

**Minutes of the meeting of East Worlinton Parish Council held on Thursday 25th September 2025,
7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

Present – Cllr. Hurst-Bannister (Chairman); Cllr. Brown; Cllr. Sturla; Cllr. Bell; County Cllr. Hopley; District Cllr. Jones; 5 members of the public; Penny Clapham (Locum Clerk).

1A) Co-option to Council – moved down between agenda item 9 & 10.

1) PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Parishioner raised the question of the ownership of the village hall.

Parishioner briefed the meeting on the creation of an emergency whatsapp group.

Parishioner regarding an event in October.

Parishioner briefed the meeting on the availability of CPR training in October, which will go out on the Worly Wide Web.

Parishioner commented on the state of the drains and the dangers that could be caused by frosts. These have to keep being logged by Parishioners on the Highways website.

2) Apologies For Absence: None.

3) Declarations Of Interest: Cllr. Sturla, agenda item 12

4) District and County Councillor Reports – District Cllr. Jones reported that the new housing at Witheridge is taking up a lot of time. A leaflet will be sent out for those who wish to apply, who live locally.

Another £16,000 has been received (£106) to be allocated to local community needs.

Local Government review was mentioned. Should there perhaps be a northern option potentially without Exeter? Now vice-chair of policy and scrutiny committee.

5) Minutes – Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th July 2025 were approved.

6) Parish Hall Lease/Ownership – Cllr. Hurst-Bannister – the current lease does not cover the land outside/expires in 9 years time. Cllr. Brown has been in touch with the charity commission who say that it is not unknown for a lease to include the committee's own constitution.

The church gave the hall to the community for community use. Council feel that there is an obligation to secure the hall's future.

Cllr. Hurst-Bannister proposed exploring a trust. Devon Communities Together can give advice on the subject.

Cllr. Bell suggested a working group to start with comprising both councillors and village hall trustees. The group should also talk to the school and church to see if they would like to be represented. Cllr. Hurst-Bannister to take this forward.

7) Roads report – Cllr. Sturla. All the areas logged have been done other than two areas – there are no more funds to do these areas. Parishioners who use this road need to voice their concerns on the Devon Council website. Signage has also been logged.

8) Insurance Renewal – Premium quoted as £696.27 an increase of £150.97 on the previous year. Three year contract the price would be fixed at £681.65. Cllr. Sturla proposed 1 year and to look for alternatives earlier in 2026. All in favour by show of hands.

9) CCTV – discussion on a grant available from the OPCC via Devon Communities Foundation. This has been discussed in the past. Cllr. Brown proposed that Council are not in favour at present to pursue CCTV. 3 in favour 1 abstention.

1a) Co-option to council. Proposed Alan Webber, all in favour.

10) Worlington Emergency Whatsapp Group – Note that there is a group in the village working on this.

11) Annual Parish Magazine – Cllr. Sturla mentioned that detail for the magazine is rarely forthcoming. Cllr. Hurst-Bannister will take this on.

12) PLANNING

Planning Applications – North Devon District Council has asked for comments from the Parish Council on the following planning applications:

- i. 80719 Erection of a steel framed roof to cover an existing slurry store at Stone farm, East Worlington - Supported.
- ii. 80749 Erection of a steel framed roof over existing cattle collecting yard at Stone Farm, East Worlington – Supported.

13) Rusdon Orchard – District Cllr. Jones said that these people have possibly lived there long enough to have residency. Evidence of use has been provided to district council. If there is alternative evidence available this should be provided to the district council. Cllr. Bell suggested Council write to the enforcement officer cc Cllr. Jones, and the Clerk. Cllr. Brown agreed to follow this up.

14) Committee Membership – HR Committee – Council agreed there was no current need for such a committee.

15) FINANCE

Expenditure	Locum clerk expenses August/September	tba
	Clear councils Insurance	£696.27

Income

Bank Reconciliation and Statement, for information Council to resolve to accept the accounts.

16) Policies – It was resolved to agree the following policies, proposed by Cllr. Brown. i. IT Policy
ii. Internal Control Policy iii. Financial Regulations iv. Standing Orders
v. Risk Assessment

17) Appointment of new Clerk/RFO – Cllr. Brown considers Faye Davies should be appointed as from the 1st of October 2025. The proposal was accepted. Cllr. Brown will send the contract to Faye and the handover will take place this evening.

18) Meeting Dates to 2026 – to consider dates to May 2026. November 27th, January 29th, March 26th, May 28th.

Councillor's reports and External Meetings attended (for information only)

Next agenda – war memorial/neighbourhood watch (attach Steve's Baber's email to next agenda)/footpaths.

Items for Information - The next council meeting Thursday 27th November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Email Circulation

DALC Bulletin 31 (sent 24/07)

Minutes signed at the 27/11/2025 meeting by the chair