



Starston Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mrs Libby Alexander, 25 Hill Farm Road, Long Stratton, Norfolk, NR15 2WA
Tel: 07943 279946 Email: starstonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of Starston Parish Council Meeting held in the Jubilee Hall at 7.30 pm, Monday 3rd October 2022

Present: Cllr P Astor, Cllr S Griffin, Cllr A Knowles, Cllr A Leitch and Cllr K O’Keeffe (Cllr J Broadhurst joined the meeting via zoom)

Clerk to the Parish Council: Libby Alexander

Members of the public: 1

2022/72 To consider accepting apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr F Fitch and Cllr M Wilby.

2022/73 To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest from members on any item to be discussed and consider any dispensations.

No declarations were made.

2022/74 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18th July 2022.

Resolved to approve the minutes, as an accurate record of the meeting and for them to be signed by the Chairman.

2022/75 The Clerk to provide an update on the matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and provide any other information on actions that have been undertaken since the last meeting.

- Draft Minutes from July Parish Council Meeting written and uploaded to village website.
- Parish Council piece for the September and October editions of Pigeon Post written.
- Progressed process of adding of Cllr A Knowles to Bank mandate.
- Followed up with South Norfolk Council re key for Bunn’s Lane.
- Amendments and updates made to the Parish Council area of the village website as required.
- Reported Highway issues online with SNDC and Highway Rangers.
- Responded in support of Planning application at Thurlings Farmhouse.
- Responded to SNDC declaring an interest in a grant for installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Point.
- Started CILCA Course.

2022/76 To receive reports on matters of interest to the parish from District and County Councillors.

Resolved for the meeting to be closed to allow reports from the District and County Councillors.

The County Councillor, Cllr M Wilby, had sent his report in advance of the meeting and it had been circulated to all members. See Appendix 1.



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The District Councillor was not in attendance and no report had been received in advance of the meeting.

Resolved for the meeting to be reopened.

2022/77 Parishioner open forum.

Resolved for the meeting to be closed.

A resident present at the meeting raised the following concerns:

- The condition of the wind pump was deteriorating, and as an iconic feature in the village the question was raised as to who was responsible for its maintenance.
- What was the County policy on deer control, as their numbers were increasing and ravaging local gardens?
- The 20mph speed limit signs are obscured by hedgerows on Low Road travelling towards the bridge.
- Could consideration be given to having Low Road, Hallwong Lane and Dicky Hill designated as 'Quiet Lanes'?

Cllr A Leitch confirmed that the relevant landowner was responsible for the condition of the wind pump and she believed that a trust was in place for its maintenance. Cllr P Astor agreed to contact the landowner regarding the matter. Cllr Astor also agreed to further investigate the possibility of the introduction of 'Quiet Lanes' for certain roads.

Action: Cllr P Astor

The Clerk confirmed she would report the obscured signs to the County Council and also enquire about their policy for deer control.

Action: The Clerk

Resolved for the meeting to be re-opened.

2022/78 To receive and ratify matters relating to the finances including the following:

- a) Clerk's time sheet for July-September 2022
Unanimously agreed.
- b) Finance statement for July-September 2022, and agree Councillor authorisation for payments.
 - i. Clerk's Wages for October 2022: £248.37
Unanimously agreed.
 - ii. Tax on Clerk's Wages for October 2022: £26.80
Unanimously agreed.



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- iii. Norfolk ALC CILCA Course for Clerk: £250 + VAT
Unanimously agreed.

- iv. Information Commissioner's Office Data Protection Renewal Fee:
£35
Unanimously agreed.



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BANK RECONCILIATION & FINANCE DETAIL SHEET as at 21 SEPTEMBER 2022

Date	Bank balance		Payments Total	Receipts Total	Bank Actual
15-Jul-22	12914.02				
		Balance B/F			12,914.02
		16 July - 2 Sept 2022 Sub total payments	1,207.84		11,706.18
		16 July - 2 Sept 2022 Sub total receipts	-	0.00	11,706.18
		Bank Closing Balance			11,706.18
		Earmarked Reserves			
		Members Ward - Village Sign	£ -		
		Norfolk Community Foundation Covid 19 Grant	£ 882.13		
		CIL Money	£ 185.88		
		Neighbourhood Plan	£ 2,986.61		
				* £657.50 used for F. Davies Invoice	
		Sub Total - Money Held	£ 4,054.62		11,706.18
		General Reserves i.e. Bank reconciled balance less monies held			7,651.56
		Payments Details			
		29-Jul-22 HMRC	Tax on Clerk's wages	26.80	
		29-Jul-22 F J Davies	Village Sign	657.50	
		29-Jul-22 Mrs E Alexander	July Wages	248.17	
		19-Aug-22 HMRC	Tax on Clerk's wages	27.00	
		26-Aug-22 Mrs E Alexander	August Wages	248.37	



