



STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council - Fiona Osman, 20 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth, Suffolk IP31 2UJ
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Chair – Keith Marlow

Vice Chair – Greg Meadwell

Minutes of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 12 March 2026 at Stanton Village Hall.

146. Roll Call & Apologies

The following councillors were present:

Dee Burdett	Keith Marlow (Chair)
Sue Foulds	Barry McDonald
John Frizzell	Greg Meadwell (Vice Chair)

Apologies for absence were received from the following councillors:

	Reason	Approved/not approved
Lorraine Frost	Family Health	Approved

The following councillor did not attend the meeting, and their absence was not approved:
Martin Scowcroft

147. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2026 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

148. Public Forum: Jamie on behalf of Bloors was present.

149. Reports from:

a. West Suffolk District Councillor Jim Thorndyke

- The recycling bins outside of the Community Centre have been moved and he will follow this up with relevant parties.
- Stanton is in the last tranche of parishes to receive new household waste bins.
- Work on the new Local Plan will start soon with a request for sites to be sent out at the end of March. Cllr Thorndyke suggested that the parish continues their work to start a Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Meadwell

- asked for an update on the Rose & Crown sign – Cllr Thorndyke confirmed this was with the enforcement team. The Chairman confirmed that he was aware there had been structural problems with the roof of the property that needed to be resolved before the sign could be reinstalled.
- Temporary electricity issue at the Co-op. C Cllr Spicer confirmed that this was in the hands of the Bond owner – the Parish should continue to follow this up.

b. Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer:

- Following the sudden announcement that County Council elections would now take place in May 2026, C Cllr Spicer confirmed that this would likely be her last meeting with Stanton as she would not be standing for re-election.
- A meeting had been arranged with Cllr Foulds and the Rights officer to walk any ROW in Stanton to note any issues.
- A143 resurfacing – C Cllr Spicer would inform councillors as soon as she received an update for this.

Cllr Frizzell proposed a vote of thanks to C Cllr Spicer for her service and support during her tenure as Stanton’s County Councillor. All were in agreement.

150. Clerks Report – The Clerk’s Report had been circulated with the agenda and the following was highlighted:

- **The Grundle** - The Clerk had found the ‘Agency Agreement’ that has been drawn up in November 2019 between Suffolk County Council and Stanton Parish Council. Further correspondence indicated that this had been chased in 2021 and the Parish Clerk at the time had confirmed that the Parish Council had voted against the proposal to sign the agreement due to not having a ‘workforce’ to deal with issues and the cost of any maintenance required.

It was suggested that as some time had passed since this was last discussed, SPC should contact the Flood and Water Engineer at SCC to restart these discussions with the aim to formalise the emergency response that SPC would undertake.

151. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

152. Statutory Business / Governance

a. Accounts

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

Cleared transactions since last meeting

Cleared receipts	£282.50
Cleared payments	£2,906.02

Bank Reconciliation

This was received and signed by the Chairman.

Balance per Bank Statements	£75,361.97
Unpresented payments	£0.00
Unpresented receipts	-£30.00
Adjusted Bank Balance	£75,331.97

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

Salaries (all) (estimated)	BACS	£1,749.34
COUNTRYSIDE Conservation & Tree Services	BACS	£840.00
Anglian Water – Cemetery	Direct Debit	£18.09
Anglian Water – Community Centre	Direct Debit	£2,901.10
Octopus Energy – Clock Tower	Direct Debit	£21.90
Octopus Energy – Floodlights	Direct Debit	£22.64
Lloyds Bank – Service Charges	Direct Debit	£4.67

The Chairman signed the Schedule of Payments as listed in ii above.

153. Planning Applications

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a. New Applications

i.	DC/26/0129/LB Dawn Cottage, Duke Street	No objections.
ii.	DC/25/2021/RM Land East of Bury Road, Stanton	Stanton Parish Council noted that Bloors had taken account of their requests and suggested amendments to the initial Reserved Matters Application and noted that these had been incorporated into the revised Reserved Matters Application. They have no further objections, and all councillors present supported the application.
iii.	DC/26/0286/TPO 1 Church Close, Stanton	No objections.

