

**Minutes of a meeting of Horrabridge Parish Council held in the Village Hall
On Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7.30pm**
(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk)

Present: Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr S Roche (Vice Chairman),
Cllr A Moorhead, Cllr M Glinn, Cllr T Lear, Cllr J Blackmore,

In Attendance: Cllr Chris West (WDBC)
Cllr Michael Fife-Cook (DCC)
Caroline Ellis – Clerk

207:25/26 **Apologies for absence** – Apologise tendered by Cllr Edmondson due to illness was approved by the Council.

208:25/65 **Declarations of Interest** – None

209:25/26 **Public Participation** - None

210:25/26 **Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Parish meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2026**– On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Councillor Moorhead, the Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the Tuesday 10th March 2026 Parish Council Meeting was a true record and was signed by the Chairman.

211:25/26 **Planning** – The Council noted the following decisions of the Planning Authority

0033/26 Land at the rear of Manor Gardens, Old Station, Horrabridge PL20 7UQ
Prior approval is required.

0413/25 Replacement roofing and replacement guttering and down pipes. 18-21 New Park, Horrabridge PL20 7TF
Certificate Issued

Cllr Lear arrived.

212:25/26 **Finance** –

- The bank reconciliation, Trial Balance, and Budget Report dated 28th February 2026 was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Roche the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.
- Payments, Clerk's and staff salaries, was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Blackmore, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.
- On the proposition of Cllr Moorhead, seconded Cllr Lear, the Council **RESOLVED** to renew the garden waste collection at a cost of £70

Cllr Fife-Cook (DCC) arrived

213:25/26 **Grant** – On the proposition of Cllr Roche, seconded Cllr Moorhead, the Council **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £200 to Horrabridge Football Twinning Club.

214:25/26 **Asset Register 2025/2026** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Blackmore, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the additions and disposals, and the final asset register for 2025/2026.

215:25/26 **Open Gardens** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Lear, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the request to erect a gazebo in Weir Park for St Luke's Open Gardens on 23rd May 2026. The Clerk was asked to request copies of the insurance and the appropriate risk assessments.

- 216:25/26** **Mayoral Award** – The Council noted the nomination of Mr Roy Young had been successful and was chosen for a Commendation Award for the over 18 section. The award ceremony event to be held on 24th March 2026.
- 217:25/26** **EV Annual Charge** - On the proposition of Cllr Moorhead, seconded Cllr Huda, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual EV Charge of approximately £160
- 218:25/26** **Electrical Testing (Village Hall)** – The Council noted electrical testing was due in the Village Hall on 26th March 2026
- 219:25/26** **Christmas Tree Lights** – The Council considered the guide prices from Mike Harding Lighting and asked the Clerk to obtain a quotation for approval at the next meeting.
- 220:25/26** **Summer Fete** – The event was to be held on 11th July. On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Blackmore, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve a budget of £1000.
- 221:25/26** **Energy Rates** – The Council agreed not to renew the energy contracts but to wait for a more stable market.
- 222:25/26** **HRFT Pavilion Opening** – The Council noted the Grand Opening event was planned for 4th April 2026, Easter Saturday. The next HRFT meeting was planned for 24th March 2026.
- 223:25/26** **Policies** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, second Cllr Lear, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following policies
- IT Policy
 - Dignity at Work Policy (Civility & Respect)
 - Meeting Attendance Policy
 - Poultry Policy
- 224:25/26** **Open Spaces Report** – Cllr Glinn reported an inspection of Wier Park was made prior to the annual RoSPA inspection. 4 possible defects were found including worn D shackles in the basket swing, rusty litter bin lid by the crocodile swing, slate missing off the youth shelter roof and wear on the rings on the multiplay. The truck has been used twice to collect materials for Fillace Park. Cllr Glinn had a recent positive meeting with DCC Highways Officer, Cllr Fife-Cook and Cllr West. DCC will look at clearing a drain opposite Zanzibar and a field drain at the top of Jordan Lane. Cllr Glinn advised that it was now bird nesting season and hedge cutting can only take place on safety grounds. DCC informed him that more resources were going into repairing potholes and hopefully get Chapel Lane junction with Penreber Road repaired. He thanked DCC Highways for the recent yellow lines on Graybridge Road and the recent railings on Walkhampton Road. Maintenance work on Drakes Trail was due to start 16th March 2026. Cllr Glinn would be obtaining quotation from Green Scheme for replacing some play equipment.
- 225:25/26** **Borough and County Councillor Reports** – Cllr West (DCC) reported the Highways Officer agreed that if WDBC swept Jordan Lane from the cattle grid sign down to the bridge, DCC will organise the cleaning out of the drains. Cllr West was currently arranging road sweeping for the week beginning 30th March. This would mean the drains would be cleaned soon after. He proposed they do this after the main leaf drop in October/November then cleared every 6 months rather than annually. Cllr West had agreed a grant for the switching gear needed for the pavilion. He hoped Cllr Viney (DCC) would also approve a grant.

Cllr West updated the Council regarding Local Government Reorganisation. West Devon Borough Council are looking to give Parishes the opportunity to take over as custodians of land held by WDBC. This could include parks, open spaces and sports pitches. Cllr West reported a list of grants that were available.

Cllr Fife-Cook (DCC) thanked the Council for being invited to the meeting with the Highways Officer and the walk around the village. He agreed speeding was an issue in the village and would make enquiries with DCC regarding the '20 is Plenty' initiative. Cllr West (WDBC) and Cllr Fife-Cook (DCC) would share information regarding highways matters with each other and the Parish Council. There was a meeting planned with Highways and other local Parish Councils and if successful this would be repeated and involve other Parishes.

226:25/26 Councillor progress reports and items for future agenda – Cllr Blackmore was concerned that it was difficult to recruit new Councillors as residents were not interested. It was agreed for posters to be put on noticeboards and Facebook and possibly a leaflet drop to residents. Cllr Moorhead reported residents in Station Road were putting food waste in black waste bags. The collection point for the waste collection was outside the village hall and on several occasions, he had seen rats in the rubbish as there was food waste in black bags. Cllr Moorhead offered to speak to the residents and remind them to use the food waste caddies. Cllr Glinn reported he had attended a West Devon Matters meetings. He had applied for a grant towards the security fencing for HRFT. Cllr Glinn asked if the quotation for the new front door to the village hall could be added to the next agenda.

227:25/26 Public Participation – None

228:25/26 Part Two – Confidential items
On the proposition of Cllr Glinn, seconded Cllr Moorhead it was RESOLVED that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items which are CONFIDENTIAL by virtue of relating to legal and/or commercial matters, staffing and/or the financial or business affairs of a person or persons other than the Council.'

229:25/26 Staff – The Clerk reported to the Council staffing matters.

Next meeting 12th April 2026

Meeting ended 20.55

Councillor M Huda
Chairman

DATED: