

BUCKERELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th September 2026 at Doug's Shed Splatthayes

Those Present

John Slater – Chair (JS)
Jane Halse (JH)
Geoff Wright (GW)
Andy Curnow (AC)
Cllr Alasdair Bruce EDDC (AB)
Ian Tucker - Clerk (IT)

There were 2 members of the public present.

1. Apologies

Nicola Janus-Harris (NJ), Jo Knight (JK), Cllr Richard Jeffries DCC (RJ)

2. Agreeing the Minutes of the Meeting Held 8th July 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 were agreed as a correct record of that meeting.

3. Matters arising (not on agenda)

John updated the meeting on three previously discussed planning applications –

- a) Treaslake (26/1038/VAR) – Approved
- b) Pilates studio (26/1301/FUL) – Approved
- c) Quiet House (26/0866/MFUL) – Awaiting determination

4. Declarations of interest

In regard to item 12(b) John noted that his wife, Clare, very kindly maintained the floral displays around the War Memorial and Parish Noticeboard.

5. Public questions

There was a question put to Cllr. Bruce about Local Government Reorganisation, and potential problems. A discussion took place with several points of view expressed. Ultimately it was felt that the Parish Council had no influence or control over such matters.

6. Finance and Governance

Balance at bank £3257.65 (Current) and £5850.99 (Savings) at 1st September 2026

a) Payments approved unanimously -

Doug Cowan - Venue hire	£30
EDDC annual bill for emptying dog waste bin (Previously approved by email)	£265.20
Ian Tucker – reimbursement for purchase of paint for telephone box (Previously approved by email)	£118.91
Heartbeat Trust – Defibrillator annual support Yr8	£198
Peter Gent – re-paint of telephone box (23 hours)	£529

b) The second part payment of the annual precept has been received at 1st September in the sum of £2762.50 (included in the current balance above)

7. Councillor Richard Jefferies – Report

The report from Cllr. Jeffries had been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting and will be copied to the Parish Council website.

8. Councillor Alasdair Bruce – Report

The report from Cllr. Bruce had been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting and will be copied to the Parish Council website.

In addition Alasdair reported supporting the call for a judicial review into the now paused plan for Local Government Reorganisation.

He also commented on the National Planning Policy Framework which has now been revised, but leaves Feniton station apparently outside the necessary criteria for planning “presumption to approve” applications. Alasdair is chasing Planning at EDDC for some clarity on the matter.

9.Planning

a) John had contacted Planning at EDDC and been informed that an enforcement notice had been served on Sunningdale. This has not yet been actioned.
The abandoned vehicles in a field adjacent to the lane to Curscombe still await action, and Alasdair will pursue this with EDDC Planning.

AB

- b) 26/1831/AGR – It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will submit “No objections” as the consultee comment to EDDC Planning.

IT

10. Roads Report

a) Water leak on hill down to Avenhayes – Currently the flow of water has been reduced dramatically by South West Water (SWW), but there is still some flow down the hill. The damaged road surface has been patched, but still requires attention. The Clerk was asked to contact both SWW and the Neighbourhood Highways Officer to report the current situation.

IT

b) Ditch clearance – Following discussion the Clerk was asked to write to the landowner along the road towards Fenny Bridges with a copy of the diagram showing responsibilities for hedge and ditch works.

IT

11. Dogs

- a) There had been one response from the village to the email which had gone out from the Parish Council about irresponsible dog owners. Following discussion, it was felt that occasional email reminders from the Parish Council would be the only real option.

12. Village maintenance

- a) The re-painting of the telephone box had been satisfactorily completed and councillors asked for their thanks to be passed on to Peter and Steve for their work.
- b) John reported on the problems over the summer with watering the plants around the War Memorial. As there is no water on site this had required transporting large containers of water each day. John suggested two possible solutions – either self-watering tubs or a stand pipe at the Church Lych gate. As the latter could be a “win, win” for the Parish Council and for the Church it was **AGREED** to convene a combined working party to take this forward. Ian will inform the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of this development so that it can be planned in more detail at the next Parish Council meeting in November.

IT

13. Clerk's Pay

The meeting noted and approved the local government pay award of 3.3% from April 2026. This will increase the Clerk's pay from £14.59ph to £15.07ph.

14. Civic Remembrance Service Sunday 8th November

Ian will liaise with the church over arrangements for the Remembrance Service.

IT

15. Matters for next meeting

- a) Water supply at the War memorial

16. Date of next Meeting

Wednesday 18th November 2026