



STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council - Fiona Osman, 20 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth, Suffolk IP31 2UJ
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Chair – Charlie Harvey-Evers

Vice Chair – Dee Burdett

Minutes of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 13 March 2025 at Stanton Village Hall.

143. Roll Call & Apologies

The following councillors were present:

Brian Brown	Keith Marlow
Dee Burdett (Vice Chair)	Barry McDonald
John Frizzell	Greg Meadwell
Charlie Harvey-Evers (Chair)	

Apologies for absence were received from the following councillors:

	Reason	Approved/ not approved
Martin Scowcroft	Work	Approved

The parish council considered a request from Cllr Frost for a 3-month leave of absence due to ill health. This was approved.

144. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

145. Public Forum: 2 members of the public attended the meeting:

Peter Palmer informed the Parish Council about the several problems being faced by The Stanton Steamer. Financially, the Steamer was only viable with current income levels for 12 months due to a reduction in advertising revenues. As the Steamer published the minutes of parish council meetings, the Parish Council were asked to contribute the cost which equated to around £1530 per annum. Secondly, the current team were looking for new volunteers to help manage and run the Steamer and asked if the Parish Council would be happy for their name to be used to help promote this recruitment. The Parish Council agreed to consider the request for cost contribution at the Budget Meeting in November and agreed for their name to be used for promoting the recruitment process. Peter Palmer left the meeting after the consideration of this item.

Phélim Mac Cafferty represented The Community Communications Partnership. Their role was to listen and understand the parish council's concerns on behalf of Jaynic who were preparing the new masterplan due to be submitted to the local planning authority in due course. All councillors were given the opportunity to express their views and concerns:

- It was confirmed the development would still be warehousing, but this would be subdivided into smaller units to meet the needs of smaller businesses.
- The link road should be completed first to relieve the village centre of HGVs
- It was requested that the height of buildings should be restricted with no more than 5m height on the outside of the development. Taller buildings could be acceptable in the middle of the development. Buildings should be painted to blend in with the surrounding countryside.

- The developer needs to be mindful of biodiversity
 - The roundabout on the A143 would not have fast food outlets but the smaller units could be sited in this area.
 - A request that the developer contributes to investment in local bus services.
- Phélim Mac Cafferty left the meeting after the consideration of this item.

146. a. Report from West Suffolk District Councillor Jim Thorndyke

- Confirmed that due to an oversight by West Suffolk Council, the Brown Bins at the churchyard would now continue to be emptied until the end of May 2025. From 1 June, this would become a paid service. The Clerk agreed to liaise with the Church to agree arrangements for sharing of the cost of bin emptying.
- The County Council had put forward their preferred option of one unitary council for Suffolk, but District and Borough Councils were in favour of either 2 or 3 unitaries.
- The application for Southview in Duke Street was referred to the Delegation Panel who refused the application due to visual impact.
- The Local Plan should be finished in July.
- Other local parishes had been working on Neighbourhood Plans and Stanton should consider whether they wish to start the process.

b. Report from Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer:

- Devolution involves the election of a Mayor for a combined authority of Norfolk and Suffolk – elections would take place in May 26.
- The Re-organisation is the move to a unitary authority (one or more) rather than County and District/Borough Councils. The interim business cases must be submitted to the government by next week.
- Confirmed able to attend village green official opening ceremony on 5 April.
- To arrange a meeting with Cllr Burdett at Grove Lane to discuss appropriate signs and/or road markings.
- The new 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs for Duke Street North should be installed by 4 June.
- Engineers had inspected the street light that has not been working at The Grundle since last summer.
- Requested that any comments or observations regarding Highways when discussing the planning application for Bloors should be forwarded to SC Cllr Spicer.

SC Cllr Spicer left the meeting at this point.

147. Clerks Report – The Clerk's Report had been circulated with the agenda and was noted.

148. Declarations of Interest - There were no declarations of interest.

149. Statutory Business / Governance

a. Accounts

i. Finance Report – the report was received and accepted.

Cleared transactions since last meeting	
Cleared receipts	£101.83
Cleared payments	£30.00

Bank Reconciliation

This was received and signed by the Chair of Finance Committee.

