



Endon with Stanley Parish Council
Ordinary Meeting Minutes
Held on Tuesday 14th April 2026, 7pm at Endon Methodist Church

Chairman: Cllr. Suzanne Sillitoe
Vice Chairman: Cllr. Phil Taylor

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

In attendance: (County) Cllr Egginton and 4 members of the public

Meeting commenced at 7:01pm

1. Apologies for Absence

- (District) Cllr Flunder – other meeting commitments

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting by reporting some less positive news. Photographs were displayed on screen, received from the Lengthsman team, highlighting issues of discarded bottles and sections of land dug up on the John Emery land. The Lengthsman has enquired about the possibility of further tree planting in the area. In addition, the Lengthsman has recently experienced a number of incidents involving anti-social behaviour at Station Road Memorial Park. The Chair noted these difficulties and recorded thanks to councillors for their messages of support to the Lengthsman team during this time. On a more positive note, the Cherry Tree planted by the Well Dressing Queen has produced its first bloom. The Chair further reported that a replacement sign for the parish office car park has been purchased, funded from the Chairman's honorarium. It was also noted that the office carpet has recently been professionally cleaned to a high standard. In due course the office will be redecorated including repainting the external railings.

3. Public Forum (15-minute time limit)

a. A member of the public referred to earlier comments regarding the John Emery land and reported that her husband, whilst taking a walk in that area on Friday afternoon, encountered a group of young men who were positioned across the footpath, preventing him from passing, and who made verbal remarks. The Chair advised that such incidents should continue to be reported to the Police.

The Chair reported that there had also been vandalism at the station platform, images were shared on screen. The Police and PCSO's have been informed and CCTV footage has been provided which is currently being followed up. The Lengthsman has submitted an invoice of £50 for repairs, which has also been forwarded to the Police with a view to reimbursement from those responsible.

b. The member of the public further raised that the bench adjacent to Endon High School remains unpainted. The Chair advised that the Lengthsman has recently been occupied with lambing duties. It was further noted by the Chair that the bench at the Fountain requires significant repainting work also.

c. The member of the public further reported that grass verges on Platts Avenue are not being cut by Staffordshire County Council's grounds maintenance team. It was further noted that parents parking on the verges during school drop off and collection times have caused damage. The Chair queried whether the area had previously been maintained and the member of the public confirmed that it had. County (Cllr) Egginton will look into the matter.



The Chair invited (County) Cllr Egginton to provide a County Council update.

- A road closure is scheduled on Hazelwood Road on 24th April by Severn Trent.
- Gully grids near the Black Horse have largely been cleared, although some issues remain outstanding.
- At St George's Avenue, potholes have been inspected; however, surface water is running down the road due to a blocked culvert. It was queried whether a working party had previously been established. Cllr McCann (Chair of Endon Flood Action Group) advised that this matter can be added to the Endon Flood Action Group's next meeting agenda. Cllr Cowles also noted instances of fly-tipping in the area, including a discarded Christmas tree.
- (County) Cllr Egginton further reported that Staffordshire County Council Highways have marked potholes requiring attention with white lines.
- There have been ongoing issues with gully grid cleaning, and a review of procedures has been undertaken, with a new computer system expected to improve operations.
- Additional gully emptying has taken place along Post Lane and Leek Road, with approximately 15–20 gullies cleared. In Endon village, most gullies between the Village centre and the Black Horse have been cleared, improving water flow, although three or four require further attention. Further investigative works are planned near Endon Well, where a blockage has been identified. A CCTV inspection is to be carried out to determine the cause.

The Chair requested that updates be provided as the matters progress.

4. Declaration of interests in items on the forthcoming agenda

- (District) Cllr Jebb – Chair of Moorlands Partnership Board, Vice Chair of Climate Change and Nature, Member of Tourism Partnership Forum and Vice Chair of Conservation Liaison Panel

5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th March 2026

Resolved: That the minutes be approved and signed.

