

AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Aylesbeare Parish Council held in The Nightjar, Village Way on **Wednesday 1st April** at 7:15pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Anna Thompson (Chair *from 7:46pm*)
Cllr Mark Branson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Debbie Banks [*from 7:41pm*]
Cllr Nick Warren
Cllr Jacky Owen

ABSENT

Cllr Tracie Cooke

IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public, Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO)
D/Cllr Jess Bailey [*from 8:43pm*]

1 Chair Welcome

Cllr Branson opened the meeting welcoming all advising that Cllr Thompson was expected soon. He gave a brief report on the Village Hall refurbishment which is on course to be completed on time.

He thanked the Nightjar for hosting the temporary Parish Council meetings

2 Apologies

Cllr Cooke could not attend as she is overseas. Council **RESOLVED** to accept the reason given.

3 Declarations of Interest

No changes or declarations for tonight's items.

4 Open Public Forum

The member of the public asked about the noticeboards and was advised that no invoice had arrived to date. The bench in the Rec still needed to be turned to face the Rec. Cllr Warren will assist the contractor as required.

The recent crash on Harp Lane and several previous incidents and near-misses emphasised the need for the white lines to be repainted. There are highways repairs required as well near Podgers Pit and on Harp Lane. Marwood Rd has had some repairs.

Residents are encouraged to report all highways issues using the DCC Report-a-problem page, with photographs if possible.

The bus timetable will change before the next meeting as an alternative service is rerouted via Aylesbeare. This will go to Exeter at 10:42am and leave Stop 20 in Sidwell St at 13:40.

5 Minutes

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of both February and March's meetings as true and correct records. They were duly signed.

6 Report of the District & County Councillor

C & D/Cllr Jess Bailey gave a brief report on the following:

The appeal re Cherrytrees will have the EDDC Report available but this might be late.

..... Chair Initials

The Local Government Reorganisation will now involve two elections, one this year, one next year. C&D/Cllr Bailey is very concerned about the progress of LGR. Decisions that have been made indicate that the Exeter Bid might be chosen which will disaggregate Adult and Child Social Services which is unlikely to go well for the rural areas.

There's no enforcement action for the time being on the Shepherd's Hut between Tattrice & Panaroma as the planning process is being followed. EDDC enforcement are fully aware of C&D/Cllr Nailey's and the Parish Council's concerns.

The sizeable roadworks at Tipton & Harpford will finish at the end of April so the road can be opened.

Commissioning of NHS is all being changed by the Government and, as Chair of the DCC Adult Scrutiny Cttee, C&D/Cllr Bailey hoped to be involved in the new Board to influence the commissioning decisions. However, she has been told that there is to be only one Local Authority Rep, currently from Torbay. It is hard to justify the exclusion of DCC from this body.

7 Parish Matters

7.1 Highways incl. Marwood Road flooding

The main issue with Marwood Rd drainage is the farm access pipe is blocked where it goes under the road. This is at the first gate towards the airport where the pipe drains water into the field opposite to soakaway.

Scotchmead water leaks

The clerk will write to SWW to confirm that the tests they carried out showed this leak was potable water. If so, they will need to address the problem as the leaks continue.

7.2 Parking in Scotchmead (incl car park surface (EDDC), abandoned vehicles, caravan (DCC) and Anti-Social Behaviour (Police)

The problems persist but the red car with flat tyres has gone but a tired caravan is in its spot. This does have a Police Notice on it.

7.3 Drainage in Village Way

Clerk to contact the owners of the two properties concerned.

7.4 Community Infrastructure Levy Receipts – Play Area

Council will investigate mending the fence around the play area (only 4 sections need replacing) and replace the stiles with gates. The noticeboard contractor will be asked about these. Quotes will be sought for a dog exercise area. Then the Parish will be asked what they prefer.

Oak is OK

7.5 The Nightjar sale & Registering as a Community Asset (CA)

Council now understands that the building is not up for sale and there will not be a change of management meaning that the pub is not in jeopardy.

7.6 SWW Improved Water Treatment Works

Cllr Warren reported:

March – no spills but only about one inch of rain

February figures 327.2 hours of spillage and 5 inches of rain

This year so far 1416 hours of overflow and 10.9 inches of rain

Monitoring will continue.

7.7 Campaign to Protect Rural England Membership renewal

Council **RESOLVED** to renew the membership of CPRE.

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Chair Initials

7.8 TRIP Donation request

Council discussed the TRIP service and will consult the Parish to see how many users exist.

8 Planning Applications & Consultations

8.1 Ratification of previously submitted comments

[25/2139/FUL](#) **Land next to Tatry, West Hill** Day shepherds hut, barn, polytunnel

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following comments:

Aylesbeare Parish Council wishes to make a further OBJECTION to this planning application ref 25/2139/FUL.

The Council takes issue with the claim that the shepherds hut is genuinely for agricultural use. In the application it was claimed to be a “day shepherd’s hut” and that the hut was going to be used as “a rest area whilst working the land”. It is very apparent from the recent listing of the property for sale by Bradleys estate agents as a one bedroom /one bathroom property that it is not in fact a day shelter but has been installed as some form of short term dwelling. In addition the hut now has fixed decking which appears to be in excess of 300mm in height and so required planning permission. There is also an unauthorized storage container.

The sales particulars imply that planning permission is likely to be granted and the parish council believes that the hut will be used for airbnb with a view to setting a precedent as a dwelling rather than any genuine agricultural use. This application must be refused and enforcement action taken to remove the hut, decking and storage container from the site.

This application is retrospective yet still fails to cover all the elements which have been created. There is a blatant lack of respect for procedure.

Clerk to send to West Hill and copy in Jess B who has also objected.

8.2 [26/0476/OHL](#) Land off Blind Lane New electrical connection Infrastructure Council **NOTED** that the actual location is nowhere near Blind Lane and does not detail the ‘development’ that the new cabling is designed to supply.

Council **RESOLVED** to make the following the comments:

Aylesbeare Parish Council objects to this application as the location description is completely incorrect and misleading. Further, there are no details of the ‘development’ which the new cabling is designed to supply.

8.3 [26/0523/FUL](#) 3 Rill Cottages, Marwood Road Single storey extension

Council **RESOLVED** to make the following the comments:

Aylesbeare Parish Council objects to this application because at 8m depth, which is greater than the depth of the existing house, the Council think the size of this extension and the impact it will have on the neighbouring properties, including the light emitted from the roof lantern.

8.4 EDDC Community Safety Groups

Council **NOTED** EDDC’s intentions and looks forward to progress being made.

8.5 EDDC Town and Parish Forum Thursday 11th June 2026

Council **NOTED** this event.

9 IT Policy and Website Accessibility Statement

Item postponed.

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Chair Initials

10 Finance

10.1 Current balances

Council **NOTED** the current balance of **£ 38,179.71** (£32,403.68, £5,052.19 & £723.84 at 27 Feb 2026)

10.2 Payments

Council **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

10.2.1 Campaign to protect Rural England	Annual membership	£	60.00
10.2.2 EDDC	Grounds maintenance	£	1,529.41
10.2.3 J P Roberts	- clerk pay for March	£	305.47
	Reimbursement for VH Internet Cuckoo Fibre (Mch)	£	17.50
	Reimbursement for pension payment (March)	£	95.03
10.2.4 HMRC	- clerk's PAYE for March	£	71.20

11 Next Meeting & Venue (Village Hall Temp Closure)

Wednesday 6th May 2026 to include the Annual Council & Annual Parish Meetings; hopefully in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting closed at 8:53pm

Signed Date

Cllr M R Branson, Vice-Chairman