

Ms Lucinda Francis
Clerk to the Council
07905 918050
clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk

12 Princes Street South
St Thomas, Exeter
EX2 9AW

**Minutes of the East Budleigh with Bicton Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 16th February 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

A member of the public made a representation about the risk of accidents at the junction of Vicarage Road and the B3178, due to the speed of traffic, visibility and parking. He suggested that a reduction in speed limit, and/or parking restrictions would mitigate the risk and asked that this be added to a future Parish Council meeting agenda. This was acknowledged by the Chair.

2. Roll Call and Apologies

Present: Parish Councillors Louis Allan, Angie Canning, Jim Carter, John Tresidder (Chair), and Derek Wensley, County Councillor Nick Hookway, Lucinda Francis (Clerk to the Council)

Apologies: Parish Councillor Jim Ferrers and Kathy Moyle BEM, District Councillors Charlotte FitzGerald and Melanie Martin

Also in attendance: Otterton Parish Councillors Ian Simpson and Richard Witherby (for item 7.1), and two members of the public.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th January 2026 and the Planning Meeting held on 2nd February 2026 were both unanimously approved, with no amendments.

4. Declarations of interest

Cllr Angie Canning declared an interest in item 7.6.

5. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Nick Hookway presented a verbal report:

- There has been a huge increase in road maintenance issues across the county, which will take a long time to resolve. Financial support is being sought.

- A reminder that the libraries consultation is open until the 22nd February 2026. He asked that residents are encouraged to respond.
- There is a lot of work underway on adult health and social care, and children's services particularly Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This ties in with the Mill Water School (Colaton Raleigh) consultation, and has raised discussions about the level of SEND provision. He invited ideas and thoughts.
- There is a meeting arranged with South West Water to discuss discharges into the River Otter.

6. District Councillors' Reports

District Councillor Charlotte Fitzgerald's February report was received after the meeting, and is included in the appended reports.

7. Matters for Discussion

7.1 Brick Cross junction of the B3178 and Sleaf Hill

Reducing the risk of road traffic accidents and near misses at this junction due to vehicles turning on the wrong side of the monument was discussed with Otterton Parish Councillors Ian Simpson and Richard Witherby. The junction is in East Budleigh with Bicton Parish, and is the main access road into Otterton. It was agreed that the risk would be reduced by the refreshment of the faded white lines, although some felt that the positioning of the arrows needed review. It was noted that Devon Highways have indicated that lining works will only be carried out through routine maintenance, which it hoped will be during the 2026/27 financial year. Otterton have raised this with the Otterton Parish Highways Officer. One reason for the lack of urgency is that Devon Highways do not have any recorded collisions caused by vehicles turning on the wrong side of the monument.

The following actions were agreed:

- 7.1.1 The Clerk to email the photographs viewed during the meeting to County Cllr Nick Hookway.
- 7.1.2 The Clerk to raise the issue with the East Budleigh with Bicton parish Highways Officer.
- 7.1.3 Cllr John Tresidder to meet with Otterton Cllrs Ian Simpson and Richard Witherby to consider possible interim measures (eg a keep left sign) to mitigate the risk.
- 7.1.4 Both Parish Councils to encourage residents to let them know of any accidents, near misses or instances of vehicles turning the wrong side of the monument.

7.2 Traffic Regulation Order amendment for 'No Waiting' on South Farm Road and Granary Road

County Cllr Nick Hookway recommended that concerns be input to the consultation, as they would be taken seriously by the East Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC). It was agreed that this proposed amendment is not required for the reasons set out below, and that Cllr Derek Wensley will prepare and circulate

a response based on these, which will be submitted via the TRO online comments form by the Clerk.

