



AXMOUTH PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK:
ANDY COMERFORD
EYRE COURT HOTEL
2 QUEENS STREET
EX12 2NY
Tel no: 07973313376

Meeting held Wednesday 25 March 2026, 6.30pm, Axmouth Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Daniel (Chair), Condron, Preston, McBride, Harvey, Lucas, Prosser

Also attending: Andy Comerford (Clerk), Cllr Westerman, and Mr G Loveridge

Quorate: Yes

1. Apologies

Cllrs Hayward and Zisman (prior engagements) and Cllr Drown (on holiday).

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of 18 February 2026 were approved.

4. Items for Confidential Session

None.

5. Public Forum

District Councillor Update:

A quiet period at district level. Work continues on understanding how East Devon's rivers affect local communities. Information from recent Environment Agency meetings will be shared with the Clerk.

Public Comments:

- The agenda hadn't appeared online due to a website glitch, now fixed.
- Four posts along the brook had been knocked over by agricultural vehicles. Cllr Daniel has stood them back up. Without clear responsibility, further action is limited.

6. Highway Matters

a) Steps Lane Surface Damage:

Photos from Cllr Drown have been passed to Highways via Cllr Hayward. Enforcement of alternative routes for farm vehicles is difficult. Cllr Condron will speak informally with the new farm manager.

b) Traffic Signage:

No updates.

c) Pothole in Steps Lane:

The pothole has grown to around 9cm deep. The Clerk will re-report it as a safety concern.

[Email:-clerkaxmouthpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkaxmouthpc@gmail.com)



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d) **Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS):**

Over 6,700 vehicles were recorded in just over a month. Average speed was 18mph; one vehicle reached 40mph at 1.30am. The busiest time was 4–5pm, and the busiest day was Thursday or Friday.

7. Finance

1. Financial Statements:

Approved.

2. Village Hall Grant:

A £3,000 grant for roof repairs was agreed, payable in early May. VAT can be reclaimed.

3. Auditor:

Trudi Jenkins reappointed for 2025/26.

4. Asset Register:

Councillors will review their allocated assets.

- The lawn mower at Stepps Barn is still in use.
- One picnic bench needs attention.
- Timber on the footbridge and viewing platform will be inspected by Cllrs Daniel and 5

6. Payments Approved:

- a) British Heart Foundation – £84.00
- b) An annual £50 earmarked fund for defibrillator maintenance was agreed.
- c) J Booth (brook clearance) – £175.00
- d) Village Hall rent 2025/26 – £175.00
- e) Village Hall rent 2026/27 – £300.00
- f) Lloyds Bank – £4.25

8. Planning

- a) Stedcombe House (25/2389/LBC): No objections
- b) Stepps Cross Cottage (26/251/TRE): No objections

9. Playground

ROSPA inspection still awaited.

The Village Show Committee has kindly offered a fundraising stall for the Playground Committee (“Guess the number of balloons in the car”), sponsored by Fortnam Smith & Banwell.

10. Graveyard

The Archdeacon will visit next week to consider options for expanding burial space. The landowner is willing to sell land but not provide access, meaning access may need to come through the existing graveyard. The PCC is encouraged to pursue this.



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11. Annual Parish Meeting

The same community groups as last year will be invited to submit reports. The Village Hall Committee, The Children's Theatre, The Yacht Club, The Church and Friends, The Football Club, the Canoe Club and the Village Show Committee.

12. Bus Stop

Repairs are scheduled for 6–17 April. The contractor is expected to provide fencing.

13. Village Clean-Up Day

A joint clean-up with Seaton Chamber of Commerce is being explored. A date will be confirmed once Seaton finalises its plans.

14. Reports

Councillors:

- Footpath inspections are ongoing; volunteers still needed.
- The path to the river mouth remains fenced off, though only minor work is required. The Clerk will follow up with DCC/EDDC.

Clerk:

No report.

15. Correspondence

A grant application from the Church has been received and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 April 2026 at 6.30pm

Signed.....*N. Daniel*.....Date.....15th April 2026

Meeting closed: 7.35pm