



Endon with Stanley Parish Council Ordinary Meeting Minutes Held on Tuesday 13th January 2026, 7pm at Endon Methodist Church

Present: (Chairman) Cllr S. Sillitoe, (Vice Chairman) Cllr Taylor, Cllr Adams, Cllr Brown, Cllr Clulow, Cllr Cowles, Cllr Houston-Smith, Cllr McCann, (District) Cllr Porter, Cllr Pugh, Cllr Richards, Cllr J. Sillitoe, Cllr Walker, Clerk: Laura Frost

In attendance: (District) Cllr Flunder and 5 members of the public

Meeting commenced at 7:02pm, Cllr Adams entered the meeting at 7:07pm

1. Apologies for Absence

- (District) Cllr Jebb – Discussed under item 7
- (County) Cllr Egginton
- Cllr Spooner

Resolved: That a formal letter be sent to Cllr Spooner requesting confirmation of her intentions regarding continued membership of the Council and her ability to attend and contribute regularly, with further action to be considered subject to her response. Unanimous vote in favour.

2. Declarations of Interest

- Cllr Porter – Police, NHS, Endon Village Hall
- Cllr Walker – Endon Village Hall
- Cllr Houston-Smith – Endon Village Hall

3. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman reported receipt of a Yoshino cherry tree, gifted as part of a scheme providing 10,000 cherry trees from the people of Japan to UK communities. The tree is approximately six feet tall and will require an appropriate planting location. Possible locations discussed included Station Road, the corner of Kent Drive (where a former horse chestnut tree was) and an area opposite The Plough Inn. It was noted that land ownership would need to be confirmed. The Chair suggested inviting the Well Dressing Queen to undertake the planting, this was agreed. Cllr Porter reminded members that the Council also has a Christmas tree secured from Proctors, for which a permanent location is also required.

4. Public Forum

- a. A resident suggested the rose bed at the bottom of Clay Lake as a possible planting location for the Yoshino cherry tree. It was noted that this location would not be suitable due to visibility and height restrictions.

5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th December 2025

Resolved: That the minutes be approved and signed.

6. Matters arising from the above meeting held on 9th December 2025 not on the agenda

- Cllr McCann raised a query regarding street cleaning on St George's Avenue. Cllr Porter referred members to his District Councillor report, advising that several street cleaning works had been undertaken across Endon and Brown Edge prior to Christmas.
- The Chair reported that she had contacted Cllr Egginton regarding a grit bin for Platts Avenue, who confirmed he was dealing with the request. It was noted that grit bins are generally provided by the County Council, although alternative arrangements may be possible.
- Cllr Flunder explained that different types of grit provision exist, including bins on regular gritting routes and those serviced annually or intermittently, and highlighted the distinction between grit bins, grit piles, ice



piles, and one-off requests, noting the overlap between responsibilities. It was agreed to discuss grit provision further into the meeting on agenda item 9e.

- Cllr McCann advised that the next Endon Flood Action Group meeting is likely to be held during the week commencing 9th February. He also queried whether an email regarding a resident’s drainage concern had been sent. Cllr Pugh forwarded a draft response to the Clerk for sending to the resident.

7. Request for Temporary Leave of Absence – Cllr Jebb

Resolved: That Cllr Jebb be granted a temporary leave of absence from her duties on the Parish Council for a period of five months on medical grounds. Unanimous vote in favour. Cllr Taylor will liaise on behalf of the Council with Cllr Jebb during this period.

8. Finance, Accounts & Expenses

a. December Bank Rec & January Payments to Approve List

The bank reconciliation for December and the list of payments for January were circulated to councillors earlier in the day. Queries were raised regarding the E-ON charges for nine lampposts by the Finance Working Group; Cllr Taylor and the Chair confirmed that these relate to historical responsibility, and the Clerk will email E-ON for further information regarding the contract. Cllr Houston-Smith reported that the Clerk had opened two savings accounts and transferred funds from Leek United. CCTV quotes were queried, as only one quote has been received; Cllr McCann will assist the Clerk in obtaining a second quote from an alternative supplier.