6. Matters arising from the above meeting held on 10th March 2026 not on the agenda

- Cllr McCann queried whether any progress had been made in relation to the Avenue/Stoney Lane matter. The Chair advised that the issue remains complex, with differing impacts on residents, including elderly residents, and that it would be appropriate for the Parish Council to remain neutral. It was noted that residents of Stoney Lane intend to proceed with an application independently. (County) Cllr Egginton, in his capacity as Vice Chair of Staffordshire County Council Countryside and Rights of Way Panel, advised that an application under Section 53 could be submitted at an approximate cost of £2,500; however, there is a significant backlog and the process is likely to be lengthy. The Chair also raised concerns regarding inconsiderate parking on Clay Lake, where pedestrians are being forced into the road with limited visibility. (District) Cllr Porter suggested that the County Council parking enforcement team should be requested to attend the area, noting that PCSO's may also issue informal warnings, although their availability is limited. (County) Cllr Egginton reported that a scheme is being introduced to install double yellow lines at the bottom of Clay Lake, along with additional signage on Hillside Avenue to help with parking. Cllr Cowles noted ongoing issues with vehicles travelling in the wrong direction on Church Lane and Hillside Avenue.
- Cllr McCann requested an update regarding 10 Spinney Close. The Chair reported that local residents remain distressed by the condition of the site and its impact on the street scene, with some neighbours raising concerns directly with her. The Chair has contacted (District) Cllr Flunder requesting that the matter be re-raised with SMDC's planning committee to encourage a site visit; however, no update has yet been received. (District) Cllr Porter reported that he has been in contact with enforcement also and advised that action is dependent upon evidence of no activity on site for a period of six months. The Chair will liaise with the residents to provide further evidence.



- Cllr McCann also requested an update regarding the possibility of a defibrillator at Highview Road. (District) Cllr Porter advised that this would be covered under his reports.

7. Vandalism & Anti-Social Behaviour

a. Update from the Police in relation to the meeting with Endon High School and resident representation regarding recent vandalism and anti-social behaviour

The Chair provided an update following her meeting on 20th March 2026 with the Police, Endon High School, (District) Cllr Porter, and a resident representative regarding recent incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour. The Police emphasised the importance of incidents being reported promptly by witnesses rather than via third parties, in order to minimise delays and ensure that crime reference numbers are issued efficiently. The Chair shared her own experience of reporting via 101, noting a lengthy wait but a helpful follow-up. It was noted that PCSOs' shift patterns are changing, with late shifts now ending at 7pm instead of 10pm. However, patrols will continue, particularly at weekends when gatherings are more likely to occur. Councillors were reassured that efforts remain focused on preventing escalation and maintaining a visible presence. The Police further advised that any mobile CCTV devices should be deployed proactively in known hotspot areas. A member of the public raised concerns regarding Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's). The Chair confirmed that a known individual has been identified by the Police, and that ABC's are being used as part of a wider programme of support and intervention. Discussion also took place regarding the pizza van event at Endon Village Hall on 2nd April 2026. The pizza van owner was commended for his engagement and willingness to assist with litter picking following the event.

8. Amenities

a. Telephone Box Refurbishment - Moorlands Partnership Board Grant

The Chair reported the success of the Moorlands Partnership Board grant application. There has been a delay in receiving the counter-signed contract from SMDC, which will impact the project timeline. As a result, it is now unlikely that the telephone box will be reinstated in time for the Well Dressing weekend, as British Bits (Spar Logistics) require up to 10 weeks to complete the refurbishment.

9. Best Kept Village & Community Awards 2026

a. Progress update from Cllr Cowles

Cllr Cowles provided a progress update on the Best Kept Village & Community Awards 2026 submission, noting the deadline of 30th April 2026 and that work on the application is ongoing both for the mandatory and optional sections. The Chair reported discussions with Willow Vets about displaying entries for the 'I Love Endon' art and design competition as part of the submission, with Cllr Walker planning to visit Endon Hall Primary school. The art work entry competition will include four age categories (5–7, 8–11, under 18, and adults), with a proposed £25 Amazon voucher prize, although Cllr Adams suggested replacing this with a local business voucher, which will be considered further. Noticeboards were discussed, with delays noted due to the logo design. It was agreed that noticeboards will be split between Parish Council information and Best Kept Village & Community Awards promotional posters to be added on 1st May 2026. Cllr Cowles asked councillors to help distribute additional A3 and A4 posters and promote the initiative online. It was noted that in person judging is expected between late May and early June, with emphasis on village presentation and front garden upkeep. Although around 70% of scoring will reflect community activity, with 30% based on appearance during judging. Litter picks involving the Scouts and community groups were highlighted, with another proposed after the Well Dressing weekend. Councillors agreed to divide the parish into areas for monitoring, with issues reported for action. While acknowledging some anti-social behaviour and maintenance challenges, it was agreed these should be transparently reflected. Planting and environmental improvements were discussed, including cost-effective sourcing and replanting. A possible planting event on 16th May 2026 was proposed, with (District) Cllr Porter to approach local businesses for support. Cllr Cowles requested submission of any further relevant photographs and community group involvement ideas.



Cllr Spooner and (District) Cllr Jebb left the meeting at 8:16pm

10. Governance

a. To approve the new CCTV Policy for the management, operation and lawful use of the Council’s CCTV systems

Resolved: The new CCTV Policy was approved. Cllr J. Sillitoe proposed and Cllr Walker seconded, all in favour.

11. Lawn Cemetery Planning (SMD/2025/0296) Update

a. Cllr Clulow to provide an update on consideration for further ecological advice regarding Staffordshire Wildlife Trust comments on the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment, including potential revisions and to approve expenditure for further professional ecological input if costs are available at the point of the meeting

Cllr Clulow reported that an update had been received from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. Eyebright Ecology’s Director & Consultant Ecologist has responded and made further contact with the Trust. The ecologist has also attempted to contact SMDC Planning department but has not yet received a response. Cllr Clulow confirmed that he had also written to SMDC’s Planning department in the hope of receiving a prompt reply; however, no response has been received to date. It was noted that the Council may need to wait for further feedback. Cllr J. Sillitoe and Cllr Taylor expressed frustration with officers in the planning department due to the delays, noting that the process has been ongoing for several months.

Cllr Pugh and the Clerk reported that work is ongoing to trace the current inherited owners of the field located below the Lawn Cemetery site, so that access can be arranged when work is due to begin. It was noted that, a clause in the title register allows access but as a courtesy, a letter will be sent to the landowners before any contractor work starts.

12. Planning

Application No.	Location	Proposed Development
a. SMD/2026/0131	1 Parkfields, Endon	<p>Proposal: Proposed extension to rear to form kitchen-diner, study and extension to existing garage</p> <p>Comment: Cllr Clulow reported that the proximity to the rear boundary is quite close. To address this, it was noted that the proposal includes lower-level windows and glazing to the side and principal elevations. It was also observed that the side elevation is unusual, as it faces towards Leek Road. From a planning perspective, neighbouring properties will be considered and the impact on adjoining residents assessed. High-level and rear windows were discussed, and it was indicated that, from an aesthetic perspective, this would be considered acceptable, subject to boundary considerations.</p> <p>Resolved: It was resolved to support Cllr Clulow’s comments as discussed and raise no objections.</p>

A further planning notification was received on 13th April 2026 but was not included on the agenda (as this was issued on 7th April 2026). Councillors discussed the proposal as follows:

Application No: SMD/2026/0168 – 9 Woodvale Crescent, Endon

Proposal: Rear extension with enlarged balcony, internal reconfiguration with altered and additional window openings, rendering of front of property

Comments: Cllr Clulow reported that similar applications have been considered in the area and rejected in the past. He noted that the proposal aims to significantly extend the balcony area, creating a more usable space. The existing balcony to the right would be retained, with additional works proposed to extend the structure on stilts to support



the first floor. While the extension itself at ground level was not considered problematic, concerns were raised regarding the visual impact and in particular the enlarged balcony and potential overlooking of neighbouring properties. Cllr Clulow further commented that the large trees in the garden may be removed and therefore cannot be relied upon as mitigation for overlooking. He reiterated that such features do not remove concerns regarding privacy impacts on neighbouring properties.

Resolved: The planning application will be formally added to the May agenda for further discussion, and an extension to the consultation period will be requested until 13th May 2026.

(District) Cllr Porter reported that, in relation to SMD/2025/0517, land off Alwoodley, Edge Lane (which was reviewed during the February Parish Council meeting) for the erection of stables, tack room and feed store (partially retrospective) has been approved.

He further advised that SMD/2026/0079, 257 Bank, Leek Road (which was reviewed during the March Parish Council meeting) is currently under assessment by a case officer, and that the application has received overwhelming local support. He further advised that, if the officer recommendation is for refusal, he will refer the application to SMDC's Planning committee.

Cllr Clulow also requested that, where possible, (District) Cllr Porter make further contact with SMDC Planning officers to encourage a response regarding SMD/2025/0296, the Parish Council's application for the proposed change of use of agricultural land to form an extension to the existing Lawn Cemetery site.

13. Finance, Accounts & Expenses

- a. To approve the March bank reconciliation
- b. To approve the April payments list
- c. To approve the BT Renewal, with a recommendation of option 3 – office broadband and mobile phone plan for £39.55 + VAT per month, subject to an annual increase of £3 per year

Resolved: The March bank reconciliation, April payments list and option 3 for the phone and broadband renewal were approved. Cllr Houston-Smith proposed and Cllr Walker seconded, all in favour.

14. Neighbourhood Governance & LGR

a. West Midlands County Association of Local Councils Neighbourhood Governance Pack

The Chair advised that the Clerk had circulated the relevant documents to all councillors.

b. Update from the LGR Locality Meeting held on 23rd March 2026

The Chair noted that as (District) Cllr Flunder is the area's Community Champion, it was agreed that this item could be placed on future agenda's for further consideration if required. Cllr Houston-Smith reported on attending the LGR Locality Meeting and found the presentation by Linden Vernon (SMDC's Head of Democratic Services) to be very engaging.

