

STOKE HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at The Community Hall on Thursday 23rd July 2026 at 7.45pm.

Present: Cllrs S Collins (Chair), G Iaccarino (Vice-chair) and P Russell.
Parish Clerk/RFO: D Wickham.
County and District Councillor: J Webber.
2 members of the public.

Minute Ref No:

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| 1. | To consider approving any apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Cooper, D Mouncer and R Mouncer.
These were approved by the Council. | 26/065 |
| 2. | To receive any declarations of interest, and requests for dispensation, on any items to be discussed.
Cllr Collins declared an interest in item 5.1 (expenses). | 26/066 |
| 3. | To suspend the meeting for questions from members of the public and to receive reports from District and County Councillors.
Two reports from County/District Cllr Webber had been received by the Council shortly before the meeting. Cllr Iaccarino asked for any reports to be received prior to the day of the meeting in future, to allow councillors the time to read them in advance of the meeting. | 26/067 |
| 4. | To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25th June 2026.
Having been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, it was AGREED unanimously that the minutes were approved as a correct record. | 26/068 |
| 5. | Finance:
5.1 Approval of the bank reconciliation and Payment of Accounts List (see below) was AGREED unanimously.

5.2 Cllr Iaccarino had reviewed the accounts for the first quarter of the 2026/27 financial year and reported that everything was as expected, with £153,992.84 in the accounts, and healthy reserves. He suggested transferring some funds from the current account into the savings account.

5.3 The Parish Clerk reported that the PC laptop did not need to be replaced immediately and could wait until the next financial year. | 26/069 |
| 6. | To receive an update from the Community Hall Working Group.
Two hand dryers needed to be repaired or replaced and the taps in the toilets needed to be replaced with ones on timers. Cllr D Mouncer would obtain quotes for the taps. The toilet flushes also needed to be replaced, as Cllr Collins believed they were not releasing sufficient water per flush. Cllr Collins had obtained a quote to deep-clean the floors and Cllr Russell would obtain another. | 26/070

ACTION: DM

ACTION: PR |

Signed:

Date:

7. **Planning Applications:** 26/071
- **2026/1683** - Homestead, 40 Poringland Road: Rear extension and loft conversion. *The Council had no objections.*
 - **2026/1819** - Land North And South Of Stoke Lane, Swainsthorpe: Request for Screening Opinion under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 in relation to proposed solar photovoltaic installation.
The Parish Council's comments on this application had already been submitted and could be viewed on South Norfolk Council's planning portal.
8. **To consider forming a Solar/Pylon/Battery Working Group.** 26/072
The Council **AGREED** to form a Solar/Pylon Working Group which would also look at battery park etc. applications as necessary.
9. **To receive any updates in relation to the Community Speed Watch Scheme.** 26/073
Cllr Russell reported that the SAM2 machines were now working properly.
10. **To receive any updates from the Wildflower Meadow and Playing Field Working Groups.** 26/074
Cllr Russell reported that the ragwort, thistle and dock leaves had been removed from the meadow. Parts of the hedge had suffered, due to a lack of water during the summer drought conditions, and would need replanting. There had been an abundance of swifts this year.
- 10.1 The Council unanimously **AGREED** to accept the revised quote of £29,216.00 plus VAT for the new play equipment.
- 10.2 Cllr Iaccarino suggested obtaining quotes to move the fencing once the new play equipment was in situ. This was **AGREED** by the Council.
- 10.3 The Council **AGREED** to purchase five replacement boards to replace damaged ones at the skate park. Further replacements would be purchased as and when required.
11. **To co-opt two Parish Councillors** 26/075
An application for co-option had been received from Michelle Norris and this had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. Following a brief discussion, she was unanimously co-opted to the Council.
12. **To note the date of the next Parish Council meeting as Thursday 3rd September 2026.** 26/076
This was noted by the Council.

The meeting ended at 9.15pm

Signed:

Date:

Payments Approved at the Meeting Held on 23rd July 2026

Date	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
24/07/26	D Wickham	June Expenses	£32.33	£1.27	£33.60
24/07/26	A Wenn	Expenses	£16.67	£3.33	£20.00
24/07/26	SHX Fuel Allotment Trust	Carol Close Lease	£300.00		£300.00
24/07/26	Flat Glass Tinting	Window Frosting	£225.00		£225.00
24/07/26	Flawless Cleaning	Contract Cleaning	£324.90	£64.98	£389.88
24/07/26	Pozitive Water	Water Rates	£81.05	£8.09	£89.14
24/07/26	Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Grounds Maintenance	£779.28		£779.28
24/07/26	Playdale Playgrounds	Play Equipment (50%)	£14,608.00	£2,921.60	£17,529.60
24/07/26	S Collins	Expenses	£217.32	£43.46	£260.78
24/07/26	HMRC	VAT due	£135.25		£135.25
24/07/26	Flow Pro	Window Cleaning	£35.00		£35.00
24/07/26	eFire	Fire Extinguishers etc	£270.00	£54.00	£324.00
24/07/26	eFire	Fire Alarm Service	£230.00	£46.00	£276.00
28/07/26	EDF (DD)	Electricity	£100.46	£5.02	£105.48
28/07/26	S Himpleman	July Cleaning	£165.23		£165.23
28/07/26	A Wenn	July Caretaker	£176.11		£176.11
28/07/26	D Wickham	July Clerk*	£942.57		£942.57
28/07/26	Nest (DD)	July Pension	£95.42		£95.42
17/08/26	HMRC	July PAYE & NI	£410.74		£410.74
28/08/26	S Himpleman	August Cleaning	£165.23		£165.23
28/08/26	A Wenn	August Caretaker	£176.31		£176.31
28/08/26	D Wickham	August Clerk	£942.57		£942.57
28/08/26	Nest (DD)	August Pension	£95.42		£95.42
17/09/26	HMRC	August PAYE & NI	£410.54		£410.54
Total			£20,935.40	£3,147.75	£24,083.15

* includes single pay point annual increase

Signed:

Date: