



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th March 2025

Present: Cllrs. R. Barnes (Chair), Pallett (Vice-Chairman), Ball, P. Barnes, Corlett and Spillett, and the Clerk , Anne Lines.
There were no members of the public.

25.03.12.1

1. The Chair **welcomed** everyone to the meeting. He advised that that the meeting would be recorded privately by Cllr P Barnes
2. **APOLOGIES for ABSENCE** – Cllr Slater (family commitments) Declarations of interest - **NONE** Declaration of Interest Dispensations – **NONE**
3. Minutes - the minutes of the Council Meeting on January 8th, 2025 were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate record.
4. Public Forum - Cllr P Barnes reported the following which was added after the publication of the agenda
It has been confirmed that the Annual Village Tidy Up and coffee morning (approved in minutes 25.01.8.2.f) will be on Saturday 26th April 2025. 10 am to 1pm Picking sticks and Hi Vis outerwear have been ordered.
5. **County, District and Parish Councillors' Reports**

Cllr. Bobbie Bennett (Suffolk County Council)

Cllr Bennett reported that Suffolk Libraries were returning to Suffolk County Council having previously been contracted out. There is to be no reduction in library hours or staff. The mobile libraries to remain with a view to increasing the fleet.
She also discussed Devolution and Local Government Reform, explaining the difference between the two. Devolution entails combining Suffolk and Norfolk Councils to oversee areas such as major highways and health issues etc. On the other hand, Local Government Reform is a directive from the Government to have fewer councils and one unitary authority.. A business case has been proposed. She replied to questions involving speeding in the area and the request for ANPR cameras in the area. There are only 10 ANPR cameras in the whole of Suffolk so frequency of siting is restricted. She did report she will chase any data from previous ANPR recordings in the area. Speed bumps were discussed but rejected as not a viable or desirable solution. Pot holes should be continually reported particularly when they re-occur within their 2 year guarantee.

Cllr. Sarah Pugh (West Suffolk District Council) report can be found attached to these minutes. Further discussions regarding speeding:. The B1066 between Hartest and Brockley has had a temporary reduced speed restriction from 60mph to 40mph, to review with the possibility of a more permanent fixture. More widespread speeding issues were discussed, in particular, MP Nick Timothy's initiative to reduce speeding locally see link [Working to give YOU a greater say over road safety where you live - Nick Timothy](#). The Clerk to contact Nick Timothy to voice interest in joining the initiative.

6. Planning and Development – **NONE**
7. **Community Matters**
 - a) Continuation of work on a Community Engagement Policy was discussed and the point made that the council are the resident's representatives and are keen for residents to be involved. It was agreed that the upcoming coffee morning might be an opportunity for locals of Stansfield to convey their thoughts. Cllr P Barnes to continue the process and keep the council informed.
 - b) The Assets of Community Value is in draft list form and District Cllr Sarah Pugh to inform Stansfield Parish Council of contact at WSC with whom Cllr P Barnes will communicate and make a recommendation of what to include to the next SPC meeting.
 - c) It was **CONFIRMED** that the Summer Fun Day will take place on Sunday, 20th July 2025. Among many activities, it will be an opportunity for people of Stansfield to speak to Councillors with any ideas, concerns about the village, and how the parish council works for them. It was **DISCUSSED** a flyer for the event should be distributed at least two weeks before the event.
 - d) **DISCUSSED** speeding in around Stansfield. See reports from Cllr's Bobbie Bennet and Pugh – item 5.
 - e) **DISCUSSED** the Spring Tidy Up at the Old Chapel Graveyard. Cllr Slater is usually the lead in this but as he was not present at the meeting, his input will be sought so work can be actioned in accordance with Suffolk Wildlife guidance.
8.
 - a) **Clerk's Report** was discussed and actions points from the previous meetings resolved or ongoing.
 - b) **UPDATED** and **APPROVED** outstanding comments from the Internal Audit Report ending 31st March 2024.
 - c) **REVIEWED** and **APPROVED** the annual Risk Assessment and the effectiveness of the Council's Internal Audit process.
 - d) **APPROVED** and to **APPOINT** Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) as the Internal Auditor for 2024/2025 financial year.



25.03.12.2

9. RFO report

f) **APPROVED** a list of payments, the Bank Reconciliation and a Statement of accounts.

14 March 2025 (2024-2025)

**Stansfield Parish Council
Summary of Receipts and Payments
Summary - Cost Centres Only**

Cost Centre	Receipts			Payments			Net Position
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
A. Income	9,376.00	8,954.57	-421.43 (-4%)			0.00 (N/A)	-421.43
B. Administration - Staff			0.00 (N/A)	4,580.00	3,796.79	783.21 (17%)	783.21
C. Administration - Office			0.00 (N/A)	1,656.00	582.44	1,073.56 (64%)	1,073.56
D. Admin - Audit and Accounting			0.00 (N/A)	315.00	315.00	0.00 (N/A)	0.00
E. Administration - Other			0.00 (N/A)	830.00	431.64	398.36 (48%)	398.36
F. Grants			0.00 (N/A)	1,000.00	768.00	232.00 (23%)	232.00
G. Community Services			0.00 (N/A)	995.00	297.17	697.83 (70%)	697.83
NET TOTAL	9,376.00	8,954.57	-421.43 (-4%)	9,376.00	6,191.04	3,184.96 (33%)	2,763.53
Total for ALL Cost Centres		8,954.57			6,191.04		
V.A.T.					189.69		
GROSS TOTAL		8,954.57			6,380.73		

g) **APPROVED** virements across Cost Codes and from Reserves to regularise the year-to-date budget.

10. There were no items for future meetings, outside those discussed as ongoing in these minutes..

11. **CONFIRMED** the date of the next meeting, **the Annual General Meeting** , to be held on **Wednesday 14th May, 2025** at **7.00pm** in the Village Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.30