

Minutes of the Meeting of Broadhempston Parish Council
Thursday 12 March 2026

Present: Cllrs Wright, Clarke, Goddard.

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

| No | Subject | |
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| 2025/ 26/177 | The Chair will open the meeting and receive apologies. | Cllr Wright opened the meeting at 7.32pm. Apologies received from Cllrs Bamford, Stevens, Widger. It was noted that Cllr Miles has resigned from the council and the councillors present thanked him for his contribution. |
| 2025/ 26/178 | To declare any interests at this meeting. | Cllr Clarke declared an interest in the planning second listed application as she is the applicant. |
| 2025/ 26/179 | Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council, and approve the minutes of the following meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 February 2026. | <i>It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes.</i> |
| 2025/ 26/180 | <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 commented that the public car park had a lot of litter in it. However, it was further noted that the school arranged a litter pick there this week.</p> <p>County Cllr Rogers reminded councillors of the economic summit being held next week. The clerk and Cllr Goddard will attend.</p> <p>He also reminded the council that the next meeting with the chief officers from Devon County Council, Teignbridge District Council and Dartmoor National Park will be held on 24 April, 2.30pm in Buckfastleigh.</p> <p>Cllr Rogers advised that he is awaiting an update from officers in respect of drainage and will be meeting with the highways officer. He further advised that DCC officers and councillors are committed to getting defects sorted by those responsible.</p> <p>It was noted that, where any repair is not up to standard, it should be reported to DCC.</p> <p>In the future, road repairs will be postcode led, within 100 yards to help those that are not digitally able to report potholes, together</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Councillor reports • Grounds maintenance work. • Parish Lengths-man work. | <p>with a phone number. A draft leaflet will be produced which Cllr Rogers will circulate.</p> <p>Cllr Rogers asked parish councillors to think about they would like to use grant funding from him next financial year.</p> <p>In the absence of district councillors at this meeting, Cllr Rogers advised that a cost of living crisis meeting will be held at Teignbridge District Council, so consider cost of oil for those who are reliant on oil. It is anticipated that help will be made available to anyone suffering from debt or food poverty.</p> <p>Cllr Rogers advised that DCC is working towards providing a One Door Devon services, which will enable residents to contact DCC via a mobile unit which will likely park near the village hall on a regular basis.</p> <p>Cllr Wright and the clerk had attended an on-line meeting with TDC where it was announced that they would be providing an annual fund of £200k per annum for the next few years to help support community initiatives.</p> <p>It was noted that both the pothole and manhole near No Place Hill have recently been repaired by DCC.</p> <p>Clerk will discuss parish lengths-man work with a local contractor in preparation for next month's meeting.</p> |
| 2025/26/181 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the following planning application: • 26/00195/LBC Removal of modern partition stud work, replacement of timber stair case and stair cupboard with an new hardwood staircase with open risers, removal of lean-to garden room on the south elevation and replacement of the cement based render on the building with a breathable lime render Ashwood Cottage Broadhempston Devon TQ9 6BD | <p><i>It was RESOLVED to support the application. The clerk will advise TDC.</i></p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26/00258/CAN T1 - Gleditsia triacanthos (Honey Locust) Crown reduction by removing new growth back to the previous pruning points established in 2016. 1 Stoop Cottages Road From Post Office To Stoop Cross Broadhempston Devon TQ9 6BQ • 26/00296/CAN T1 - Cyprus - Fell T2 - Griselinia - Fell T3 - Sorbus - Fell T4 - Eucalyptus - Fell T5 - Cherry - Fell T6 - Scots Pine - Remove one branch T7 - Willow - Fell Four Apple trees within the rear garden - prune 1 Stoop Orchard Broadhempston TQ9 6BQ | <p>Unfortunately, councillors were unable to consider this application as the meeting was not quorate for this item. The clerk will advise TDC.</p> <p><i>It was RESOLVED to support the application.</i> The clerk will advise TDC.</p> |
| 2025/26/182 | <p>To meet with a representative from Friends of the Dart to establish what the parish council can do in respect of the spillages from Broadhempston Sewage Treatment Works.</p> | <p>A Director from Friends of the Dart attended for this item. He gave a fascinating presentation about the work of the group, including the water testing quality. He explained that the group use the same methodology as the Environment Agency at the sewage treatment works and for the combined sewage overflow.</p> <p>It was noted that some of the information provided would be useful to submit to TDC in respect of the planning application near Easterways.</p> <p>The focus on bathing water quality was noted and councillors agreed that a letter to SWW to support this would be appropriate. The clerk will draft a letter for councillors to consider.</p> <p>Friends of the Dart will be introducing a River Ambassador's programme for parish councils and councillors agreed that BPC would like to be part of this initiative.</p> <p>The clerk will sign the council up to receive newsletters and information about webinars. In addition, the website will be updated to indicate that the council is affiliated with Friends of the Dart.</p> <p>The clerk will remind Friends of the Dart about our parish grant scheme at the appropriate time.</p> |

