

STOKE HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at The Community Hall on Thursday 27th March 2025 at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs S Collins (Chair), G Iaccarino (Vice-chair), G Jinkerson,
K Nobbs, R Mouncer, D Mouncer, P Russell and P Strange.
Parish Clerk/RFO: D Wickham.
District Councillor: J Webber.
PC Goodrum (Poringland Beat Manager) and 14 members of the public.

Minute
Ref
No:

1. **To consider approving any apologies for absence.** 25/013
Apologies were received from Cllr Dean. The Council **AGREED** to approve these apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest, and requests for dispensation, on any items to be discussed.** 25/014
Cllr Iaccarino declared an interest in planning application 2025/0782 at item 7.
Cllr Collins declared an interest in the Payment of Accounts List at item 5.
3. **To suspend the meeting for questions from members of the public, an update from PC Goodrum (Poringland Beat Manager) and to receive reports from District and County Councillors.** 25/015
The Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the members of the public present at the meeting.
PC Goodrum (Poringland Beat Manager) introduced himself and outlined the progress that had been made in relation to the robbery at the village shop. He was made aware of the issue of off-road motorcycles being ridden around the village and updated the meeting on speed camera action which the police had taken in the village recently. Cllr Russell explained the Community Speed Watch scheme and SAM2 speed detector equipment to the local residents present and noted that volunteers were always needed. PC Goodrum confirmed that he was aware of the potentially unlawful events taking place in the car park at Dunston Common. The local Beat Managers hold quarterly meetings for local residents to receive updates and raise any concerns – details of these meetings were available on the Norfolk Constabulary website.

A report from District Cllr Webber had been circulated prior to the meeting. Member Ward Grants and Community Action Fund Grants were available from South Norfolk Council – enquiries should be made to Cllr Webber. The public consultation in respect of the devolution of Norfolk and Suffolk Councils was ongoing until 13th April 2025 – local residents were encouraged to respond.

The positioning of the new bus stop post outside The Wildebeest was raised by a local resident as it was causing an obstruction to pavement users. Cllr Collins had reported this issue to Norfolk County Council and her complaint was ongoing.

The issue of cars parking on the road during football matches at the playing fields was raised. Cllr Iaccarino explained that the school had agreed to allow their car park to be used in future if a high volume of traffic was expected.

Signed:



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The large percentage increase in the precept for the 2025-26 financial year was raised by a local resident. Cllr Collins explained the budget/precept process, referring to the Budget Explanation document the Council had prepared, and highlighted all of the increases in the budget and the reasons for them. A number of local residents expressed their appreciation for the Council's efforts to deliver and operate the new Community Hall.

4. **To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2025.** 25/016
Having been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, it was **AGREED** unanimously that the minutes were approved as a correct record.
5. **Finance:** 25/017
5.1 Approval of the bank reconciliation and Payment of Accounts List (see below) was **AGREED** unanimously.
6. **To receive an update from the Community Hall Working Group.** 25/018
Cllr Jinkerson would purchase signage for the Hall explaining the Council's policy in relation to dogs on the premises.
6.1 The Council **AGREED** Draper & Nichols' Final Account Figure of £896,296.20 for the construction of the Community Hall. A final payment of £13,444.44 is due to be paid in November 2025.
7. **Planning Applications:** 25/019
2024/3378 *Dormer Cottage, The Common, Dunston - Front porch extension and minor internal alterations.*
2025/0782 *Old Mill Restaurant, Mill Road, Stoke Holy Cross - Extension to existing extractor duct and retention of access bridge, veranda/smoking area and terrace/decking seating area.*
The Council had no objections to either planning application.
8. **To discuss any future plans relating to footpaths in the village.** 25/020
Cllr Jinkerson explained that meetings had taken place between members of the Parish Council, a representative of South Norfolk Council, District Cllr Webber and local volunteers to discuss this issue. The next meeting was to be held on 23rd April 2025. The grass cutting regime would be altered slightly to facilitate footpath improvements.
9. **To consider the proposed formation of the 'Stoke Crossbar Association'.** 25/021
Cllr Iaccarino reported that a group of local residents was proposing the formation of this voluntary association focused on providing events and entertainment for the public benefit. The association would liaise closely with the Parish Council but would be self-funding. Cllr Iaccarino would be the Council's representative within the association and would report any progress and developments to the Council.
10. **To receive a report on any items from the 27th January 2025 Six Strategic Group (SSG) meeting relevant to the village.** 25/022
Cllr D Mouncer reported that the parish councils involved in this local liaison group had agreed to donate £100.00 each towards the administration costs.

Signed:



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11. **To receive an update from the Wildflower Meadow and Playing Field Working Groups.** 25/023
Cllr Jinkerson reported that a group of local parents were planning to raise funds to help towards the replacement of the aging play equipment in the play areas. New volunteers were now helping at the meadow, including teenagers!
11.1 Five tenders had been sought for the three-year grounds maintenance contract commencing in April 2025. Following consideration of the tenders received, the Council **AGREED** to appoint Ribbonsdale Nurseries as its contractor.
12. **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting.** 25/024
The Council **AGREED** the next meeting date as Thursday 24th April 2025.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm

Signed:



Date:

24.4.25

Payments Approved at the Meeting Held on 27th March 2025

Date	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
30/01/25	Draper & Nichols	Construction Costs	15048.80	£3,009.76	£18,058.56
30/01/25	CommunityAction Norfolk	Annual Subscription	£50.00		£50.00
30/01/25	C Smith	Security Deposit Refund	£50.00		£50.00
30/01/25	S Darlow	Security Deposit Refund	£50.00		£50.00
04/02/25	Nisbets	Kitchen Equipment	£658.03	£131.60	£789.63
04/02/25	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Grounds Maintenance	£400.00	£80.00	£480.00
04/02/25	S Collins	Expenses	£22.00		£22.00
15/03/25	E Banham	Security Deposit Refund	£50.00		£50.00
20/03/25	Eon (DD)	Jan & Feb Electricity	£1,196.84	£239.36	£1,436.20
01/04/25	D Wickham	Jan & Feb Expenses	£220.38	£33.67	£254.05
01/04/25	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Meadow Cut	£150.00	£30.00	£180.00
01/04/25	Gallagher Insurance	Annual Insurance	£2,859.46		£2,859.46
01/04/25	Poringland Parish Council	SSG Administration	£100.00		£100.00
01/04/25	NPTS	Annual Subscription	£555.00		£555.00
01/04/25	S Collins	Expenses	£249.05	£37.06	£286.11
01/04/25	South Norfolk Council	Garden Waste Fee	£140.00		£140.00
01/04/25	Wave	Water Bill	£4.98	£0.99	£5.97
01/04/25	Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator Parts	£15.95	£3.19	£19.14
01/04/25	D Jones	Meadow Expenses	£3.32	£0.67	£3.99

Total £21,823.81 £3,566.30 £25,390.11

Signed:



Date:

24.4.25