

EAST COKER PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
10th June 2026 7pm held at East Coker Pavilion

Attending Councillors: Cllr Hodge (Chair), Cllr Sugg, Cllr Haigh, Cllr Chauveau, Cllr Hall, Cllr Walker, Cllr Wintersgill, Cllr Mead.

26/79 Apologies for none attendance were received from Cllr Cowen and Cllr Costello.

26/80 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting which was held on the May 13th 2026 **Proposed:** Cllr Hall **Seconded:** Cllr Chauveau **Vote:** 6 in favour 2 abstentions **Action:** Clerk to publish

26/81 There were declarations of interest from Cllr Mead and Sugg on item 26.85.b

26/82 Public Question Time

a Member of the public Rev Phil Macauley introduced himself as the new village vicar and spoke about Project Beacon.

b No Unitary Cllrs where present

26/83 Chair's Report No Report was given

26/84 100 Club numbers were drawn 1st 4 2nd 11 3rd 12 **Action:** Clerk to update winners and pay.

26/85 To discuss and make observations on SC Planning Applications

a 15/01000/OUT Location: Keyford

b 26/01205/REM Location: Former land at The Mushroom Farm, Burton Lane **Application:** Reserved Matters for the Appearance, Landscaping, Layout & Scale pursuant to approval 21/03650/OUT; Outline application for the erection of two dwellings with all matters reserved except access

This item was discussed **Proposal:** ECPC did not support the original outline application. However, outline planning permission has since been granted by Somerset Council and so the principle of the development is therefore established. The Parish Council has considered the current reserved matters application on its own merits and supports/has no objection to the submitted details.

Proposed: Cllr Hodge **Seconded:** Cllr Wintersgill **Vote:** All Agreed **Action:** Clerk to update planning

26/86 To consider any recent planning applications from Somerset Council (South), received in the days after the agenda has been circulated and prior to this meeting. **Interested public and parish councillors; please refer to (South) Somerset Council planning portal for details of planning items that might be discussed under this item:** <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/planning-buildings-and-land/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application/>. **Application for Tellis Farm, 26/01294/LBC** Rebuilding of existing reconstituted blockwork chimney in reclaimed brick to match adjacent. This application had come in since the published agenda, but it was discussed and the parish council are happy to support it. **Proposed:** Cllr Hodge **Seconded:** Cllr Mead **Vote:** All agreed. **Action:** Clerk to update Somerset Planning.

26/87 Planning decisions for May: Maple House, Burton Lane - Approved

26/88 There were no memorial requests received this month.

26/89 Matters for discussion and resolution:

1. Cemetery Pricing and Policy were discussed. It was agreed that all Cemetery costs would be raised by the current RPI of 3%.

Clerk also requested that the qualifying time for long term residence who wished to be interred at the cemetery, but have had to move into residential care, is upped from 2 years to 5 years. Both items **Proposed:** Cllr Hall **Seconded:** Cllr Walker **Action:** Clerk to update Cemetery Pricing List/Ts & Cs and send to Cllr Chauveau for website.

2. Pavilion Hire/T&C's were discussed. It was decided that a deposit of 50% of hire amount would be needed prior to any event. No disposal BBQ would be allowed, and any portable BBQ would not be allowed any closer the 5mtrs from building. There is also to be no smoking or vaping in or around the building. A new Pavilion Management group was formed consisting of Cllr Walker, Cllr Wintersgill, Cllr Mead, Cllr Chauveau and Cllr Carter-Uren.

Action: Cllr Chauveau to update T's & C's

3. Dunnocks Lane footpaths. Cllr Mead reported that further works were needed to elevate the boggy area on the path. The contractor has quoted for putting a terram sheet along the side of the path with scalping, to help get rid of the water which collects in that area. **Proposed:** Cllr Mead **Seconded:** Cllr Sugg **Vote:** All agreed **Action:** Cllr Mead to instruct contractor.
4. Create a new working group for play area improvements. Cllr Carter-Uren was not present to discuss grants and plans, but a working group was created, consisting of Cllr Carter Uren, Cllr Walker, Cllr Hall, Cllr Sugg, Cllr Hodge and Cllr Chauveau

26/90 Correspondence received from Somerset Council. Unitary Cllrs report had been shared.

