

CHARDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2026 – 7.00pm;
meeting held in Chardstock Community Hall.**

Present: Cllr P. Greer (Chair), M. Reeve, S. Hughes, F. Eames and I. Kearn (quorate).

In Attendance: Danielle Gilpin (Clerk)

There were 0 members of the public present

7.08pm	The Chair welcomed all in attendance and outlined Fire Safety precautions.
	Public Forum
	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. b) Cllr. D Mackinder, East Devon District Council, Yarty Ward, not in attendance and no report received in advance. iv) There were 0 members of the public present.
	Clerk requested to speak as a member of the public which was approved. Clerk advised of the Lions Message In A Bottle scheme which is simple idea designed to encourage people to keep their basic personal and medical details on a standard form and in a common location, i.e., the fridge. It saves the emergency services valuable time if they need to enter a property in an emergency sticker. They look for the green sticker on your fridge door or inside the front door. It is particularly relevant for those living alone, people with conditions such as diabetes, allergies, disabilities, life threatening conditions, or the older generation. The scheme itself is free and the only cost involved is the postage for the bottles. Clerk is requesting that the Parish Council pay for this. Resolved to approve this request. The Chair closed Public Forum session at 7.10pm.
7.10pm	Meeting Commences
26/001 i)	To note members of the Parish Council in attendance: As listed above.
26/001 ii)	To note and, if thought fit, to approve apologies for absence received: (LGA 1972 s.85(1)) Apologies received from Cllr Legg.

Initial: 

26/001 iii)	To note members not present and to receive any other apologies for absence: No apologies received.
26/002	Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct: There were no declarations of interest at this time. Noted that this did not preclude declarations of interest being made at any point in the meeting that they became apparent.
26/003	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: None.
26/004	To consider and, if thought fit, approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council held on 11th March 2026: Proposed by Cllr. Reeve, seconded by Cllr. Kearn and approved by all.
25/121	Planning matters to be considered: a) i) To consider planning applications received prior to agenda publication: None received. a) ii) To consider planning applications received after agenda publication as per supplementary agenda circulated to all members: 26/0690/TCA – Norway Spruce: removal at Sopers Cottage, Chardstock. All in support. b) Determinations/Decisions advised by LPA: None advised. c) Tree Matters: None advised. d) Appeals lodged / in progress: None advised. e) Planning correspondence received: None advised. f) Ward planning applications to be considered at EDDC: None advised.

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26/006	Financial Matters to be considered: a) To note approval by the Chair of the Council's Payments for March 2026: Resolved that Council payments for March 2026 (£739.018) to be approved. b) To receive and note RFO report for March 2026: Clerk reported March 2026 and also year end figures. c) Questions to the RFO on accounts / financial reports: None. d) To note items of expenditure authorised under Chair/Clerk delegated authority: (Financial Regulations May 20215.4.1 and Delegation Appendix). None. e) To consider renewal of membership to DALC (Devon Association of Local Councils) £372.68 Resolved to renew membership. f) To confirm the internal audit for the financial year 2025-26 will take place on 22nd April 2026 Noted.
	Chardstock Parish Council Business to be considered:
26/007	"Matters of Council consideration may include public participation if so invited by Chair" a) To consider parish maintenance, highways and footpath (P3) matters: Cllr Kearn advised that he has been informed of a hole in verge but the owner of the land is unknown. Cllr Kearn to find out who owns this to understand what steps can be taken to resolve. 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 ongoing work on the Emergency Planning for parishes including Community Emergency Hubs: Cllr Kearn confirmed that we have been approved for the community hub box which will be delivered on 15th April 2026. d) To discuss Chardstock Play Park: Contractor emailed to check quotation. Response received and confirmed as:

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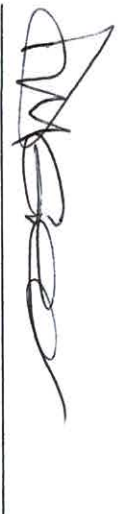
	Embankment slide: £8,581.00 Trim trail: £11,969.00 Activity panels: £1,819.00 Total: £22,369.00 Quotation does not include VAT. Delivery for slide is 6-8 weeks, however, the bank will need to settle for a year before this can be installed. Agreed to proceed with the trim trail and activity panels. Clerk to contact contractor to agree next steps. Agreed to remove 2 old benches and replace 1 with a wheelchair friendly bench. 1 to be replaced on end of toddler park. Needs consideration on how to ensure the aesthetics are correct for the full area. Agreed to place benches in the play park until the bank has settled when the final placement of benches can be agreed. Full inspection and quarterly inspection have been completed. The quarterly report highlighted issues with the toddler seat (which had been removed for safety during the inspection) and the swing joints. Cost to supply and fit £598.00. Approved to pay for this. Clerk to arrange. Full inspection highlighted the surface within the toddler area as a medium risk. Clerk to contact contractors to request a quotation for repair. e) To consider submission of articles to Parish Newsletter for the April 2026 edition: To advise the parishioners of the Lions Message In A Bottle scheme and request that anyone interested emails the clerk directly. To request that parishioners contact us to advise of any issues with any of the footpaths in the parish. Remind parishioners that all are welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings to raise issues and suggestions for improvement. No invite is required.
26/008	Other matters considered as urgent by presiding Chair for noting only:
	None.
26/009	Date of next meeting: The next Meeting of Chardstock Parish Council is scheduled for Wednesday 13 th May 2026 at 7.00pm. This will also be the Annual Parish Council Meeting.
26/010	"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

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	matters to be discussed in confidential session, as per agenda item 26/003 above." RESOLVED to exclude the public (and press) due to the confidential nature of the next agenda items.
26/011	Matters for discussion under Part Two (Confidential) business:
	None advised.
	With no further business to transact, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.59pm

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Signed:



Date: 13th May 2026

(Chair)

Initial:

