

# The Orchards' and Margaret Marsh Parish Council (Group)

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## Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE JOINT PARISHES

**MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2026 AT 6.30pm**  
**at CHILD OKEFORD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

*These minutes do not constitute a true record until ratified at the next meeting of the Parish.*

**Present:** Cllr C. Christensen (Chair), Cllr G. Stokes, Cllr Gay  
**In attendance:** B. Barker (Clerk), and five members of the public  
**Apologies:** Cllr D. Woodruffe

**Cllr Christensen Chaired the meeting as per LGA<sup>1</sup> Sch 12, S17(1) and welcomed the Councillors and members of the public to the meeting.**

**1. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair

**2. Matters Arising from those minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

**3. Chair's Report**

The Chair presented the following report:

- The most significant issue over the last year has been the Winter flooding, particularly around the bottom of East Orchard Road. The Council now has a plan to undertake remedial work, which hopefully will alleviate the flooding in future.
- Although the FY2026 Parish Council running costs are slightly less than FY2025, this did not result in a reduction in Precept as DCC informed us there has been a small reduction in Council Tax payers. As a result, the Precept increased by about 3.5%
- Over the year, there have been 11 planning applications resulting in permission for 8 new properties, all in East Orchard.

**4. Open Public Forum**

No issues raised

The Chair thanked everyone for their contribution.

**The meeting closed at 6:40 pm.**

*These draft minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.*

Signed (Chair) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by: Beverly Barker: Clerk. Email: [clerk@orchardsandmargaretmarsh-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@orchardsandmargaretmarsh-pc.gov.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> Local Government Act (LGA) Schedule 12, S17(1)