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**Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting  
held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Risk assessment by Clerk** – the Clerk drew attention to the potential hazard of trailing cables in front of the stage.

The meeting started at 6.03pm.

**1. Public Session**

District Councillor Charlotte Fitzgerald made a representation in a personal capacity in relation to Devon County Council’s current consultation into the future of its libraries. The proposals are to have fewer paid staff, more volunteers, and to reduce the opening hours of smaller libraries. It is proposed that Budleigh Salterton library’s opening hours will be reduced from 27 to 15 hours per week. Cllr Fitzgerald asked people to respond to the [Shaping the future of Devon's library service](#) consultation, and to attend the library Conversation event she has organised on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 12.30pm to 1.15pm in Budleigh Salterton Town Hall.

**2. Roll Call and Apologies**

**Present:** Parish Councillors Louis Allan, Angie Canning, Jim Carter, Jim Ferrers, Kathy Moyle BEM, John Tresidder (Chair), and Derek Wensley, District Councillors Charlotte FitzGerald and Melanie Martin, Lucinda Francis (Clerk to the Council)

**Apologies:** County Councillor Nick Hookway

There were two members of the public in attendance.

**3. Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and the Planning Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025 were both approved, with no amendments.

**4. Declarations of interest**

None

**5. County Councillor's Report**

No report.

**6. District Councillors' Reports**

No reports.

**7. Matters for Discussion**

**7.1 2026/27 Precept**

Members discussed and unanimously approved a precept of £31,921 for the financial year 2026/27. The Clerk will submit a signed and scanned copy of the precept request to East Devon District Council by the deadline of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Councillors noted the introduction of a monthly account fee on the Santander current account. They asked the Clerk to research alternatives, and also to see if we could get a better rate of interest on the capital savings account.

**7.2 2nd stage of Regulation 19 consultation on the East Devon Local Plan**

The discussion focused on the reduction in the minimum new housing requirement in the parish, and in particular a reduction in the development allocation for the land off Frogmore Road site (EBud-01) from 22 to 15 homes. The reasons for the reduction are not clear. It was agreed that the Parish Council did not have any comments to input to the consultation on the final draft of the local development plan.

**7.3 EDDC Heritage Strategy 2024-2042 consultation**

It was noted that as part of the first strategy East Budleigh had been a pilot for the development of a process for communities to help deliver conservation area reviews. It was agreed that the Parish Council had no representations to make on the consultation on the second strategy, but would like to be involved in future pilots. The Clerk will indicate this on the Consultation Representation Form.

**7.4 New electricity contract for the toilets**

Councillors agreed the switch to the cheapest new tariff which is a three year fixed term contract with current supplier British Gas Lite, at an estimated annual cost of £567. It was pointed out that the Standing Orders allowed for the Chair and Clerk to approve urgent items to take account of any changes in quotes.

**7.5 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Parish Council, East Budleigh Football Club, Clinton Devon Estates and Devon Air Ambulance**

Councillors agreed to adopt the MOU, noting that it is statement of mutual understanding rather than a legally binding agreement. They agreed to support a joint press release with DAA and CDE.

**7.6 DALC Course ‘An Introduction to Neighbourhood Planning & Design Codes’**

The Clerk’s attendance on this course at a cost of £35 (excluding VAT). was approved.

This prompted a discussion about the timing, funding, and approach to a review of Neighbourhood Plan. This will be put on the agenda for the February meeting. Councillors noted the valuable input from consultant Sue Cooper into drawing up the current plan, and asked the Clerk to make an informal approach to see if Sue is happy to be involved in the review.

**8. Reports**

Councillors noted and discussed the reports as set out below. Written reports received are appended to these minutes.

**8.1 Chair - Resilience/Shop /Recreation Ground/Otter to Exe - Cllr John Tresidder**

Noted

**8.2 Clerk - Village Matters & Correspondence**

Noted. It was agreed to ask County Councillor Nick Hookway to escalate the reporting of the failure of the Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Oak Hill, given the absence of a response to this being raised through Devon County Council’s reporting system on numerous occasions. John Tresidder is pursuing the cutting back of the trees impacting on the solar charging of the SID on Budleigh Hill.

**8.3 Parish Paths Partnership - Jon Roseway.**

Noted

**8.4 Landscape Recovery/Heaths to Sea - Cllr Derek Wensley**

(verbal report) A meeting has been arranged for early February to finalise the report which will then be distributed and submitted to the Government. The project will not receive any more money unless the government approves. The report will be circulated once available, and will be an agenda item for the February Parish Council Meeting.

**8.5 Village Hall - Cllr Louis Allan**

Noted

**8.6 Community Pub - Cllr Angie Canning.**

Noted

**8.7 Local Liaison/Salem Chapel - Cllr Kathy Moyle BEM**

Cllr Moyle acknowledged that her views on the transfer of Salem Chapel

differed from those of the History Society. It was agreed that Salem Chapel is of particular historic significance to the parish, and that it is identified as an asset of value in the Neighbourhood Plan. Concerns about its future could be raised with East Devon District Council, but more clarity would be needed on what the issues are.

**8.8 Cricket Club & Kersbrook - Cllr Jim Carter**

(verbal report) The operation of Cricket Club facilities such as the café and function room is dependent upon the availability of volunteers.

**8.9 Yettington/ Traffic/Climate Change - Cllr Jim Ferrers**

Noted. As well as Yettington a number of potholes have appeared in other parts of the Parish. The Clerk will check the reporting and status of these on the Devon County Council website.

**9. Planning**

**9.1 Applications**

25/0086/MFUL Land to the West of Barn Lane, Budleigh Salterton

It was noted that this is a further set of amended plans for the previously discussed housing development to the East of Evans Field, Budleigh which lies outside but bordering on the parish boundary. Members agreed not to comment as it is mainly in the purview of Budleigh Town Council.

25/2624/FUL Inner Ting Tong House EX9 7AP was received too late for consideration at the meeting. A planning meeting will be scheduled to consider this, and any other applications received, within the 23 day consultation window. Councillors asked that this be held in the Village Hall, due accessibility issues with the Church Hall.

**9.2 Decisions**

Councillors noted the approval with conditions of the proposed single storey side and rear extensions at 3 Chichester Way, EX9 7ER (25/2418/FUL), and the Refusal (and enforcement action) of the retrospective application for 3 non-illuminated freestanding board signs at Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club (25/2027/ADV)

**10. Accounts and Finances**

**10.1** Council reviewed and approved the schedule of expenditure which forms part of the Agenda.

**10.2** Council reviewed and approved the January monthly financial records and reconciliation, including the budget against precept.

Councillors noted that we had not drawn down our Parish Paths Partnership (P3) annual maintenance grant (c£320pa) for the past two years. It was agreed that this should be claimed for 2026/27 to cover any expenditure resulting from us no longer having a P3 coordinator.

**11. Topics raised by Councillors and Members of the Public**

None

The meeting ended at 7.37pm

The next Meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall