



East Tisted Parish Council

Minutes for the Meeting of East Tisted Parish Council, Held on Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Helen Evison (Councillor)
Sandra Nichols (Councillor & Chair)
Colin Rule (Councillor, Vice-Chair & Community Correspondent)
Pippa Cockhead (Clerk & RFO)
Charles Louisson (District Councillor)
Fiona Hyde (Village Hall Treasurer)
Hannah Robbins (Community Development and Engagement Officer)
6 Villagers

Apologies: Carl McBean (Councillor)
Phil Cutts (Councillor)
Russell Oppenheimer (County Councillor)
Jessica Hornsby (Hampshire Constabulary)

The meeting opened at 6.30pm

The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 15 minutes with each member of the public speaking once only and for a maximum of 2 minutes. Any question asked shall not require or debate unless that item is already on the agenda.

1. Welcome, arrangements for the meeting and apologies

The Chair welcomed all and outlined arrangements for the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr McBean, Cllr Cutts, C Cllr Oppenheimer and Jessica Hornsby.

2. Declaration of Interests

None.

3. Public Forum

a. Q. Sioux Mingaye queried progress with the Home Farm development, particularly the proposed footpath from Home Farm to the Village Hall.

A. Cllr Nichols responded that the plans had not progressed further, but would ask the estate about whether the footpath could be initiated. **Action: SN**

Q. Eveie Light suggested that removal of the Village Shop/Post office sign should be reconsidered bearing in mind how costly it will be for the Council to put up a new sign for the village hall. If the shop is to be reinstated at any time in the medium term, this would save a further cost.

Q. Sioux raised concerns about the hedge becoming intrusive along the footpath to the cricket ground, as well as the grass growth making the path very narrow.

A. Cllr Nicholls explained that the estate has now made hedge cutting the responsibility of tenants and that the hedges along the pathway had been cut. She will contact HCC to see if the grass/verge incursion is their responsibility. **Action: SN**

b. Charles Louisson (D Cllr) updated the meeting with the progress of the Local Government Reform and Devolution, EDHC will be sending their response to the government by 25 September 2025. The timetable thereafter will involve a Public Consultation October 2025; Government decision Spring 2026 and actual restructure April 2028. EDHC plan to start collecting food waste from April 2026, residents should start to hear about caddy distribution shortly.

Q. Sioux asked what will happen to the waste?



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A. It will be processed through an anaerobic digester to generate electricity.

Q. Cllr Rule asked what will happen regards the District and County Cllrs as no elections are imminent?

A. Elections are expected May 2026 for Mayoral and C Cllrs. D Cllrs have been asked to continue for a further year till elections in May 2027.

Fiona Hyde (ETVH) shared news of a very successful skittles evening, which they hope to repeat before Christmas. Otherwise, the hall bookings were ticking over. Cllr Nichols thanked Fiona and the rest of the hall committee for their continued efforts.

Cllr Rule (Community Correspondent) has been having an issue sending messages to yahoo email addresses. A ticket will be raised with TEEC Community Support team. **Action: Clerk**
On the subject of community communications Cllr Nichols thanked Sioux for her continued efforts with the village WhatsApp group.

Jessica Hornsby (Hampshire Constabulary) was unable to attend this meeting, the clerk will ask for an update. **Action: Clerk**

Hannah Robbins (CDEO) introduced herself to the meeting and outlined her role in EHDC. As CDEO her role is to help communities with grants/funding applications, health aspects and community facilities and support Parish Councils within her area. In short Hannah was a good place to start with any community issues, Cllr Louisson endorsed the team's efficiency and effectiveness and would encourage local parish councils and community groups to make applications in the near future. Members present discussed the opportunity for assistance with the Community Garden and a generator for the village hall. Hannah would forward information about Grow Up and Climate Change funding currently available. **Action: HR/Clerk**

Cllr Nichols thanked Hannah for attending the meeting and enlightening those present.

Cllr Russell Oppenheimer (C Cllr) in his absence the report will be added to the minutes. Highlights included the A272 closure, funding boost for mental health support in schools, new provider for Hampshire school meals, safeguard services savings through extra Government funding and Local Government Reform timetable.

The Chair thanked all and closed the meeting for public participation.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The Minutes of the meetings held on 20th May and 3rd June 2025 were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chair. Action points and matters arising:

- Road sign - Cllr Nichols had asked Rotherfield for comment on taping over the PO / Shop sign and having received no comment back, replaced the tape previously used. Highways have been asked to remove the sign until needed, if the cost to replace is not prohibitive, as per Eveie Light's earlier comment. **Action: SN**
- Solar panels/generator for village hall - Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks new fund supports communities during prolonged power interruptions caused by storms, aid their ability to cope in periods of severe weather, and will now also support the adoption of new low-carbon technologies. Cllr Nichols has registered so that we will be notified when the scheme is open for applications. ETVH will need to be involved in any discussions, especially as the hall would need to replace the oil heating system. It was queried whether EHDC could undertake an energy audit of the hall so that the best course of action could be ascertained. Hannah offered to contact the Regeneration and Economy team for further consultation. **Action SN/PC/FH/HR**
- Average speed cameras along the A32 - Cllr Nichols has asked but not received a reply back at time of meeting – will send this info on when received.
- Final recreation ground agreement – details agreed – just needed the correspondence address changing – awaiting final copy.
- Audit actions - These have been carried out within the timescale given by the auditor.



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5. Policy Review

Members reviewed the following documents and where appropriate these were adopted:

- Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults: Proposed Cllr Rule, seconded Cllr Evison, all agreed
 - Pond Risk Assessment; Proposed Cllr Evison, Seconded Cllr Rule, all agreed.
- Both policies will be uploaded to the ETPC website and included in the annual review of policy documents at the future May meetings. **Action: Clerk**

6. Devolution for Hampshire

The Chair updated those present on a meeting regarding the implications of devolution for Parish Councils. It was made clear at the meeting that the government is requiring this to be done. Parish and town councils will remain the same but this will have effects on the levels of local government above us. Government is looking for proposals for neighbourhood engagement but hasn't given any clue as to what they mean by that – they wish to deliver a genuine opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment. Interestingly only one third of England is parished – the rest is town or city. The suggestion is to have area committees led by ward councillors. We made the point very strongly that it is difficult enough to get people to come forward for parish councils without either adding new structures or more work or time commitment for those who do come forward.

7. Correspondence received

- Alton taxi share service: communications received stated that this is no longer operating. An update will be placed in Tisted Tales with more information. Sioux raised that grants maybe available to have a bus route through villages, Cllr Nichols would investigate.

Action: SN

- Pigeon control: This had recently been raised as an issue. It is against the law to intentionally kill, injure, or take wild birds, including wood pigeons and feral pigeons unless carried out under a general licence. Offences can carry a prison sentence of up to six months. A licence will be granted for reasons such as to prevent serious damage to crops, foodstuffs for livestock, or to protect human health and have attempted non-lethal methods first such as netting, scaring, or be satisfied that they will not work. One could use a legal air rifle, shoot safely from your private land, and ensure the pellet cannot travel off your property, but a licence is required. Councils in the UK take limited action to control pigeons and do not typically offer pigeon removal services for private properties. In most cases, it's the responsibility of property owners/occupiers or businesses to deal with pigeon problems on their premises. The estate undertakes limited pigeon control on their land under licence.

8. Planning

None

9. Community Garden

The arrangement between the estate and Worthy Earth is coming to an end and the community has been offered the opportunity to take the project forward. Rotherfield will continue to support both by way of estate assistance and even financially until such time as the community can get things up and running itself. There is a small core of interested people – Karen Sherwood, Philippa Beasty, Nigel Edmunds – along with a few others who have expressed a willingness to assist including Emily Scott and Eveie Light. Cllr Nichols has been helping to co-ordinate things, and explained that the Parish Council is fully supportive of whatever new structure may need to be put in place. A leaflet has been put together to gauge interest in the village and to see who has time/talent to contribute which was handed out at the Rotherfield Supper and will be put through letter boxes and on email shortly. A coffee shop will be opening on the site of the



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Bowtells farm near the community garden around October/November time, which will be an exciting prospect. This will initially operate on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. More information will be provided.

10. Highways

- Village speed camera information: this will be carried over to the next meeting in Cllr McBean's absence.
- Update on HCC and grant improvements: Cllr Nichols updated the meeting stating HCC have ordered the bollards but are still waiting for the contractors to slot our work in – East Tisted is not a priority at the moment as is obvious with all the roadworks currently being undertaken – they will be marking out the footway in advance of hopefully getting a date secured.
- Possible further Speedwatch cameras: briefing papers were distributed to the council members beforehand and summarised at the meeting, these will be uploaded onto the ETPC website. The implications of having these type of cameras would be equipment, licence and upkeep costs and well as processing the collected information and acting on the data; sending out letters, additional postage costs and increased workload for the Clerk. The ongoing discussions would benefit from the completion of the Highways work and consultation with the police and equipment providers. Cllr Nichols will invite the necessary parties to a future parish council meeting. **Action: SN**

11. Facilities

- Recreation Ground: awaiting final agreement – all details agreed, just needed to alter correspondence address to Clerk's. **Action: SN**
- Mobile signal: Cllrs Cutts and Rule to continue investigating in light of Ofcom starting a consultation regards using low level satellites. **Action: CR/PC**
- Village green/pond: The grant has now been paid by SDNP £2,435.20. We met with Garry Bishop to agree where to clear some of the brambles and nettles so that the view from the bench was better – this has now been done, and grass seed planted where the tree stumps had been removed. The shrubs in the wildlife strip have established. The weed in the pond itself which we had left to protect the exposed clay liner during the drought is now dying back – the council agreed to wait and see what happened over the winter before a decision was made about clearing it, the SDNPT ranger will be consulted. **Action: SN**
- Defibrillator update: The pads have been changed. Information about the access and location of the defibrillator will be added to Tisted Tales. **Action: SN**

12. Responsible Financial Officer

a. Councillors received and approved for signature by the Vice Chair the Statement of Financial Transactions and the Bank Reconciliations since the last meeting, including account balances as at 16.19hrs 16th September 2025:-

Current Account £2,707.55

Deposit Account £5,118.49

b. Councillors received and approved the latest Budget Monitoring and Forecast report.

c. Councillors agreed the following subscriptions and payments:

- Clerk Salary August 25: £97.35
- Employer's NIC: £8.32
- The second instalment of the precept is expected by the end of September

d. Council members were advised that there were no enquiries during the Period of Public Notice.



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e. Cllr McBean will be in contact about handing over the laptop in the near future. **Action: CM/RFO**

f. DM Payroll Services will now be charging VAT, which the council will claim back in due course.

g. HALC is offering Digital and Data Compliance training which the RFO has booked to attend in January 2026. Surrey Police are also offering Cyber Crime Support for Local Organisations. The Clerk has also registered for a consultation and future updates. The latter information will be forwarded to ETVH. **Action: RFO**

12. Date of next meetings

Thursday 11th December 2025, at 6.30pm at East Tisted Village Hall

Thursday 19th March 2026, at 6.30pm at East Tisted Village Hall

Meeting Closed at 8.02pm

Pippa Cockhead
Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
September 2025

Agreed as a true and correct record.

Signature..... Chairman Date.....