26/91 Discuss Parishioner Correspondence. None received.

26/92 Clerk Report: Clerk requested the 23rd and 24th June off **Vote:** All Agreed

26/93 Working group updates

A The Pavilion

1. Grand opening. Cllr Haigh said he had secured Alice Fox-Pitt to cut the ribbon and said he had found an Elton John Tribute. Clerk will speak to the football club and find out if a couple of members would like to help with the ribbon cutting

Cllr Cowen has amended the Grant Funding application which Cllr Haigh completed. In Cllr Cowen's absence Cllr Haigh will email this to Clerk so she can submit it. Cllr Haigh also said Nick's Fruit and Veg would be happy to attend with their stall. Cllr Carter Uren had sent info about having a dog show but wasn't present so this was not discussed. Cllr Hodge advised that she has spoken to Funtasia and they are happy to provide a bouncy castle, but this will come without an operator so the Clerk will double check that our current insurance policy will cover its use. Cllr Hodge will speak to Gooselade Farm about a food truck, although Cllr Chauveau has spoken to Sonnies and they are available if need be. Cllr Wintersgill will speak to Yeovil Stompers about doing a line dancing display, she also said a TE license would need to be applied for. Cllr Chauveau to work on banners and flyers and electronic tickets, to try and gauge how many people would attend, Sandi will send out a save the date communication email. Cllr's will meet to discuss further plans in early July.

2. Outstanding works. Cllr Mead reported that the hand driers had been fitted. He reported that the electrician was working on a dimmer switch solution for the brightness of the lights in the main meeting room. Cllr Costello had informed Cllr Mead that he had found a portable wheelchair access ramp. Cllr Mead also said there were still pictures to get up, the loft needed cleaning and there were still soap dishes, and soap dispensers, baby changing table and loo roll holders to be fitted. Cllr Mead will speak to Cllr Costello about these jobs. Clerk was asked to order 6 x foldable meeting tables.

B Parish Communications. None.

c LCN Cllr Haigh will attend meeting on the 18th June and report at the July meeting

26/94 Finance

To approve the monthly items of expenditure and those paid under delegated powers. **Proposed:**

Cllr Hall **Seconded:** Cllr Walker **Action:** Clerk to publish

1. Review and approve the Year End accounts 2025/2026 **Proposed:** Cllr Mead **Seconded:** Cllr Sugg **Vote:** All Agreed

2. Review Internal audit report 2025/2026 **Proposed:** Cllr Hall **Seconded:** Cllr Wintersgill **Vote:** All agreed

3. Review Annual Governance Statement 2025/2026 **Proposed:** Cllr Hall **Seconded:** Cllr Chauveau **Vote:** All Agreed

4. Review and approve the Accounting Statements 2025/2026 **Proposed:** Cllr Chauveau **Seconded:** Cllr Hall **Vote:** All Agreed

Action: Cllr Hodge sign and Clerk to publish on boards and website and submit completed audit to External Auditor.

26/95 To discuss and identify Highways Issues Clerk to contact Somerset Council and chase painted 'SLOW' warnings on the road by the Cemetery and the centre line. Also see when the fence by the saw mill bridge will be completed. Not Highways Department but Cllr Walker said that there is a

tree in the paddock that he thought could be being damaged by mistletoe and asked Clerk to speak to the Somerset Council Arborist.

26/96 To discuss and identify items for the Village Ranger. Cllr Sugg advised she had asked the Ranger to tidy the road by cemetery and the approach to the village hall.

26/97 Agenda items for the 8th July 2026 meeting, Flooding, Play Ground, Nativity

Meeting ended 9.35.