- There is little evidence of any serious obstruction issues along South Farm Road. Traffic obstruction from parked vehicles is more of an issue along the adjacent and much busier B3178
- Pedestrians access is provided by the new footpath established along South Farm Road as part of the LORP project.
- Agricultural vehicle obstruction in South Farm Road is less of a problem than along most other minor roads in the area.
- It is hard to see how this proposal is a priority given the current County Highways position regarding resources for required repairs.
- An unintended consequence is that to avoid car parking charges vehicles will instead park on the main B3178 and in/around the Cricket Club.
- Parking in the paying car park could be encouraged by including it in the EDDC parking season ticket scheme, and by improving disabled car parking provision (exempt from the proposed 'no waiting' restrictions)

7.3 Clinton Devon Estates Heaths to Sea Landscape Recovery Project

As it is not clear whether this document is in the public domain it was agreed to defer this to a future meeting, possibly as a 'part 2' (confidential business) item on the agenda of the March meeting.

7.4 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) statutory consultation on the Local Government Review proposals for Devon.

It was agreed that the proposals be considered by a sub-group of Councillors who will bring proposals for responding to the consultation to the next meeting.

7.5 East Devon District Council (EDDC) draft Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Strategy (PPOSS)

It was noted that the draft strategy will have little impact on the Parish. The Clerk will check with the Football and Tennis Clubs for their views.

7.6 Request from the Friends of All Saints for permission for the Football Club to use the recreation field as a car park for the Scarecrow Festival on 13-14th June 2026

This was agreed unanimously. The Clerk will inform the Friends of All Saints.

7.7 Grant to Exmouth & District Community Transport Group for the 2026/27 financial year

The requested grant of £180.51 for the 2026/27 financial year was agreed unanimously. The Clerk will inform Exmouth & District Community Transport Group.

8. Reports

Councillors noted and discussed the reports as set out overleaf. 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. Councillors requested that the Clerk check with the Clerks of neighbouring parishes to establish which bank accounts facilitate online dual signatories.

8.3 Parish Paths Partnership (included in Clerk's report).
Noted. It was agreed that the Clerk will request a minor maintenance grant for the 2026/27 financial year through completion and submission of the P3 scheme mandatory forms.

8.4 Landscape Recovery/Heaths to Sea - Cllr Derek Wensley
See item 7.3

8.5 Village Hall - Cllr Louis Allan
Noted

8.6 Community Pub - Cllr Angie Canning.
Nothing to report

8.7 Local Liaison/Salem Chapel - Cllr Kathy Moyle BEM
A written report was available at the meeting, which has been incorporated into the appended reports.

8.8 Cricket Club & Kersbrook - Cllr Jim Carter
Nothing to report.

8.9 Yettington/ Traffic/Climate Change - Cllr Jim Ferrers
Noted.

9. Planning

9.1 Applications
Councillors considered current planning applications, and unanimously agreed the following responses/comments. The Clerk will submit these to the East Devon District Council (EDDC) Planning Portal.

25/2500/FUL Land East Side of Oak Hill - The application for conversion of the brick forestry building is similar to that particular aspect set out in planning application 24/2091/FUL using similar design and materials. The difference now is that a residential building is being proposed rather than a holiday let. The Parish Council supported the previous application, and the Planning Officer offered broad planning policy support for the sympathetic repair of the locally distinctive historic forestry building. In considering Local Plan Policy D8, it does appear that this proposal conforms to the criteria set down. Furthermore, the converted residential building's

location, setting, design, materials and logistics are unlikely to impact the environment any more than would have been the case for holiday letting. The Parish Council supports the application.

26/0207/FUL 5 Trefusis Way EX9 7EP - No objection.

9.2 Decisions

Councillors noted:

The refusal of the application to demolish existing dwelling and construct a new dwelling with detached garage at Meadow Cottage Frogmore Road EX9 7BB (25/2309/FUL).

The dismissal of the appeal against the refusal of the change of use of land for the siting of three holiday cabins and conversion of existing forestry building to provide for holiday use, creation of parking area, bat building, bin storage and landscaping on land east side of Oak Hill, East Budleigh (24/2091/FUL, appeal ref APP/U1105/W/25/3369195)

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 February monthly financial records and reconciliation, including the budget against precept.

11. Topics raised by Councillors and Members of the Public

None

The meeting ended at 7.50pm

The next Meeting of the Parish Council is scheduled for
Monday 16th March 2026 at 6.00 pm in the Village Hall