154. Matters for noting and resolution:

- a. **Play Area Inspection Reports for February 2026** – the reports were received and noted. Cllr Meadwell had sought quotations for maintenance on the Play Area equipment and fencing – see minute 154 k.
- b. **Village Issues List** – Several areas of concern had been added to the list over the past month. It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair would prioritise these using a RAG system and an indication of whether these could be completed by a local contractor or whether it needed a specialist contractor.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council would undertake repairs or replace furniture such as benches, that, although not purchased by the Parish Council, were now considered dangerous.

An updated list would be available for the next PC meeting.

- c. **Asset Register** – a thorough review of assets would be undertaken with councillors being allocated areas of the parish to review as follows:

North of the A143	Cllrs Frizzell & McDonald
Hepworth Rd and Upthorpe Rd	Cllr Burdett
The Street, Wyken Road	Cllrs Foulds and Meadwell
Recreation Ground	Cllr Marlow

Cllrs were also asked to note and photograph any street furniture not on the asset register in order to determine ownership.

- d. **Renewal of electricity contract** – The Clerk had received notification from Octopus Energy for new contract as the current one expires on 1 May 26. It was agreed that Cllr Marlow would obtain at least one other quote for comparison before a decision was made.
- e. **Action Plan** – This was updated as follows:-
 - The Litter Pick would take place on Saturday 16 May 26. The parish own sufficient litter pickers and hi viz jackets therefore the Clerk would ask WSC just to collect any rubbish from the Bus Shelter after the Litter Pick has taken place.
 - Cllr Meadwell asked that the provision of Village Gateways be added as an aspirational project.
- f. This item was removed from the agenda by the Chairman.
- g. **Barningham Neighbourhood Plan** – this was noted.
- h. **Memorial applications**
 - i. **Ashes Plot – Bill and Betty Cornell**
 - ii. **Lawn Grave – inscription for Evelyn Sonnet**Both applications were approved.
- i. **Proposal for café/coffee van at Recreation Ground with outside seating** – This was briefly discussed and all councillors were in favour of the idea. Further investigation will be carried out and costings brought back to the Parish Council for consideration at a future meeting.
- j. **EV Chargers** – an update had been received with 2 minor changes to the terms and conditions. There were noted and agreed by all councillors.
- k. **Village Maintenance** –
 - i. Comprehensive quotes for repairs to gates into two of the play areas including powder coating them (in yellow) as this would help visually impaired users were received. The quotes also included some other repairs plus the provision of two new gates to the playing field so that it could be used as an overflow car park. The quotation was approved by all councillors present.
 - ii. It had already been agreed at minute 154e, that the provision of Village Gateways would become an aspirational project on the Action Plan.

155. **Correspondence received**

- a. West Suffolk Council – Public Space Protection Order Review – noted
- b. Green lidded bin deliveries for Better Recycling – noted
- c. Renter’s rights – noted
- d. Suffolk Preservation Society – Neighbourhood Plan Study Day – Cllrs Burdett and Marlow would be interested in attending. Clerk to book two places.

- e. Email from John Groundsell – noted
- f. Email from Kas Bovingdon – the Clerk to respond.

156. Matters for discussion

- The Parish Council had been advised that putting large boulders on grass verges could cause liability issues should a vehicle be damaged by them. It was suggested that planting hedges would be a better option. The correct type of hedging plants would need to be determined.
- Cllr Foulds confirmed she was meeting C Cllr Spicer and the ROW officer and asked if councillors had any concerns about ROW within the parish.
 - Cllr Burdett stated that path between Uphorpe Road and Grave Lane that borders Sid's Piece was overgrown.
- Cllr Marlow had arranged a meeting with Stanton Football Club to discuss their wish to install a second container on the Recreation Ground. Once Cllr Marlow has all the information, this will be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting.

157. The next Parish Council meeting is on Thursday 9 April 2026 at 7pm

158. Meeting concluded at 21:15 pm

Signed by:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____