CRANBORNE AND EDMONDSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Cranborne & Edmondsham Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 13th October 2026 at 7.00pm
in the Committee Room, Edmondsham Village Hall, Edmondsham.

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Cllr Steve Butler, Cllr David Elliott, Cllr Adrian Hibberd, Cllr Shirley Merrick, Cllr Derek Rome, Cllr Elizabeth Smith & Cllr Johnny Stirling.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Forwood – Clerk & three members of the public.

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1. PUBLIC FORUM

The Cranborne Village Hall asked when the CEPC would be using the Village Hall for future Parish Council meetings the following dates were noted:
10th November
8th December
12th January
9th February
13th April
11th May
8th June.
The Clerk signed the agreement.

A local resident noted the suggestion of a local working group and gave a handout about the local COP meeting that Dorset Council holds which they feel could feed into the working group. The meeting looks at local Dorset matters and making communities more robust and sustainable.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Annie Noble & Cllr David Tooke.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No interests were declared, and no requests for dispensations had been received for consideration.

4. MINUTES, ACTION AND MATTERS ARISING

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2026 were approved as an accurate record, and that the Chair should sign these accordingly, with an amendment that Cllr Butler was not present at the September meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Butler Seconded: Cllr Elliott

The Chair signed the minutes.

5. ACTION SHEET

See Annex A

6. TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR DAVID TOOOKE

No report received.

7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

8. RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS/PUBLIC SPACES

Cllr Elliott referred to a map that was distributed amongst members at the meeting noting the footpaths and ROW within Cranborne. Lovers Walk is a permissive path provided by Cranborne Estate. From Water Street up to Penny's Lane path is a permissive path provided by Cranborne Estate, both paths are not maintained by Dorset Council. The Village Halls hedge is overhanging the path at Lovers Walk path. The Village Hall agreed to cut back the overhanging hedge.

Cllr Merrick noted the ROW which is overgrown between Friday Herron and Hibberds field.

ACTION: The Clerk to report the overgrown footpath between Friday Herron and Hibberds field on the Dorset Council portal.

Cllr Elliott distributed a picture taken by Cllr Noble of the bridge built over the water on the unclassified road that goes from the Heavy Horse Centre to the bottom of Rouge Hill. Cllr Smith will find out what the latest developments are around the unclassified road and what work will be taking place in the future.

ACTION: Cllr Smith to report back at the November meeting on what the latest developments are for the unclassified road and what work will be taking place in the future.

ACTION: Cllr Elliott to take forward the issues with the unclassified road with the relevant stakeholders.

9. HIGHWAYS

Clerk to arrange to meet with the SID Team to discuss what measures would be relevant for Cranborne Village to reduce speed and road safety.

10. WEEKLY VISUAL INSPECTION OF CRANBORNE PLAY AREA

Cllr Stirling's inspection of the play area has been completed with no issues raised.

Cllr Stirling will place an out of order notice on the broken tarantula equipment until the equipment is replaced.

Cllr Elliott presented a draft safety notice for the play park gate and is awaiting a quotation.

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to the draft safety notice for the play park.

11. TREE MATTERS

Cllr Merrick reported that a tree, beside Gallipot Bridge, has fallen and is touching the riverbed, they also noted the dead tree further along the river. Cllr Merrick highlighted the hedges on the footpath which have grown into the river.

ACTION: Clerk to obtain a quotation from Grass and Grounds to clear the riverbed.

12. WORKING GROUP BETWEEN THE SPORTS CLUB, PARISH COUNCIL, VILLAGE HALL AND THE CHURCH

Cllr Elliott agreed that the Parish Council should have a representative attending the Dorset Council COP meeting that the resident attended on behalf of the community.

It was noted that the Parish Council would support the working group, as it is responsible for the playground, a valued community asset. It was noted that the purpose of the group would be to engage the community and gather residents' ideas and feedback.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would support the group. If something was to arise from the community group it could be bought to the Parish Council.

13. EMERGENCY PLANNING DOCUMENT AND AGREE FOR A CLLR FOR EDMONDSHAM EMERGENCY PLANNING.

Draft emergency planning documents have been drawn up, it was noted that there needs to be an Edmondsham alignment for their emergency response plan. It was agreed that Cllr Rome would be the emergency planning officer for Edmondsham.

14. RIVER CRANE

a. To agree a Cllr as the River Officer for the River Crane

It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Smith will be the River Officer for Edmondsham and Cllr Merrick will be the River Officer for Cranborne.

Proposed: Cllr Hibberd Seconded: Cllr Stirling

15. NEW BATTERY AND PADS FOR THE DEFIBRILATOR IN EDMONDSHAM

Cllr Elliott proposed that new pads and battery is ordered for the Edmondsham defibrillator.

Proposed: Cllr Elliott Seconded: Cllr Stirling

ACTION: Clerk to order a new battery and pads for the Edmondsham defibrillator.

16. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. To consider Financial Matters:
    a. Cranborne and Edmondsham Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)
    - The Clerk was unable to find the signed Internal Audit Report 25/26.
    - Members approve the Annual Governance Statement 25/26.
    - Members approved the Accounting Statement 25/26.
    - Members confirmed there are no conflicts of Interest with BDO

ACTION: Clerk to email BDO in relation to the Internal Auditors Report.

b. It was unanimously agreed to purchase the wreaths for the War Memorial, Option B from the British Royal Legion Website at £23.00 each. One for Cranborne and one for Edmondsham.

Proposed: Cllr Elliott Seconded: Cllr Rome

c. It was agreed to purchase Microsoft 365 package for the Clerk's laptop

Proposed: Cllr Elliott Seconded: Cllr Hibberd

d. To approve items of expenditure including Clerk's Salary:

ONLINE VISION ICT	Domain name & Clerks Email	£114.00
ONLINE CRANBORNE VH	Room Hire for July Meetings	£24.00
ONLINE ELITE PLAY INSPECTION	Cranborne Play Area Inspection	£96.00
ONLINE CLLR ELLIOTT EXPENSES	Clerk's Laptop	£490.00

Proposed: Cllr Stirling Seconded: Cllr Elliott

17. INITIAL CONVERSATIONS REGARDING 2027/28 THE BUDGET

a. Areas Councillors wish to explore

Cllr Elliott proposed the following cycle for the river, and the quote for this to be included in the budget:

- October deep clean of the river
- No action to be taken during November and March
- Tidy and start grass cutting from April
- Grass cutting only from May through to August
- Weed cut from September

It was agreed that a Grants and Donations Policy should be drafted to allow community groups to apply for a grant or donation twice per year. A grants and donation amount would be included in the budget.

Cllr Hibberd proposed restoring the precept to its previous level before it was reduced, noting that there are several forthcoming projects that would justify the increase.

17. MINUTES FROM THE CRANBORNE RESIDENTS MEETING IN MAY 2026

It was agreed to move this item to the November agenda.

18. EDMONDSHAM ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

It was agreed to move this item to the November agenda.

Cllr Smith will locate the minutes from the Edmondsham Annual Minutes.

19. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AND NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th November 2026 @ 7pm in Cranborne Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm

Signed by the Chair:_____

Date:_____