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| | | Cllr Clarke will talk to the local open water swimmers group to see if anyone would like to become an ambassador. |
| 2025/26/183 | To consider the Parish Council's response to the Local Government Review. | Councillors agreed that it is a struggle to know what is best for Broadhempston so will take time to read further information provided and reconsider at an extraordinary meeting to be held on 19 March. The clerk will arrange an extraordinary meeting. |
| 2025/26/184 | To consider the implementation of the following policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility statement | It was RESOLVED to implement the statement. The clerk advised that there are issues to be resolved on the PC website and asked if councillors could help with this. Cllr Wright asked that the website checker link be sent onto Cllr Bamford and him to see if they can advise. |
| 2025/26/185 | For councillors to consider whether each councillor is willing to sign a statement of assurance in respect of the Civility and Respect Pledge. | Although all present are content to sign the individual pledge, It was RESOLVED that this discussion be postponed until April 2026 when more councillors will be present. |
| 2025/26/186 | To consider an update in respect of the Village Square project. | It was noted that the valuation of the pavement has been requested and that Teign Housing will arrange this. A meeting of the working group will be arranged when the valuation has been received. |
| 2025/26/187 | To consider an update in respect of the format and when to hold the annual parish meeting. | The dates that Martin Wrigley MP are available were considered and it was RESOLVED that the 21 May is the date that the annual parish meeting should be held. The clerk will clarify the start time and then ask local groups if they would like to attend and provide an update to residents. |
| 2025/26/188 | Climate change emergency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bee Square. • Tree planting. | It was noted that the Bee Saving kits will be delivered to the community shop by the clerk on the following day. A Facebook post will encourage residents to collect their kits. The owner of the community woodland attended for this item, and he agreed to provide a standard lease agreement for the council to consider for the area where PC trees will be planted. Cllr Wright will produce a plan to accompany the lease. It was RESOLVED that species of trees to be planted will be considered with parishioners at the annual parish meeting. |
| 2025/26/189 | Open spaces update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small playing field. | In respect of the memorial tree to be planted to Lot Sutcliffe it was RESOLVED that a hickory tree should be considered and that this will be planted in the small playing field to replace the tree that is due to be felled. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easterways play area. • Headlands. • Kings Close Field. • Community Orchard. • Allotments. • Car Park. | <p>It was noted that there is now a new on-line booking system for the tennis/ pickleball court.</p> <p>It was noted that a recent pruning session was held and thanks were given to the volunteers who helped with this.</p> |
| 2025/ 26/190 | <p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree payment of accounts. | <p>It was RESOLVED that payments should be approved. Clerk to make payments.</p> |
| 2025/ 26/191 | <p>Clerk's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider the council's response to the Teignbridge Playing Pitch Strategy. • To consider repairs to the telephone box following concerns raised by a parishioner. • To consider defib training. • Review of actions in previous minutes. • Clerk taking annual leave – dates TBC. • | <p>It was agreed that the issues to be included in the response were the drainage problems on the Headlands football pitch, the need to upgrade the pavilion and the state of the surface in the small playing field.</p> <p>The clerk will respond.</p> <p>The clerk will ask a local contractor to repair and ask him to liaise with the resident who has painted the box previously. The clerk will also clarify if the price includes the painting of the whole box.</p> <p>It was agreed that parishioners should be asked about defib training at the annual parish meeting.</p> <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. Now completed. • 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. In progress. • Parish Lengths-man work – Cllr Bamford will call on the resident (who emailed the council) and arrange a time for he and Cllr Wright to go and help. Cllr Bamford has discussed with the parishioner, but this will require further consideration. • Office software – Cllr Wright will explore alternative options. Now resolved. The clerk will purchase Microsoft Pro Plus plan from Groupon. • Dog waste refuse bin stickers - Cllr Bamford will talk to villagers who have stickers on their bins to see if they are happy for their bin to be put on a map. |

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| | | <p>Now completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headlands – access to defib improvements - Cllr Wright will clarify what is planned and whether help will be required from the council. • Community orchard - it was noted that some pruning is needed so a working party will be arranged by Cllr Wright. The working party has taken place. |
| 2025/26/192 | <u>Public question time.</u> | |
| | CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS – Public and press left the meeting room. | |
| 2025/26/193 | To discuss councillor training. | Due to the low number of councillors in attendance, this matter will be considered at April's meeting. |
| 2025/26/194 | To note the date of the next meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 9 April 2026. | This was noted and the meeting closed at 10.00pm. NOTE: extraordinary meeting to be held on 19th March. |

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