Balance per Bank Statements	£88,507.19
Unpresented payments	£0.00
Unpresented receipts	£0.00
Adjusted Bank Balance	£88,507.18

- ii. **Schedule of Payments – councillors approved the following payments, proposed by Cllr Meadwell, seconded by Cllr McDonald and all in favour:**

Salaries (all) (estimated due to Pay Award)	BACS	£1,669.07
Clerk Reimbursement for Phone/Internet	BACS	£10.00
Coastline Graphics (Village Sign)	BACS	£36.00
Earth Anchors (Bins for Old School Park)	BACS	£558.00
Countryside Conservation and Tree Services	BACS	£900.00
Octopus Energy (Clock Tower)	Direct Debit	£22.27
Anglian Water (Cemetery)	Direct Debit	£19.12
Anglian Water (Recreation Ground)	Direct Debit	£1,171.74
Refresh Cartridges	Debit Card	£64.88

- iii. **The transfer of £20,000 from the Business Account to the Treasurer’s Account, was approved.**

The Chairman signed the Schedule of Payments and the bank transfer as listed in **ii and iii** above.

150. Planning Applications

a. New Applications

- | | | |
|------|--|---|
| i. | DC/19/2481/OUT
Land East of Bury Road, Stanton | Supported – but with several concerns and conditions listed. |
| ii. | DC/25/0237/TPO
Berkeley Leisure, Shepherds Grove Park | No objections but with a request that new trees should be planted for any felled trees. |
| iii. | DC/25/0324/TPO
27 Michaelhouse Way | Objected – the tree should be pollarded and if not feasible, a new tree should be planted.. |
| iv. | DC/25/0252/HH
42 Honeymeade Close | No objections. |

b. Determined Applications that were rejected - noted

c. Delegation Panel Consultations

- i. **28 Jan 25** – Noted
- ii. **11 Feb 25** – Noted

151. Matters for noting and resolution:

- a. **Play Area Inspection Reports for February 2025** – the reports were received and noted. There were no major areas of concern.
- b. **Village Issues List** – list to be updated as follows:
 - 1 – Highways**
 - 1.1 Work to install ‘Unsuitable for HGVs’ signs on Duke Street North to be completed by 4 Jun 25.
 - 1.8 New village sign installed on Hepworth Road.
 - 1.9 Street light at The Grundle has now been inspected by and engineer and we are awaiting a decision on action.
 - 2 – Grounds** –
 - 2.3 The dead branches from the Horse Chestnut tree have been removed but work has not yet been completed.

- c. **Brown Bin at St John's Churchyard** - See minute 148a above – Bins will continue to be collected until 31 May when a new subscription for collection needs to be implemented. It was proposed by Cllr Frizzell, seconded by Cllr Meadwell and all in favour to submit a subscription request at a cost of £53 for the year and to ask the Church for a contribution to the cost.
- d. **Allotments** – It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Marlow and all in favour to approve a budget of up to £200 for the purchase of solar lights and a mirror for the Allotments.
- e. **Extended Warranty for SIDs** – it was proposed by Cllr Frizzell, seconded by Cllr Brown and all in favour to purchase extended warranty for the coming year for the SIDs. The Budget meeting in November would consider a suggestion to earmark reserves for the replacement of the SIDs based on their anticipated life span.
- f. **Youth Council** – Cllr Meadwell had no further information at this stage and would bring this back to the Parish Council at a later date.
- g. **Memorial Application** – it was proposed by Cllr Frizzell and seconded by Cllr Brown that the application for a memorial for the ashes plot for Cheryl Ann Stone be approved. **The Clerk to inform the Stonemason.**
- h. **Clerk Salary** – The Clerk left the room for the consideration of this item. It was proposed by Cllr Frizzell that the Clerk's salary should be increased by 1 x SCP to 22 with effect from 1 Jan 25, seconded by Cllr Meadwell and all in favour.

It was further proposed by Cllr Frizzell that the Clerk's salary should be increased by a further 1 x SCP to 23 with effect from 1 Jan 26, seconded by Cllr Marlow and all in favour.

152. Matters for discussion

Cllr Marlow raised the issue of a Neighbourhood Plan for Stanton and asked that this be added to the agenda for the April meeting.

153. Correspondence received

- a. Suffolk County Council press release re proposal for one unitary council for Suffolk – noted.
- b. Advanced notification of road repairs on Kiln Lane, Stowlangtoft – noted.
- c. West Suffolk Local Plan – Main Modifications notification – noted.

154. The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 10 April 2025 at 7pm

155. Meeting concluded at 9.01 pm

Signed by:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____