

Ringmore Parish Council (RPC) Meeting

Tuesday, 20th January, 2026 at 7.00 pm in the WI Hall

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. M. Campbell, Chairman (MC), Cllr. C. Eddy (CE), Cllr. M. Hyde (MH), Cllr. A. King (AK), Cllr. H. Kent Woolsey (HK), Cllr. M. Findlay (MF), Cllr. M. Wood (MW), DCC. L. Wainwright (LW), SHDC. Cllr. B. Taylor, Ian Bramble (IB) (Clerk) and 2 other members of the public (MsP) attended.

Members of the public were welcomed and invited to speak in 'Open Session'

To accept apologies for absence:

None necessary

County Councillors Update

LW presented her December report and advised that in the light of the recent gas outage in Kingsbridge, Malborough and Salcombe, DCC's Emergency Plan will be updated and a meeting in Modbury Village Hall at 10:00pm on March 6th has been arranged to discuss and that templates for PC Emergency Plans are available from the Devon Communities Together website.

LW reminded Cllrs. of her visit with DCC Highways officer Adam Keay on Feb. 5th and meeting with Cllrs to establish a priority list of DCC Parish road repairs and explained there is a backlog of £180m of road repairs in Devon but with a budget of only £100m allocated and that the lack of Highways funding from central government this meant;

- that this backlog was unlikely to be cleared
- that this work is contracted out until 2028
- it is known that the repair procedures adopted by the contractor are not fit for purpose but apparently cannot be changed within the contract term
- that this situation and more expensive damage to motor vehicles will have to be accepted

Cllrs. reacted to this with well-informed anger and argued that much fault lay with DCC's own inefficiencies and poor oversight, absence of quality control with no accountability for the work done by its contractor, along with criticism of its poor overall selection of spending priorities, while so much work is needed to maintain necessary, vital environmental infrastructure.

A member of the public voiced heavy criticism, with examples given, of the absence of quality control of work done and poor management and, e.g. the inefficiency of filling one pothole but ignoring all others in its immediate vicinity, because the crew were 'only allowed to repair that one reported hole'. DCC was also criticised for being the only authority in the country to precisely define the dimensions of a pothole for which it will authorise repair.

LW was also asked where the extra government funding for pothole repairs was spent and if had been added in its entirety to its pre-existing highways budget and

why money and resources had been allocated to less urgent priorities, e.g. removing flags from street lamps.

That almost an hour was spent on this single issue indicates the strength of feeling expressed to LW by Cllrs and MsP.

District Councillor Update:

BT confirmed that both DCC and SHDC will be raising Council Tax for 2026/27 by the maximum amounts permitted without calling for a referendum and that SHDC off street parking charges will be raised by 4%. BT also updated Cllrs on progress on pressing Planning Enforcement cases.

Declarations of interest from Councillors

There were no Declarations of Interest

To receive and approve minutes of the RPC meeting held on Tuesday, November 18th, 2025

AK proposed approval, MC seconded and Cllrs supported unanimously.

To receive and approve minutes of the Extraordinary RPC meeting held on Tuesday, December 16th, 2025

As Councillors had not had the minutes sent to them this was item deferred until the February RPC meeting.

2025.111 Sale of Church land

Legal matters are ongoing.

2025.112 Planning Matters.

SHDC Response Date

1 Planning Applications

None to consider

2 To note planning decisions:

2567/25/TCA :- Maple Bank, Ringmore, TQ7 4HL

T1&T2: Cherry – fell, too large for location. T3: Maple – fell, dominating corner of garden, showing signs of bacterial infection.

No Objection Raised

3540/25/TCA:- Wyncroft, Ringmore, TQ7 4HL

Works to a Tree in a Conservation Area T2: Leylandii - Remove due to most of the rest of the hedge has been replaced with Laurel and T2 has been left to get bigger

No Objection Raised

3277/25/TCA:- : Orchard House, Ringmore, TQ7 4HJ

Works to a Tree in a Conservation Area; T1: Alder – fell. T2: Alder – fell

No Objection Raised

3 To note withdrawn applications:

None to note

4. Enforcement cases

All enforcement cases are sent to Parish Councillors directly, due to

confidentiality and are not for public discussion

2025.113 Highways Visit by DCC Cllr Wainwright and DCC Highways Officer

This is to meet with Cllrs to see and establish a DCC priority list of road repairs for the Parish.

2025.114 Finance

To receive Bank reconciliation to December 31st, 2025 at £21,571.34 and approve January payments due

n.b. £10,246.19 on deposit in a 95 Day Acct. as at October 31st cannot be considered to be immediately available cash.

Interim Immediate cash Position as at 15/01/26			Curr. Acct £ 9,692.27
			Dep. Acct. £ 1,421.80
			Total £ 11,114.07
2025	Current AC	as at 31/12/25	£ 9,904.16
	Deposit AC		£ 1,421.08
	95 Day Account		£ 10,246.10
		Total	£ 21,571.34
Reserves	Contingency Rewilding Fair 2026		£ 2,796.00
			£ 725.00
			£ 1,000.00
	95 Day Account		£ 10,246.10
	Net Funds available		£ 6, 807.24

To note December 1st to December 31st 2025; payments made;

EDF Energy, Night landing site	8.00
I Bramble:- Clerk's Salary; November 1st –November 30th, 2025	159.14
I Bramble:- Clerk's PAYE; November 1st –November 30th, 2025	39.80
Lloyds Bank:- Acct. Service Charge	4.25
Bigbury & Ringmore News 2025-26 annual cost share	125.00

Receipts:- December 1st, 2025 – December 31st, 2025

Lloyds Bank Interest:- December, 2025	0.81
Lloyds Bank 95 Day Acct.interest:- September 2025	25.29

Payments made & due January 1st, 2026 to January 31st, 2026

W.I. Hall hire:- December Extraordinary mtg	16.00
W.I. Hall hire:- January Mthly. mtg.	16.00
I Bramble:- Clerk's Salary; November 1 st –November 30 th , 2025	159.14
I Bramble:- Clerk's PAYE; November 1 st –November 30 th , 2025	39.80
I Bramble:- Clerk's mileage, December Extraordinary meeting	6.30
Devon Air Ambulance; August Fair donation	894.00
Rugby Club August Fair Donation	50.00

MC proposed approval of the above statement, AK seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

2025.115 Precept 2026-27 (to include funding for NHP 5 yr Review)

The 2026 27 Parish Precept was discussed with reference to the proposed budget including the following new items;

Clerk's Net Pay:- re. 2025 26 LGA negotiated level (14 hours/mth at 15.31/hr)	2,058.00
Clerks PAYE:- re. 2025 26 LGA negotiated level (14 hours/mth at 15.31/hr)	515.00
Neighbourhood Plan 5 Year review	3,000.00
New Footpath land purchase	4,500.00
New Parish container for August Faire and events equipment etc.	3,000.00
Updated Parish Computer and software	800.00
Mandatory '.gov' parish owned email addresses	300.00

After discussion of all the above, the level of Parish reserves, and the fact that an increase in the precept would arise without cost to resident parishioners from an increase in Band D equivalent second homes in the Parish, that in the light of general increases in costs of living the precept should be limited to a rise of 5% over the 2025 26 level, from £61.58pa to £64.88pa

MC proposed this increase, AK seconded and Cllrs approved unanimously.

2025.116 Challaborough

No matters raised.

2025.117 Environmental matters

MF reported that Ringmore, in conjunction with Bigbury and Thurlestone had been to fund and take part in additional water quality monitoring activities with a contribution from Ringmore PC of c£300pa.

MC proposed agreement, MF seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

2025.118 To receive Parish Paths Partnership update

HK has reported defects in P14; Bridal Path 10; and resubmitted surface issue on P13 and that a tree is down on National Trust (Area Landscape Partnership) land and that they have been advised.

HK asked if help from members of the public in monitoring paths as they walked them on an ongoing basis.

2025.119 To receive National Trust (National Landscape Partnership) update

Our Ranger made her apologies and submitted her report which is available on the parish website.

2025.120 SHDC:- Grants for Business and Parish Councils

It was noted that grant applications for Emergency and Resilience Plans are open until March 13th.

2025.121 A.O.B.

The matter of salt boxes in the parish will be raised at the Feb. 5th with DCC Highways.

Clearance of undergrowth outside Church House was asked for and MC proposed a £150 to cover the cost. AK seconded and Cllrs agreed unanimously.

Matters for discussion at next Parish Council meeting

To be held on Tuesday February 17th at 7:00pm in the WI Hall.

DRAFT