

East Boldre Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held at the School Fields Trust Hall
on Tuesday 14th April 2026

Councillors present:

Beverley Hawker (Chair), Mike Husband, Ian Moyse.

In attendance:

County Cllr Keith Mans, District Cllr Dan Poole, Sue James (Parish Clerk).

Presentation by the Waterside Health and Wellbeing Team Bus.

This is a new service which will bring NHS health and wellbeing support directly to local communities, making it easier for people to access care and advice.

The Team will offer NHS Health Checks to help people understand their health risks:

- blood pressure checks, raising awareness of hypertension and cardiovascular disease
- Practical lifestyle advice, including support with physical activity, healthy eating and smoking
- Personalised health and wellbeing support.
- Advice and signposting to further NHS and community services.

The bus makes fortnightly visits to sites across the area and is a drop-in service only available to patients registered with a Waterside GP surgery. There are no GPs on the bus and GP appointments can't be booked. The Team are hoping to include East Boldre, using the Village Hall carpark when the renovations are complete.

BH welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.0 To accept apologies for absence

Cllr Rostand and Cllr Urwin.

2.0 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda

MH declared an interest in item 11.2 Village Hall.

3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2026.

- 3.1** BH reported that item 10.4 The School Fields Trust Scarecrow Competition will be postponed until next year and the Commoners weekend will take place on the 8th and 9th August.
- 3.2** The Councillors were happy with the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting to be confirmed at the next APM.
- 3.3** Item 5. BH wished to thank KM and wish him all the best for his well-deserved retirement from all the parishioners of East Boldre. In particular a very special thank you from the Parish Councillors for regularly attending meetings, sharing information from HCC and always providing wise counsel. Also, for all his support and contributions to many projects over the years, without which, they would not have been successful, including the oral history project, the provision of defibrillators, the community shop and the refurbishment of the village hall. BH hoped KM would visit in the future and presented KM with a small gift as a token of the PC's appreciation.

Chairman's signature:

Date:

4.0 To receive Clerk's report

4.1 Allotments

4.2 Advertisements for vacant plots were posted on website and details sent to Lymington Town Council to be sent on to those on the Lymington allotments waiting list. We now have 3 new allotmenters with two additional plots requested by existing plot holders. Unfortunately, 3 allotmenters are not renewing, and one is reducing the size of their plot. *SJ to write to Lymington Town Council for progress and post advert on East Boldre and Beyond.*

4.3 New tenancy agreements and invoices will be sent out to existing plot holders. 27 plot holders have renewed, and another new allotmenter has been sent a contract. (Plot holders have yet to respond to the renewal notice and invoice.

4.4 BH and SJ attended a productive meeting with the Allotment Committee (AC) on 24th March, where they were updated with the extension to the Lease. The implications of the increase to the water charge was discussed, which the AC agreed was necessary. The AC proposes to run a 'water butt' campaign this year to encourage allotmenters to capture and store rainwater. The division of large vacant plots was discussed and agreed, as some prospective allotmenters had been put off by the size of the plots. BH explained that due to rising costs, the funds available for maintenance would be small and that the committee should prioritise jobs. The AC intends to install a collapsible post at the gate, to prevent access to vehicles when the ground is too soft, as the 'no vehicle access' sign and email was ignored by some allotmenters through the winter.

4.5 The risk assessment and first inspection date has been set for 21st April. The second inspection date will be during July.

4.6 Planning Notices.

A meeting with NFNPA planning department and David Ilseley has been arranged for 28th April at Lymington Town Hall regarding the planning process and why PC are not always advised of certain types of application. BH, MU and MH will attend.

4.7 Audit.

Currently compiling all the data and documents required for the AGAR and internal Audit that is booked for 1st May.

5.0 To receive a report by the County Councillor for East Boldre

KM confirmed the decision regarding the LGR for a Mid-Hampshire Authority to include NFP Test Valley and Winchester. There is still to be a public consultation, but he felt that it was unlikely this would change. The waterside areas of the NF will be joining Southampton, which could see an increase in the council tax. KM wondered what was happening to the land and buildings owned by HCC. KM hoped that the planning authority would remain in the forest and that each planning authority will take over the district area. There will be an election next year for HCC, with the council standing until 2028, when there will be an election for the Unitary Authorities, followed by a general election in 2029.

With regards to car park charges, an order has been released stating that parking is prohibited on verges within the Forest from 20th April. Unfortunately, most people will be unaware of this until it happens. The Chair of Forestry England is coming to meet with the NFNPA.

KM will be attending his last meeting with the East Boldre Education Trust. He was unsure at this time who would represent the Council. The new Vicar for East Boldre is the Chair of the

Chairman's signature:

Date:

Trust. KM thinks someone should be nominated to the Trust from by the Parish. He will mention this at the Trust meeting. There are currently 4 members of the committee, shortly to be three. There is nearly £100k in the Trust fund.

5.1 To receive questions on the report by the County Councillor

There were no questions for the County Councillor.

