

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF POUNDSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL HELD WEDNESDAY 18-FEBRUARY 2026

An Ordinary Meeting of Poundstock Parish Council was held on Wednesday 18-February 2026 at 7.00 p.m. at the Sunday School Rooms, Marhamchurch.

1. To note persons present and receive apologies for absence: 062/26
In attendance were Cllr. Stephen Blake in the Chair and Cllrs. Michelle Carter, Pamela Idelson, Tom O’Sullivan, Liz White, John Worth and the Clerk.
Apologies were received from Cllrs. Eric Harris and Graeme Swatton.
Members of the public present 4.
2. Declarations of Interests: 063/26
Cllr. Michelle Carter - Agenda 9(a).
3. Requests for Dispensation: None received. 064/26
4. Public Open Session: No representations were made during the public open session. 065/26
5. To resolve that the Minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting are an accurate record:
(a) Minutes of the Full Council:
RESOLVED, that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 29-January 2026 were a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair (1 abs). 066/26
(b) Note any matters arising - None. 067/26
6. Correspondence to discuss and resolve a course of action with any associated expenditure: 068/26
Correspondence schedule was reviewed and **NOTED**.
10/02/2026 Poundstock Parish Council - Objection 2023-24 Decision BDO - The Chair referred to correspondence from the external auditors, BDO LLP, in relation to the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). He noted that the Council's accounts had been challenged by the same parishioner for four consecutive years and that, following the latest review, the auditors had confirmed that there were no matters requiring action, thereby supporting the Council's financial management arrangements administered by the Clerk. The Chair further noted that the additional external audit work had resulted in costs of approximately £3,000 to the Council, representing funds that might otherwise have been available to support alternative Council priorities.
7. Planning Matters:
Planning Applications to discuss and make a consultee comment:
PA26/00297 Proposal: Extension and alteration works together with separate Garage and variation of condition 2 of decision notice PA24/05210 dated 02.10.2024.
Location: Ty Gwyn, Long Park Drive, Widemouth Bay, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0NA.
Following discussions it was RESOLVED to make no objection to application PA26/00297. 069/26
- PA26/00354** Proposal: Change of use from holiday accommodation (Class C1) to a single private dwelling (Class C3)
Location: Outdoor Adventure Ltd, Atlantic Court Coast Road, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0DF
Following discussions it was RESOLVED to support application PA26/00354. 070/26
- PA25/09188** Proposal: Proposed use of land for the siting of static caravans, the formation of earth bunding, the formation of a tennis court and the laying out of site access roads - all as an extension to Widemouth Fields Holiday Park, together with the installation of a foul water treatment plant to serve the development - Land at Park Farm, Poundstock, Bude with variation of condition 2 of decision notice PA14/11529 dated 02.02.2025.
Location: Widemouth Fields Touring Park, Poundstock, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0NA.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED to object to this application due to a lack of clarity within the application, particularly in relation to whether the proposed use is for holiday accommodation or permanent residential use, noting that units on the site are currently being advertised for sale as residential while the application seems to be focusing on the holiday amenity.**

PA26/00671 Proposal: Permission in Principle for up to 9 new dwellings (minimum 1, maximum 9).
Location: Land East of Swell Cottages, Poundstock, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0DW,

Following discussions it was RESOLVED to strongly object to PA26/00671 (Permission in Principle) for up to nine dwellings on land east of Swelle Cottages.

The site lies outside the development boundary and the Council considers it to be an inappropriate and unsustainable location for new housing, remote from day-to-day services and facilities and likely to result in a high level of reliance on private vehicles. The Council also has concerns regarding accessibility and highway safety given the site's relationship with the A39 and the limited suitability of the location for walking and cycling.

The scale of development proposed is considered excessive for the site and would result in a cramped, over-intensive form of development that would not respect the rural character and landscape setting of the area. The Council is further concerned about the potential for increased light pollution associated with residential use, which may adversely affect local amenity, rural tranquility and the quality of dark skies. In addition, the Council considered it inappropriate to establish Permission in Principe in this instance, as key matters such as layout, access, drainage and overall site capacity have not been demonstrated and it has not been shown that the site is suitable for development in principle. The Council also does not consider the nearby appeal decision referred to within the Planning Statement as directly relevant to this application, as each proposal must be assessed on its own merit and circumstances. Continued incremental housing development outside settlement boundaries would undermine the planned approach to growth within the parish.

For these reasons, the Council considers the proposal to represent inappropriate and unsustainable development in this rural location and therefore objects to the granting of Permission in Principle. 071/26

(b) To note any applications received from Cornwall Council by the time of the meeting: None. **072/26**

(c) Planning Decisions – **NOTED** <https://www.poundstock-pc.gov.uk/planning-applications> **073/26**

8. Finance to discuss and resolve a course of action with associated expenditure:

(a) To note income, banking and investment statements - **NOTED.** **074/26**

(b) To resolve to approve payment of outstanding accounts as per schedule.
RESOLVED unanimously, to make payments as scheduled. 075/26

9. Agenda items to discuss and resolve a course of action and associated expenditure:

(a) To receive an update and consider next steps for a new hall for Poundstock - The Chair informed the Council that the land for the new hall had now been purchased. Discussion followed regarding the ongoing maintenance of the field prior to the commencement of building works. **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the former landowner would continue to maintain the field in good heart until building works commence, at no cost to the Council. 076/26**

The Chair advised Members that initial indications suggest draft build costs may have reduced by up to 40%, however, this remains subject to confirmation. The Chair further advised the the Expression of Interest (EOI) for CIL funding has been submitted.

