

HAWKCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:
Mr John Vanderwolfe FILCM Chartered MCIPD, MCMI
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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Hawkchurch Village Hall on Tuesday 20th January 2006, commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllr's J Baker (Chairman), D Searle T Greenshields , J Dobson, S Bartlett, K Goaman and Z Gage.

In Attendance: The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr Hayward (Devon County Council), Cllr Mackinder (East Devon District Council) and three members of the public.

The chairman welcomed Cllr's Goaman and Gage to their first meeting. The clerk confirmed they had made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

291	Apologies No apologies
292	Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct There were no Declarations of interest under the Code of Conduct at this stage of the meeting
293	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 th November 2025 were adopted as a true record. The notes from Amenities meeting of the 21 st October 2025 were noted.
294	Matters Arising It was noted that a sign made for the playfield had been vandalised, and was being replaced. The daffodils had been planted
295	Democratic Period Concerns expressed regarding a vehicle parked on the War Memorial Green. It was understood that the vehicle had been SORN. The owner of the vehicle would be spoken with.

	Mrs Jill Matthews, a former councillor had died. Many drains in the village are full, following the recent storms, Concerns about poor road surface in Broom Lane
296	County Council Report Cllr Hayward stated that the huge number of potholes everywhere was causing a major financial problem to the council. The consultation regarding library services continues. He felt that many assets and tasks would fall to the town and parish councils when the unitary council comes into being.
297	District Council Report Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). East Devon along with all Devon councils have submitted our suggestions to central government. All district council submitted essentially the same suggestion, the cities (Plymouth, Torbay and Exeter) had alternate plans as Plymouth and Torbay wished to retain unitary status and Exeter wished to become unitary. The county council submitted a different suggestion again to have a single unitary council covering all of Devon. We await the government's decision later this year. On current timescales there would be elections to the replacement councils in May 2027 which would run in parallel to existing councils until May 2028. Central government is changing a number of aspects of local government funding, and some funds such as UK Shared Prosperity Fund (which has been used in East Devon to fund a number of important projects) are being withdrawn. The new Fairer Funding Review is being used to reorganise local government funding and it appears it will result in reduction of funds to districts such as East Devon, however final details are not yet known. EDDC is close to finalizing the budget for 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 and in order to keep to a minimum both council tax rises and service reductions, we plan to utilise financial reserves (central government expects us to do this). Should LGR be delayed this approach will provide less help for years beyond the next two With the ending of the current contract with Suez to collect refuse in East Devon, EDDC are setting up a LATCO (local authority trading company) to run the refuse collection, as we believe this will be more efficient and provide model which could be adopted more widely following LGR. At present, EDDC is 6th nationally for the rate of recycling (59.55%) and top for sending least refuse to land fill. We hope to improve recycling rate to 62% this year and we thank residents for their efforts to separate refuse to the different bins

	provided. Correctly sorted refuse increases the value of the recycled materials collected with helps reduce the overall costs of refused collection to residents and businesses. I should note that a recent story on Devon Live, stated residents will be faced with up to four separate bins in future. EDDC is already compliant with the new recycling scheme and there will therefore be no changes for residents in East Devon Given concern about impact of council tax changes on households experiencing financial hardship, East Devon is able in some circumstances to provide help in the form of council tax rebates. Residents should consult https://eastdevon.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/financial-support-and-advice/help-with-household-bills/. If residents have problems with this or do not feel confident to approach council directly, I'm happy to do what I can to help.																								
298	Accounts for Ratification The following accounts were ratified: <table><tr><td>Seated Furniture Ltd</td><td>315.78</td><td>New noticeboard</td></tr><tr><td>SW Water</td><td>76.72</td><td>Water Bill</td></tr><tr><td>Papergami</td><td>48.00</td><td>Sign</td></tr><tr><td>Daisy Day</td><td>18.50</td><td>Gardning</td></tr><tr><td>Hawkchurch Hall</td><td>66.00</td><td>Hall hire</td></tr><tr><td>TotalEnergies</td><td>56,00</td><td>Electric</td></tr><tr><td>PAYE</td><td>225.80</td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>1585.80</td><td></td></tr></table>	Seated Furniture Ltd	315.78	New noticeboard	SW Water	76.72	Water Bill	Papergami	48.00	Sign	Daisy Day	18.50	Gardning	Hawkchurch Hall	66.00	Hall hire	TotalEnergies	56,00	Electric	PAYE	225.80			1585.80	
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299	Financial Update The financial update sheet was agreed, with one adjustment of a cost centre charge suggested. Reconciliation as of 13th January £31,317.07																								
300	Budget and Precept 2026/27 It was agreed that the budget for 2026/27 be £17,350, with a precept demand of £11,000.																								
301	Council Emails Agreed that the council would move towards everyone having a dedicated .GOV email address.																								
302	Planning Applications None to deal with at this meeting.																								
303	Determinations Wyld Court. Fell one Lime Tree. Approved																								

304	Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Dobson circulated a draft paper to members, which was agreed
305	Highways and Rights of Way The new lengersman is Stephen Lee. We need a new gritbin. Axminster will supply this as they can obtain a bulk purchase discount
306	Correspondence Nil
307	Items of Urgency Nil
308	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 8pm
309	Next Meeting: Tuesday 17 th March 2026 at 7pm

Signature -----

Date -----