Public question time.</u>	
2025/26/154	To note the date of the next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 12 February 2026. 	This was noted and the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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