

CHARDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th December 2025 – 7.00pm;
meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

Present: Cllr P. Greer (Chair), M Reeve, S. Hughes, S. Legg, F. Eames and I. Keam (quorate).
In Attendance: Danielle Gilpin (Clerk)

There was 1 member of the public present

7.00pm	The Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined Fire Safety precautions.
	<p>Public Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) No Police report received. ii) No P3 (footpath) report received. iii) a) Cllr. Cathy Connor, Devon County Council, Whimble and Blackdown division, not in attendance and no report received in advance. <li style="padding-left: 20px;">b) Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward sent his apologies. No report received in advance iv) There was 1 member of the public present. <p>Letter received dated 28.11.2025 from a member of the public regarding the pétanque area being converted into a community garden area. Danielle Gilpin to respond to advise that we understand her mixed feeling along with an explanation of how the area came to Chardstock Parish Council from the Play Park Trust (Charity) in a sad state of repair.</p> <p>The Chair closed Public Forum session at 7.05pm.</p>
7.05pm	Meeting Commences
25/084 i)	To note members of the Parish Council in attendance: As listed above.
25/084 ii)	To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence received: (LGA 1972 s.85(1)) Apologies received from Cllr Mackinder.
25/084 iii)	To note members not present and to receive any other apologies for absence: No apologies were received.
25/085	Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct: There were no declarations of interest at this time.

Initial: 

	Noted that this did not preclude declarations of interest being made at any point in the meeting that they became apparent.
25/086	<p>To consider any matters listed on this agenda that Councillors consider should be dealt with as confidential business as per the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960:</p> <p>None advised.</p>
25/087	<p>To consider and, if thought fit, approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council held on 10th September 2025 and 8th October 2025:</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. Reeve, seconded by Cllr. Eames and approved by all.</p>
25/088	<p>Planning matters to be considered:</p> <p>a) i) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication:</p> <p>25/2156/FUL – part retrospective application for the retention of a shipping container. Proposed erection of fencing on eastern boundary at The Vicarage, Chardstock.</p> <p>3 votes in support and 2 votes against so resolved to support the application.</p> <p>25/2258/FUL – construction of new building for holiday let purposes (in place of fire-damaged store/stables building) at the Lower Keats Farm, Broom Lane, Tytherleigh.</p> <p>All in support so resolved to support the application.</p> <p>a) ii) To consider planning applications received after agenda publication as per supplementary agenda circulated to all members:</p> <p>None advised.</p> <p>b) Determinations/Decisions advised by LPA:</p> <p>None advised.</p> <p>c) Tree Matters:</p> <p>25/1963/TCA – removal and reduction of trees at The Vicarage, Chardstock.</p> <p>Not supported due to lack of tree and ecological surveys. Not against the proposal but feel the supporting documentation is lacking to move the proposal forward.</p> <p>25/2496/TCA – reduction and sectional dismantle of trees at The Old Vicarage, Chardstock. Application received after agenda published.</p> <p>Resolved to support the application.</p> <p>d) Appeals lodged / in progress:</p> <p>None advised.</p>

Initial: 

	<p>e) Planning correspondence received:</p> <p>None advised.</p> <p>f) Ward planning applications to be considered at EDDC:</p> <p>None advised.</p>
25/089	<p>Financial Matters to be considered:</p> <p>a) To note approval by the Chair of the Council's Payments for November 2025:</p> <p>Resolved that Council payments for November 2025 (£1,245.91) to be approved.</p> <p>b) To receive and note RFO report for November 2025:</p> <p>DG reported on November 2025. DG advised that we have received a purchase order from Devon County Council for £490.00 in regards to Parish Paths Partnership Grant. DG to raise an invoice.</p> <p>c) Questions to the RFO on accounts / financial reports:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>d) To note items of expenditure authorised under Chair/Clerk delegated authority: (Financial Regulations May 20215.4.1 and Delegation Appendix).</p> <p>To purchase Christmas gift vouchers for P3 and Tree Wardens. DG to purchase a new flag for the War Memorial.</p> <p>e) To approve payment of December accounts on or around 19th December prior to Christmas closedown period.</p> <p>Resolved to approve.</p> <p>f) To consider any grant application forms.</p> <p>Application received from George Inn Continuity Group for renewing the annual business membership of the Plunkett Foundation. Resolved to approve.</p> <p>f) To consider the budget setting for 2026/27 and set the precept in accordance with the budget.</p> <p>Email received from a member of the public regarding the precept setting process and stated that they wished to "have it formally noted that they object to the process being used to determine the precept".</p> <p>Budget and precept discussed and approved in principal. Agreed to formally agree in the January 2026 meeting to allow any further comments, improvement suggestions or cost cutting opportunities from the parishioners.</p>
	<p>Chardstock Parish Council Business to be considered:</p>

Initial: 

25/090

“Matters of Council consideration may include public participation if so invited by Chair”

a) To consider parish maintenance, highways and footpath (P3) matters:

None advised.

b) To consider any matters pertaining to tree planting projects/initiatives in the parish (Hon. Tree Warden, Michael Davis, to provide notes for the Councillors, previously circulated):

None received.

c) To consider matters pertaining to ecology and climate action in the parish:

No brief provided by Chardstock Ecology Group. However, they did issue their newsletter.

d) To consider ongoing work on the Emergency Planning for parishes:

Cllr Keam continues to work with Membury and this is ongoing.

e) To consider information relating to The George Inn:

None advised.

f) To discuss Chardstock Play Park including additional access:

3 landscapers have been approached for the work. Unfortunately, only one quote received which is considerably higher than expected. Further quotes are required before we can proceed.

Embankment work can be started.

Need to approach the Village Hall to request that 1 parking space is given up to enable additional access to be installed. H&S advises that the park has 2 entrance/exits.

g) To consider submission of articles to Parish Newsletter for the January 2026 edition:

Resolved that the following be submitted for the next edition of the community newsletter:

Advise the parishioners that there may be a possible closure for the groundworks on the grounds of health & safety in January/February, and that we will update via the Chardstock Facebook page.

Regarding the precept and budget - to request any suggestions for expenditure or potential savings to be included. Advise that the precept and budget will be agreed at the next meeting on 14th January 2026. Include the fact that there is some uncertainty regarding whether the Parish Council will need to take on further expenditure due to the EDDC devolution process, e.g., emptying of bins, dog waste bins, etc.

Initial:



25/091	<p>Other matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for noting only:</p> <p>Chardstock Historical Record Group regarding the retention of archive files.</p> <p>DG to review the current Parish Council website.</p>
25/092	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>The next Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.00pm.</p>
25/082	<p>"It is proposed by the Chair that, under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Local Government Act 1972, the public (including the press) be excluded from the meeting as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed. Members to agree upon matters to be discussed in confidential session, as per agenda item 25/040 above."</p> <p>RESOLVED to exclude the public (and press) due to the confidential nature of the next agenda items.</p>
25/083	<p>Matters for discussion under Part Two (Confidential) business:</p> <p>None advised.</p>
<p>With no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 8.35pm</p>	

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Signed:  Date: 14th January 2026 (Chair)

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