b. Approve draft budget for 2026/27

The draft budget for 2026/27 was circulated to councillors earlier in the day and included in the agenda packs. Cllr-Houston Smith presented the proposed draft budget identifying costs associated with each cost centre, noting further that general reserves will total £16,000 and earmarked reserves £33,000. He confirmed that the budget has been carefully reviewed by the Finance working group and thanked the Clerk for preparing the documents. Cllr Porter highlighted the earmarked reserves for projects including the phone box, CCTV, and the Station Road Park football field, expressing that grants should be obtainable. The Chair confirmed that appropriate funding streams were being approached. It was also discussed whether leftover funds could support a defibrillator installed on High View Road. The Chair advised that a power supply would be required for this location, and Cllr Walker noted that any defibrillator would realistically need to be installed at a private property.

c. Approve precept requirement for 2026/27

Cllr Houston-Smith presented the proposed precept for 2026/27, it was noted that the precept will remain frozen, though a slight variation per Band D will occur due to a deduction in the tax base. Cllr J. Sillitoe reminded members that the Council is in a strong financial position, building on the reserve’s strategy of former Clerk Dennis Boulton.

<i>Table 1 – 2025/26</i>	
<i>Precept requirement</i>	<i>£36,300</i>
<i>Tax base reported</i>	<i>1,354</i>
<i>Band D precept charge 2025/26</i>	<i>£26.81</i>

<i>Table 2 – 2026/27</i>	
<i>Precept requirement</i>	<i>£36,300</i>
<i>Tax base reported</i>	<i>1,348</i>
<i>Band D precept charge 2026/27</i>	<i>£26.93</i>

<i>Percentage Change from 2025/26 to 2026/27</i>	
<i>(Line 1) Band D precept charge 2026/27 from Table 2</i>	<i>£26.93</i>
<i>(Line 2) Less Band D precept charge 2025/26 from Table 1</i>	<i>£26.81</i>
<i>(Line 3) = £ Change in Band D precept charge</i>	<i>£0.12</i>
<i>Divided by Line 2 Band D precept charge 2025/26</i>	<i>£26.81</i>



Multiply by 100 = Percentage Change

£0.44%

Action: Clerk to contact E-ON and continue to pursue second CCTV quote.

Resolved:

- That the December bank reconciliation and the January payments list be approved.
- That the draft budget and precept requirement for 2026/27 be approved.

All voted in favour - The Chair and Clerk signed the precept requirement forms.

9. Amenities

The Chair reported that the Amenities working group have been unable to meet recently and updates were provided on the following points:

- a. CCTV** – The Chair reported only one quote has still been received. Cllr McCann will assist the Clerk in obtaining a second quote as previously discussed in agenda item 8a.
- b. Gateway Sign** – The Chair reported the sign is peeling around the edges and is in poor condition. Cllr Porter will discuss further with (District) Cllr Edwards since the sign is within her District Ward.
- c. Station Road Park Fencing** – The Lengthsman has inspected the recently installed fencing by Almec and confirmed that it is well positioned, neat and in line with the surrounding fencing.
- d. Noticeboards** – The Chair reported that a £500 grant had been promised from Cllr Egginton’s County Councillor Fund, but only £200 was received. Reinforced Perspex was installed at the Well Dressing Field noticeboard by Andrew Stretch at a cost of £210; it is stronger and fit for purpose. The Chair noted that all notice boards will be installed in the coming weeks. Cabinets proposed for the remaining noticeboards will require support plates due to their weight. One installation quote has been received, and a second is awaited. Additional expenditure will be required to complete the work.
- e. Grit Bins** - A resident of Spinney Close has raised concerns about poor conditions on Hillswood Drive and surrounding roads, with insufficient grit bins. The Lengthsman has proposed purchasing grit in bulk, storing it at his facility, and gritting the estate as required, with the Parish paying for the service. Councillors agreed this is a practical and cost effective solution, given reduced support from Staffordshire County Council. Alternative options, such as purchasing additional grit bins (approximately £300 each), were discussed. Cllr Flunder highlighted opportunities for collaboration with neighbouring parishes and the new unitary authority to manage resources effectively.

Action: The Chair will liaise with the Lengthsman regarding pricing.