(b) To receive an update and consider next steps for the public toilets - Quotes for improvements and repairs to the public toilets were considered. **It was RESOLVED that Robin Beagle be appointed to undertake the works. 077/26**

(c) To receive and consider an update on the proposed car park levy received from Cornwall Council - Receipt of the Council's request for a 20p per ticket levy was confirmed. A response is expected by the end of March. 078/26

(d) To receive an update on PROW 28 Combe Lane - Cllr. Tom O'Sullivan reported that Cornwall Council Officers confirmed that the gates may be authorised under Section 147 of the Highways Act 1980 for livestock control. As part of this arrangement, the gates must remain open when not in use. Cornwall Council is following up regarding the closed gate and is checking whether Section 147 has been submitted and processed. This matter remains under review. 079/26

(e) To consider making an application to the Community Chest Fund - It was noted that no funds remain available in the current year. It was therefore **RESOLVED to give the matter further consideration and to submit an application during the 2026-27 financial year.** 080/26

10. To receive reports and authorise any action: 081/26

Poundstock Ward Member's Report: Cllr. Nicky Chopak reported that Cornwall Council's budget will be presented at the next meeting of Cornwall Council for approval. She also advised that the Park and Ride trial for Bude in 2025 may be extended to include Widemouth Bay. Members were informed that the next CAP meeting will be held at the Parkhouse Centre on 09-March at 6:30 pm, with the main focus being youth orientated matters.

(b) Chair's Report: The Chair reported that the granite boulders in Widemouth Bay are positioned incorrectly; this has been reported and arrangements are in place for them to be moved. He also noted that the car park changes have now been published on the Parish Council website. In addition, Ben Maguire MP has been advised of the sewage and planning-related issues at Widemouth Bay.

(c) Clerk's Report: The Clerk reported that, due to the limited timescale for response, the Council's interest in continuing with the Local Maintenance Partnership Scheme 2026 has been confirmed. Members noted this action.

(d) Assistant Clerk's Report: The Assistant Clerk reported that he has responded to requests for information.

11. NDP Steering Group to receive reports and authorise any action and expenditure:
The Chair reported that correspondence from Cornwall Council confirmed two of the statutory consultees had advised that a Strategic Environmental Assessment was not required, with one response still pending. 082/26

12. Council Representatives to receive reports from Outside Bodies: No reports were presented. 083/26

13. Portfolio Reports to receive written reports and authorise any action and expenditure: 084/26
Highways Portfolio: Cllr. Pamela Ideslon reported flooding on the No Through Road to her premises, which has impeded access to several properties and caused potholes. Cornwall Council Highways, previously attended the issue and have advised that no further action is proposed. It was noted that local measures have been taken to improve drainage from the highway into adjacent land, which has alleviated the immediate problem. Potholes at Treskinnick Cross were also reported and will be notified to Cornwall Council Highways.

14. Co-option of Parish Councillors: It was **NOTED** that there are currently two casual vacancies, and no further applications have been received to date. 085/26

15. Items for Information: None. 086/26

16. Notification of meeting and suggested items for the agenda: 087/26
The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18-March 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Sunday School Rooms, Marhamchurch. North Viewpoint Car Park to consider matters relating to the car park (Cllr. Tom O'Sullivan).

17. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) Act 1960

During the meeting it may arise that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential or special nature of the business to be transacted and the press and public will be instructed to withdraw. When this arises, the Chair will recommend to consider passing the following resolution; “to resolve that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business to be discussed, the public are excluded and instructed to withdraw’ - None.

088/26

18. Close the Meeting - Meeting Closed at 21:08.

089/26

FINANCE SCHEDULE 18-FEBRUARY 2026

BANKING AND INVESTMENT STATEMENTS

Current Account	Statement 30/01/2026	£14,054.96
Reserve Account	Statement 30/01/2026	£82,659.74
CCLA	Statement 31/01/2026	£93,507.46
Call Account	Statement 31/01/2026	£322,772.31

INCOME

TOTAL INCOME 18/02/2026 **£0.00**

EXPENDITURE

Marhamchurch MCC	Invoice for Room Hire 29-Jan 26 BACS	£30.00
Laurence Associates	Invoice 40761 Architectural Services (31/01/2026) BACS	£389.40
Starboard Services Ltd	Invoice 15766 01-to 28 Feb (01/02/26) DD	£50.40
Paul Libretto	Invoice 06/02/26 Emergency Roof Repair Public Toilet BACS	£110.00
BDO LLP	Inv. 00791524 Review YE2024 & Elector's Objections (10/02/26) BACS	£4,008.00
Crystal Clear	Invoice Window Cleaning Public Toilets (12/01/26) BACS	£59.00
Crystal Clear	Invoice 26 Window Cleaning Public Toilets (16/02/2026)	£59.00
T.J. Davies Cleaning	Invoice Cleaning Public Toilets February 2026 BACS	£1,320.00
British Gas Business	Invoice 848084744 02-Jan to 01-Feb Pubic Toilets £145.08	
	Less £124.89 credit - balance due BACS	£20.19
Clerk Expenses	Reimburse Recorded Delivery to COODES	£5.50
Staff Costs	Mth 11 BACS	£875.72
HMRC	PAYE/NIC Mth 11 BACS	£305.94

TOTAL EXPENDITURE 18/02/2026 **£7,233.15**