15. Lengthsman's Team Maintenance

a. Councillors to report maintenance issues within the Parish for action by the Lengthsman's team

- The Chair reported that 15 oak trees have been sourced from Sweet Meadows Plant Centre at Draycott Nurseries by (District) Cllr Porter, with six to be planted on the A53 verge near Endon High School and the remainder proposed for the John Emery land in the area where ground has been disturbed. Cllr Cowles raised concerns regarding the suitability of planting on the John Emery site due to recent damage and suggested that the remaining trees be planted at Hillswood Park instead. Cllr Walker suggested that damaged or failed saplings at Hillswood Park could be replaced with the remaining trees.
- The wider John Emery land and White Bridge were discussed, with refurbishment understood to be scheduled for 2027. Concerns were raised regarding the bridge's current condition, safety and visual impact. Councillors noted potential for heritage funding and liaison with the Canal & River Trust. It



was reported that structural concerns have been identified, including deterioration and a crack in the main arch, and that the matter has been escalated to Staffordshire County Council and the Canal & River Trust, with potential closure being considered if deemed unsafe.

Action: (District) Cllr Porter will contact Canal & River Trust to ascertain whether a confirmed refurbishment date is any closer.

16. Lengthsman's Team Maintenance

a. District and County Councillor Reports

District reports from (District) Cllr Flunder and (District) Cllr Porter were circulated to councillors by the Clerk prior to the meeting and uploaded to the Parish Council website.

b. Councillor Reports

- Cllr Walker reported on the Moorlands Repair Café, to be held at Endon Village Hall on Saturday 9th May 2026, running from 10:00am to 2:00pm.
- Cllr Richards reported that the Co-op Local Community Fund will open for applications in late May/early June.
- Cllr Taylor reported that a meeting will be held with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust on 17th April 2026 to discuss the wildlife patch at Green Meadow Grove and options for its revival. It was noted that soil samples will be taken as part of the assessment work. Cllr Taylor added that anyone wishing to attend the meeting would be welcome.
- Cllr Clulow reported that the conifers on The Plough's back car park appear very overgrown onto the A53, Leek Road and could present a potential hazard. Cllr Houston-Smith advised that there has been a change of management at The Plough and agreed to raise the matter with the new management team.
- Cllr Clulow reported that on 10th April 2026, the kissing gates from the A53 leading to White Bridge were removed from their hinges. Cllr Cowles noted that the gates have been re-hung however the disabled access padlocks remain damaged and offensive graffiti is still present.
- Cllr Adams reported on the upcoming Walk & Draw events at Stockton Brook Waterworks, held in conjunction with the Moorlands Walking Festival on 26th April 2026 and 3rd May 2026, both of which are now fully booked.
- (District) Cllr Porter reported on the "Outside" exhibition at Wellspring Methodist Church, Cheadle, celebrating inspirational women across the Staffordshire Moorlands, including recognition of local St Luke's Church Reverend Debbie Lovatt.
- (District) Cllr Porter raised concerns regarding the Community Speed Watch sessions, which have recently been targeted by members of the public. He reported four incidents in recent months involving males stopping at the roadside during sessions, resulting in two female volunteers leaving the group, leaving only a total of five volunteers remaining. It was noted that volunteers are unpaid and acting to support community safety. The group has obtained a panic alarm and is exploring the use of body-worn cameras. It was further noted that police have not attended recent sessions, which remains a concern.
- (District) Cllr Porter provided an update on the Highview Road defibrillator provision. No response has yet been received from AED Donate; however, Julie Bayley from BEE 1st Responders has offered to fund a new defibrillator either outright or in line with AED Donate proposals. A solar-powered unit is hopeful, which would be the first of its kind in the Moorlands. The Chair advised that further discussions with the Amenities Working Group should take place once proposals are more developed.
- A member of the public reported that a Memory Disco will take place on 26th April 2026 from 1pm to 3:30pm at Endon Village Hall.

Endon with Stanley Parish Council

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Chairman: Cllr. Suzanne Sillitoe | Vice Chairman: Cllr. Phil Taylor



Exclusion of the Public

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the matters to be considered.

17. Councillor Matters

a. Further correspondence received from Cllr Spooner

Councillors considered further correspondence from Cllr Spooner.

Resolved: No further action to be taken regarding the correspondence.

Meeting ended at 9:36pm

Date of Next Meeting's:

Tuesday 12th May 2026, Endon Methodist Church at 7.00pm – Annual Parish Assembly

Tuesday 12th May 2026, Endon Methodist Church at 7:10pm – Annual Parish Meeting

Chairman	Signature	Date of Approval