10. Endon Archives

The Chair reported that a previous meeting was cancelled due to snow. The Endon Archives continue to be stored at the Village Hall, and a grant of up to £5,000 may be available to improve storage capacity and safety. The archives contain approximately 5,000 items relating to the parish, with a focus on Well Dressing history. It was proposed that Mr Smith continue his involvement, and Keele University has expressed interest in supporting the project. Ownership is currently unclear; the Endonian Society previously held the archives, and the Well Dressing Trustees have been approached to assume responsibility. The possibility of the archives becoming a Parish Council asset and being digitised was discussed, noting the need for a constituted group and consideration of copyright.

Action: Chair to convene the preliminary meeting.

11. First Responders

The Chair reported that she had spoken with Dunwood First Responders, who are pleased to be provided with a key to the Parish Council office for use as required particularly in cold weather. Cllr Porter conveyed thanks from Brown Edge Parish Council for facilitating Dunwood First Responders.

12. Lawn Cemetery Update

The Chair reported that three RQFs had been submitted to potential contractors by the Clerk, and that Cllr Clulow had also submitted RQFs using his professional contacts as an architect. Cllr Walker offered to attend a site visit if required. Cllr Clulow advised that no response has yet been received from SMDC Planning Department.



Cllr Flunder temporarily left the meeting at 8:38pm while planning matters were considered due to being a member of the SMDC Planning Committee.

13. Planning

<p>a. SMD/2025/0470 181 Leek Road, Endon</p>	<p>Single storey ground floor extension to existing bedroom on side elevation.</p>	<p>Cllr Clulow reported that the proposed summer orangery would be located to the side of the property, would not be obtrusive, and would have no adverse impact on neighbouring properties or parking. The proposal was considered to be a tidy and appropriate extension. Resolved: No objection, all in favour.</p>
<p>b. SMD/2025/0542 Hillcrest, Tompkin Road, Stanley</p>	<p>Two-storey side extension, flat roof on garage replaced with new pitched roof in keeping with existing home.</p>	<p>Cllr Clulow advised that the property sits within a large plot and that the proposed extension, including rendering of the existing dwelling and replacement of the flat roof, is appropriate to the scale and character of the house. Resolved: No objection, all in favour.</p>
<p>c. SMD/2026/0005 2 Kenley Avenue, Endon</p>	<p>Side extension over existing garage and utility to form additional bedrooms with internal alterations.</p>	<p>Cllr Clulow advised that the rear elevation would overlook a neighbouring garden but the overall appearance of the dwelling was considered an improvement. No objection, all in favour. Resolved: No objection, all in favour.</p>

Cllr Flunder re-entered the meeting at 8:49pm.

14. Lengthsman’s Team Maintenance

The Chair reported that there is a significant amount of painting work required across the Parish that the Lengthsman team will begin in the Spring. It was noted that Royal Mail has deemed the condition of the post boxes not to warrant repainting at this time; however, the Clerk will pursue this matter again after the winter, when further deterioration may have occurred. Cllr Porter raised concerns regarding the footpath between Station Road and the Meadows, where a dip is causing mud accumulation. This was considered to be a Staffordshire County Councils highways matter and has been reported to SCC on several occasions on behalf of residents with no resolution. Cllr Porter also requested an update on the footpath work at Hillswood. The Chair advised that, due to the ground being very hard, the works have been delayed but will be undertaken by the Lengthsman in due course.

Action: Clerk to pursue post box repainting with Royal Mail after winter.

15. Reports

a. District and County Councillor Reports

District reports from Cllr Flunder and Cllr Porter, and County reports from Cllr Egginton, were circulated to councillors by the Clerk prior to the meeting and have been uploaded to the Parish Council website.

b. Further Councillor Updates

- Cllr Porter - Requested that any dog fouling hotspots in the community be reported as the information will be used to determine locations for additional stencils and signage.
- Cllr Flunder - Reported that the PROW (Public Rights of Way) meeting has been disbanded and encouraged councillors to ensure local footpaths are included on the definitive map. Locality meetings continue to support the transition under Local Government Reorganisation, with government consultation running from February for seven weeks and decisions expected earlier than planned between late May/ early June. The Chair assured the Council that all our footpaths were numbered and mapped ready for entering on the definitive map.



16. Correspondence

None.

Meeting ended at 9:06pm

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 10th February 2026, 7.00pm at Endon Methodist Church

Chairman	Signature	Date of Approval

DRAFT