

## EAST PORTLEMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Minutes of the meetings held in the Village Hall on  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7.00pm

**Present:** Councillors Nichola Craven (NC), Judith Hilditch (JH), Ann Jones (AJ, Vice Chair), John Miller (JM, Chair) and Lulu Stacey (LS, Parish Clerk).

**Members of the public:** Lindsey Lindley, Jane Miller, Matt Leaver

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**District and County Councillor reports** – Apologies sent by Cllr Julian Brazil. LS (parish clerk) read a report sent by Cllr Julian Brazil (DCC) updating the meeting on priorities concerning DCC and SHDC. Thanks given to the Parish Councillors and Clerk.

**Annual Parish Report** – Given by outgoing Chair John Miller. Highlights of the year include the implementation of tree preservation orders, production of the Gardening for Wildlife booklet, additional signage on Holset Lane and the clearing of pacific oysters from the foreshore below Port Waterhouse. Efforts continue to mitigate flood water after heavy rain: there is a supply of sandbags at Village Farm to be used where required in the village; village buddles have been cleared; landowners continue to explore solutions. An Emergency Relief Plan for the parish has been uploaded to the parish website. 29 planning applications were reviewed. Thanks given to Lindsey Lindley for generously offering her time in her role as RFO.

**Police report** – Apologies sent by Sgt Charlie Wilkes of Kingsbridge Police Station.

**Open Forum** – Matt Leaver advised the pond has filled with silt and will need clearing again. Questions asked on the ongoing development of *Treetops*.

### ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**689. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman** – John Miller was re-elected as Chair, proposed by AJ seconded by JH. Acceptance of Office form signed by JM, witnessed by parish clerk LS. Ann Jones was re-elected Vice Chair, proposed by JM, seconded by NC. Acceptance of Office form signed by AJ, witnessed by parish clerk, LS.

**690. Open Forum** – Jane Miller thanked the Parish Council for their collective work.

**691. Apologies** – Tim Fisher (TF), Robin Piggott (RP), Julian Brazil (JB, DCC).

**692. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2026** were approved.

**693. Declarations of interest** – None.

**694. Planning & planning matters** –

**For consideration 0884/26/HHO** Thalassa – no objection; **0818/26/VAR** Gara Rock Hotel – No objection.

**To Note: 0294/26/CLP** Waterside – Approved.

**695. Matters for discussion**

- a) Flooding and drainage clearance – Covered in Annual Parish Report above.
- b) Public Conveniences at Ferry steps – Discussions with SHDC ongoing.
- c) Holset Lane – Discussed whether further interventions are required to protect motorists – LS to contact DCC to request temporary bollards are replaced with permanent verge markers.

**696. Councillors' areas of special responsibility**

- Foreshore owners' liaison (NC) – None.
- Footpaths & hedgerows (JH) – LS to report branches blocking Wood Lane on DCC report it website.
- Highways (JT) – Holset sign in need of repair – LS to report to DCC.
- Dog matters (RP) – Dog mess increasing everywhere, consider increasing signage reminding dog owners to be responsible.
- Parking (JM) — Discussions continue between new owners of Gara Rock Hotel and non-residents car park landowner.
- Trees (TF) – Community woodland site secured at West Charleton, funded by DEFRA.

**697. Finance**

- a) End of year accounts approved; Annual Governance and Accountability Return Forms signed by J Miller (Chair) witnessed by L Stacey (Parish Clerk)
- b) Resolution declared that Council income is below £25,000 and therefore exempt from limited assurance review. Certificate of Exemption signed by J Miller (Chair) and L Lindley (RFO)
- c) Responsible Financial Officer for 2026/27 agreed as Lindsey Lindley. Lindsey thanked for continuing the role.
- d) Payments of £93 to L Stacey; £116.49 to Devon Association of Local Councils membership; £70 to Hawthorns Accounting service.
- e) £4029.00 received, 1<sup>st</sup> payment of Precept 2026/27.
- f) Cash at bank before payments above noted as £28,795.01

**698. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026 at 7pm**

Signed:.....

Chairman