STOKE FLEMING PARISH COUNCIL
Clerk: Sharon A Whelon
Email: clerk@stokefleming.org
A monthly meeting of the Parish Council was held on
Wednesday 5th August 2026 in the Ron Harris Room, Stoke Fleming Village Hall at 7pm.
MINUTES

The following Parish Councillors were present at the meeting of the Parish Council:
Cllr David Harris (Chair), Cllr John Belli (Vice-Chair), Cllr Tim Moseley, Cllr Jay Floyd
Also invited: County Cllr Julian Brazil, District Cllr Simon Rake, Clerk S A Whelon
Members of the public may raise any points or matters that they wish to bring to the attention of the Parish Council in Public Question Time via email or letter to the Clerk 48 hours in advance of the meeting at clerk@stokefleming.org. For the purposes of accuracy the meeting will be recorded.

46. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr Belinda Duffy, County Cllr Julian Brazil, Cllr Tilly Crowther, Cllr Bella Johnston

47. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 1st July 2026, AND PLANNING SITE MEETING NOTES.
Were signed by the Chairman as true and correct records

48. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Parish Councillors are invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. They are also reminded to consider whether any items within their Register of Interests should be updated. Cllr Belli declared an interest in item 54.a.

49. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Three members of the public present.

50. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
Received by email re devolution: 'We've submitted a number of FOI requests about how government arrived at their decision.We will be issuing a pre-application letter (before JR) at the end of this week
Cabinet meeting in September when we formally launch the JR unless we have movement from government'.

51. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
16th July government announcement devolution plans and map, which DC thinks is 'nutty'. All 11 councils involved now working at pace. There will be 103 councillors overall. Elections will take place next May for councils on non-operational form, 4 unitary authorities will become operational in 2028. South Hams and Devon are focussed on carrying out services in the meantime. What will happen to services such as Devon Highways? These will be broken up and split between constituent councils. New Devon authority for this parish should be solvent.

52. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
a) Proposed new car park.
i. Report from sub-committee. Enquiry to land agent of BT land in the village on Mill Lane has taken place. Clerk to enquire whether S106 monies can be used for improvement of an existing car park.
Action: clerk

53. FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERING sub-committee report

54. COMMUNITY
a) Donation request – 5 year lease Devon Libraries at the Village Hall. Cllr Rake may be a last resort for funds. Cllr Belli to return with more detail re the lease. Action: JBe
b) BT callbox update - Decoration complete, glass replacements fitted and shelves scheduled, signs ordered. Council thanked Cllr Duffy.

55. ROADS & TRANSPORT
a) Slapton Line, support for reinstatement of A379 at Torcross**-** letter to Devon County Council – **Approved.**
Action: clerk
b) Speed sign now fitted and has been adjusted to pick up traffic accurately. Council thanked the team.
c) Request for double yellow lines on Dartmouth Road into village – Highways advised a formal request by the parish council. **Approved.** Clerk to write to Highways. Action: TM/clerk

56. MAINTENANCE
a) Annual Assets inspections were allocated. Inspections should be carried out in August.
b) Pavilion users have volunteered to re-paint pavilion. Receipts for paint to be sent to clerk for payment.
c) Pavilion toilets will be cleaned before Hort & Sport event.
d) Memorial tree purchase delayed until weather improves.

57. COUNCIL AND ACTIONS REGISTER
a) Two council vacancies: Keith Duberley and John Potter co-opted as new councillors from this item.

58. PLANNING: All noted.

APPLICATIONS

a) Application Number: 1889/26/COM
Location Address: Near to Gull Cliff Overseas Estate Stoke Fleming TQ6 0PJ
Proposal: Notice of intent to install electronic communication apparatus comprising one light wooden pole at 9 metres high (ref: WH4P455H)
Status: Under Consideration
Application Type: 28 (one month) Communication PD Application
b) Reference: 2001/26/TPO
Proposal: TPO 641; T1: Oak – fell, 3-4m crack up main trunk starting at 5m from ground level on N side.
Site Address: Wadstray House Blackawton TQ9 7DE
c) Reference: 2014/26/TCA
Proposal: T1: Holm Oak – reduce to 5-6m monolith, Ganoderma fungus present, significant bark loss. T2: Holly – fell, limited canopy, extensive deadwood.
Site Address: Stoke House Gardens Stoke Fleming TQ6 0PE

DECISIONS

a) Application Number: 0920/26/FUL
Location Address: Lower Ash Farm Ash TQ6 0LR
Proposal: Erection of agricultural building to roof over yard
Status: Approved
Application Type: Full Planning Application
b) Application Number: 0919/26/FUL
Location Address: Lower Ash Farm Ash TQ6 0LR
Proposal: Erection of agricultural building to roof over yard
Status: Approved
Application Type: Full Planning Application
c) Application: 1488/26/TPO
Proposal: TPO 145; T76: Sycamore - reduce height by 2-3m due to whole tree failure, extensive basal cavity on W side. T72: Sycamore - pollard to 5m from ground level due to decay in column from ground level to 1.6m on S side, cubicle white rot and large cavities present. T73: Lime - reduce height by 3m, suppression from neighbouring trees. T71: Sycamore -crown height reduction of up to 3m, due to proximity to buildings. T78: Horse Chestnut - reduce lowest limb on E side at 9m from ground level by 3-4m to improve form, reduce risk of limb failure due to lean from neighbouring suppression. T77: Sweet Chestnut - pollard to main union at 7m from ground level, fracture on lower co-dominate stem at 8m from ground level, secondary delamination causing twisting and stem droop.
T81: Sycamore – crown height reduction of up to 3m, due to large decay, risk of failure into parking area. T79: Lucombe Oak - reduce by 1-2m, thin by 20%, growing beside historic wall and suppressing ornamental trees/shrubs. T68: Golden Monterey Cypress - fell, neighbouring property 3m to East side, crown damage, poor vitality. T80: Sycamore - reduce by 2-3m, extensive basal decay, suspected honey fungus. T67: Sycamore -coppice, basal cavity on W side and slime flux bacterial infection at main bifurcated union
Location: Sanders, Old Road, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0PY
Decision: Part Approved / Part Refused
d) Application Number: 1429/26/NMM
Location Address: Land at SX 855 508 Violet Drive Dartmouth
Proposal: Omission of the number of hotel rooms in the description of development Updated Proposed Site and Ground Floor Plan
Status: Approved
Application Type: Non Material Minor Amendment
e) 1912/26/TEX Tree Exemption Application
Site Address: Channel View, New Road, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0PH
Decision: Lesser Tree Works Allowed
Description: T1: Cypress - fell, split limb, fallen on garage
f) Application Number: 1313/26/FUL
Location Address: Land at SX 865 487, Redlap Lane, Stoke Fleming
Proposal: New hedgehog rescue and wildlife sanctuary (Sui Generis Use)
Status: Approved Application Type: Full Planning Application
g) Application Number 1889/26/COM
Location Address: Near to Gull Cliff Overseas Estate Stoke Fleming TQ6 0PJ
Proposal: Notice of intent to install electronic communication apparatus comprising one light wooden pole at 9 metres high (ref: WH4P455H)
Status: Decision Made
Application Type: 28 (one month) Communication PD Application

59. FINANCE

a) BALANCES at 29th July 2026:

Treasurer's account: £12,345.01
Savings account: £25,709.65
95 day notice savings account £70,564.28

(£60,732.95 allocated to ear marked reserves for specific projects)

b) PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL AND RECEIPTS **Approved.**

For Payment	FP/DD	Reason	Amount	VAT
Clerk Salary	FP	21/6/26 - 20/7/26	687.20	
HMRC	DD	NI & Tax	40.53	
Clerk Expenses	FP	Apr - June 26	60.00	
Stoke Fleming Village Hall	FP	Room booking June	19.00	
Laurenjade Ahearn	FP	cleaning bus shelters	50.00	
Service Charge	FP	Lloyds Bank	4.25	
British Gas Lite	DD	Electricity Birdwalk	23.13	1.01
British Gas Lite	DD	Electricity Pavilion	16.63	0.79
British Gas Lite	DD	Electricity Sch Rd toilets Jun	15.11	0.72
British Gas Lite	DD	Electricity Sch Rd toilets July	14.70	0.70
J&S Cleaning	FP	Toilet cleaning School Rd + materials	245.40	40.90
AJG insurance	FP	premium wall	38.53	
Source for Business	DD	Water pavilion 14 Apr - 6 Jul	39.77	6.63
Arccas	FP	Grounds Maintenance play, field, village, paths, verges	954.00	119.00
MA Keen	FP	painting Dartmouth Rd phonebox	475.00	
Cllr Belinda Duffy	FP	Glass Dartmouth Rd phonebox	178.68	
Sapphire Engraving	FP	Plaques x 2	123.21	
Hannah Abraham	FP	pavilion toilet cleaning	255.00	
TOTAL			**£3,240.14**	**£169.75**
Remittances		VAT refund	1782.52	
Total Remittances			**£1,782.52**	

c) 1st quarter accounts **Approved.**

60. Clerk's Report. Urgent items must be submitted to the clerk prior to the meeting.

Anonymous letter - clerk to forward to SHDC planning.

Clerk's note: members of the public are never named in council meetings or published without their permission.

Meeting closed: 7.52pm.

. **Date of next meeting: 2nd September 7pm**