6.0 To receive a report by the District Councillor for East Boldre

With regards to LGR, NFDC met with the focus on the petition to keep all of NFDC under rural leadership. There have been 14,000 signatures to the petition so far. NFDC is seeking legal advice but at the same time wary as the worst-case scenario could see the Forest pulled into Southampton. The District and County will have to decide how to divide the housing stock. Moral at NFDC is very low, as it is not known how assets and staff will be split. The decision went against Government instructions to use the existing Councils as the building blocks for the new unitary authorities. It is hard to see how there can possibly be any savings. The District and County will cease to exist in 2028. If DP is successful in the County election next month, He will be EB Parish's District and County Councillor until the Unitary Authority election in 2028. Town and Parish Council elections will take place as usual next May 2027, followed by the Unitary Authority elections in 2028 and the General election in 2029.

6.1 To receive questions on the report by the District Councillor

There were no questions for the District Councillor.

7.0 Public Session.

Two members of the Public attended the meeting to speak regarding the planning application for Chapel Lane Cottage in East Boldre. This is an amended application following refusal in 2025. Amendments recommended by the planning officer were in progress when the original application was refused. They stated that the new application had implemented all the recommendations made by the planning officer and as such, requested that the Parish Council supported the application. The PC said that some of their concerns appeared to have been addressed, however they felt that the size and structure of the proposed outbuilding lent it to be separate accommodation and that should the application be granted, there should be a condition that the building was not used as accommodation.

8.0 Planning Applications

Application Ref	Type	Address	Description	EBPC comments	
26/00169FULL	FULL	Chapel Lane Cottage, LYMINGTON ROAD, EAST END, LYMINGTON, SO41 5SS	Replacement dwelling; replacement outbuilding; roof-mounted solar panels on existing stables and replacement outbuilding	The Council can see no reason to refuse but accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under delegation 5. However, the Council raised the following concern: The outbuilding could be easily converted into accommodation for business/tourist use and therefore a planning condition should be applied to prevent the outbuilding from being used as alternative accommodation.	
26/00396CONS	Tree cons	1 Forest View,	Prune 2 x Beech trees Prune 1 x Magnolia tree	No Objection	

Chairman's signature:

Date:

		Main Road, East Boldre, Brockenhurst, SO42 7WL	Fell 1 x Acacia tree		
26/00180FULL	FULL	17 Sweyns Lease, East Boldre, Brockenhurst, SO42 7WQ	Two storey side extension	The Council can see no reason to refuse but accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under delegation 5.	

9.0 Finance

9.1 Members reviewed monthly accounts for March and noted bank reconciliations. BH explained that there were no concerns regarding expenditure to date and our predicted carry forward into general reserves for 26/27.

BH stated that the closing balance general reserves is £22,256.82. From this £1,400 is committed to Youth provision delayed until end of July, £250 payment for the rent of the football pitch in 25/26 not yet charged by FE, plus £2,500 for a replacement defibrillator. This leaves £18,106 in General reserves. We are therefore meeting our reserve policy with some headroom. **Resolved**

9.2 AGAR

Section 1 Annual Governance approved and signed.

10.0 Governance

10.1 Review Councillor Code of Conduct

Adopted with no changes.

10.2 Review grant awarding policy

Adopted with no changes.

The school Fields Trust has applied for a grant of £500 to contribute to the cost of safety bark for the playground. **Approved**

10.3 Civility and Respect Pledge

The Council agreed to renew their commitment to the Civility and Respect Pledge.

10.4 Councillor Vacancy

As there has been no response to the advertisement on the website, an advertisement will be placed with East Boldre and Beyond and a poster will be created for the local notice boards.

11.0 To Receive reports from external meetings

11.1 The Handy Trust Youth Hub

BH said there has been a delay in implementing the Youth Drop In centre due to staff shortages and family illness at the Handy Trust. It has now been agreed to run a 4-week trial starting the 16th June in the Community shop Vestry. If the trial is successful, the Drop In Centre will move to the refurbished Village Hall in the school Autumn term.

11.2 Village hall refurbishment project

MH reported that due to the break in and an increase in builder's costs, the Village Hall was now £30-£35k short of the funds required for completion. The plan is to run crowd funding between now and the next Parish meeting. The Village Hall committee may ask the Parish Council for a grant. The work however is progressing well.

11.3 Speed Watch

Both planned sessions of speed watch were rained off.

Chairman's signature:

Date:

11.4 Minutes of NFALC meeting

These were discussed.

11.5 Nick Hubbard's Email (Car Park Charges)

NH has asked for support fighting the FE carpark charges on anti-disability and anti-aging fronts. BH commented that we still haven't seen the business case supporting the charges. *MH to compose and distribute a letter to the councillors regarding the issue.*

11.6 Richard Paul's Email re Hatchett Pond

Following an email regarding the closing of the car park and footpath at Hatchett Pond to FE, RP received a reply stating the work would be carried out in the next 2 weeks. However, there were concerns over the strength of the wall on the road. Ensuring the road is safe is a matter for Highways England. RP suggested FE contact them with their concerns. MH stated that if FE did not deal with the matter, the Parish should contact Highways England to raise their concerns.

11.7 Wessex Internet

MH reported that Wessex Internet is experiencing challenges with the planning authorities which will result in a delay of any work commencing in the Parish of approximately 8 weeks.

12 Agenda items for next meeting

12.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

12.2 MH – Village Hall Progress

12.3 Meeting to commence with a presentation by 'My Home made Better'

12.4 Audit results

12.5 AGAR approval and signing

12.6 Review Parish Council Insurance

12.7 Review Financial risk management

12.8 Review Asset register

13 Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7pm on Tuesday 12th May 2026, at the School Fields Trust Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Chairman's signature:

Date: