

STOKE CANON PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Stoke Canon Parish Council was held in The Bridge on Thursday 8th January 2026 at 7.30 pm.

Those present were Cllr Kate Scott-Clarke (Chair) Cllr Derek Bousted, Cllr Mike Kemp, Cllr Fabian King (EDDC) and the Clerk. No members of the public were present.

MINUTES

Meeting commenced at 19:30pm

1/26 Apologies - To receive any apologies for absence Cllr James Maunder (Vice Chair), gave apologies these were accepted. Councillor Nat Vanstone (DCC) also sent his apologies.

2/26 Declarations of Interest Under the Code of Conduct

Councillors are reminded of the requirement to declare any interest, including the type of interest, and reason for that interest, either at this stage of the meeting or as soon as they become aware of that interest.

None were declared

3/26 Minutes

To adopt the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th November 2025. These were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

PROPOSED: Cllr Kemp **SECONDED:** Cllr Bousted **RESOLVED.**

4/26 Public Question Time

Up to 5 minutes **Public Question Time** for members of the public to bring forward any issues not on the agenda (where a matter is already on the agenda members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak when that item is considered, within the framework of the Council's standing orders). Where a decision is required, the issue will be placed on the following agenda.

No questions were raised.

5/26 Lead Councillor Updates

To receive an update from the Lead Councillors on the following:

- Highways- Cllr Derek Bousted – Despite the wet Autumn and several flood warnings we have had only minor flooding. This occurred on the bridge (blocked drain) and at the lower section of Chestnut Crescent after prolonged rain.

Telecom work resulted in traffic lights on the High Street on several occasions for short periods. A new Highways Officer, Ricky Cowtan, was appointed in November. Clerk to send an email address for new Highways Officer. Bridge very overgrown with plants and drains are blocked. It is a scheduled monument listed since 1951. Needs to be looked after. Several sets of traffic works will be coming to the village for telecoms works. Road closure in February for underground cabling. Need to look into this more thoroughly as will cause major problems.

- Play Park – Cllr Kate Scott-Clarke – nothing to report. Clerk to chase inspection date.
- Footpaths -Cllr Mike Kemp – getting a new signpost for the Brampford Speke walk.

6/26 Planning Matters.

To discuss any planning applications received since the last meeting.

25/2505/CPE - Steers Cottage Stoke Canon Exeter EX5 4ED - Certificate of existing lawfulness for the use of an outbuilding which is used as a study/garden room – No objections.

7/26 Financial Matters

To receive the accounts summary to 31st December 2025 (previously approved by Cllrs Maunder and Scott-Clarke).

Note: Payments approved by Councillors K Scott-Clarke and Cllr J Maunder in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

2 x Payments to North Devon payroll for wages (November and December salary)
1 x Payment to Cllr Boustred of £57.99 for maintenance supplies on 11.11.2025
1 x Payment to PCC for hall hire of £14.00 on 17.11.2025
1 x Payment to Life Education for donation toward SC School training of £155.00 on 19.11.2025
1 x Payment to B Hurkett for grass cutting of £150.00 on 12.12.2025
1 x Payment to Santander for bank charges of £9.98 on 20.12.2025
Clerk to send details of Unity Trust to the Councillors.

The following payments were received:
£956.40 from HMRC on 14.11.2025 for VAT refund

The bank balance as at 31st December was £13742.07

8/26 EDDC Update

Cllr Fabian King, East Devon District Council was present and gave an update. His latest report has been distributed to the Councillors.

9/26 DCC Update

To receive an update from Cllr Henry Gent and Cllr Nat Vanstone, Devon County Council. Cllr Gent sent his report and this was distributed to Councillors. Cllr Vanstone was unable to attend the meeting.

10/26 Other information/correspondence received for possible action/discussion

- Update on grass cutting contracts. Quote has been received from B Hurkett. Awaiting another quote.
- Grit bins – Clerk to contact DCC councillors about getting these filled.
- Siting of Network Rail temporary security fencing by Green Lane railway crossing. Has been left there and dumped and is unsafe. Cllr Kemp has contacted Network Rail the panels have been moved to the compound by the crossing.

11/26 Date of the next meeting

Next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 5th March 2026 at 19:30hrs– The Bridge.

Meeting closed at 20:15pm