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Sub-total payments

1,207.84

Receipts Details

Sub-total payments

-

Future payments to be approved by Council

22-Sep-22	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Wages	26.80
30-Sep-22	Mrs E Alexander	September Wages	248.37
22-Oct-22	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Wages	26.80
28-Oct-22	Mrs E Alexander	October Wages	248.37
01-Nov-22	ICO	Data Protection Renewal Fee	35.00
19-Nov-22	Norfolk ALC	CILCA Course	300.00

Sub-total payments

885.34

Unanimously agreed.



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2022/79 To consider matters relating to village maintenance, PROW and Highways including Highway Rangers.

The repairs to the bridge were currently being carried out following damage from a falling tree earlier in the year.

Cllr A Leitch reported that a new light had been installed in the telephone box on the street. She also confirmed that the box contained a fully working BT telephone.

Cllr P Astor reported on his communications with the agent for the relevant landowner of Beck Hall Meadow, and also the tenant farmer. They were not averse to a Permissive Footpath being made along the meadow; however they had requested that provision should be made to deal with dog waste.

It was noted that there was a clear aspiration by the community, as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan, for the status of this footpath to be formalised.

It was unanimously agreed that the installation of two dog waste bins – one near Beck Hall and one near Crossing Gates – was appropriate, and that it would be a justifiable expense for them to be emptied by the local council.

Resolved for Cllr P Astor to liaise with the Council regarding the installation of dog waste bins, and to revert to the landowner and tenant farmer for final confirmation about the permissive status of the footpath.

Action: Cllr P Astor

Cllr J Broadhurst reported that she was awaiting responses from landowners on other footpath issues.

Cllr A Leitch suggested the idea for the King's Coronation of promoting various length circular walks in and around Starston, based on existing footpaths, as was developed for Denton for the Queen's Jubilee. <https://www.denton-norfolk.co.uk/features/walks/>. This suggestion was not supported.

Following a discussion of installation of a second Ordnance Map Sign of the footpaths in the village it was decided this was not required.

2022/80 To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr A Leitch reported that the Plan will go to South Norfolk Council in October and, if approved, there will then follow a referendum by the community, most likely on 8th December.

2022/81 To receive an update from the Emergency Plan Co-ordinator.

No matters to report.



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2022/82 To receive an update on the 'Queen's Green Canopy' and any other tree planting matters.

Cllr P Astor, as Tree Warden, reported that he had discussed holding an on-site meeting with the relevant farmer to consider flailing and replanting the hedge beside the footpath below Yew Tree Cottage. It may be possible to get free or discounted trees from Norfolk County Council for this. Cllr P Astor would progress this further.

Action: Cllr P Astor

Cllr P Astor also confirmed that the notice about Jubilee Trees from Norfolk County Council would be posted on the village website.

Action: The Clerk

2022/83 To consider any planning applications received.

An application for a single storey rear extension had been submitted to South Norfolk Council by Mr and Mrs Curson of Beck Barn, Pulham Road.

Unanimously resolved to remain neutral on the application.

2022/84 To receive an update on application for grant funding for the installation of an Electric Vehicle Charging Point in the village.

Cllr P Astor reported that discussions had taken place with the trustees of the Jubilee Hall, and while there were still practical questions at this stage, the trustees were in principle in agreement. Cllr P Astor will report progress at future meetings as further information is received from South Norfolk Council.

Action: Cllr P Astor

2022/85 To consider signing up to the Civility and Respect Pledge.

Resolved to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge and post on the village website.

Action: The Clerk

2022/86 The Clerk to provide and receive items for the next agenda, and confirm the date and time of the next Parish Council meeting, to be held on 21st November 2022 in the Jubilee Hall at 7.30pm.

Date noted.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.



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Appendix 1

From the Chairman of Norfolk County Council, Councillor Karen Vincent:

“Norfolk County Council joins in the nation's mourning for Her Majesty The Queen. Her Majesty served our Nation and the Commonwealth with great distinction. Throughout her remarkable reign, spanning more than seven decades, she was a constant and unifying figure during a time of great change. The Queen, her late husband Prince Philip and their family spent long and happy periods of residence in our county and we will always hold a special place for Her Majesty in our hearts. This is a time to mourn, but also to reflect and be grateful for Her Majesty's unwavering commitment and selfless service. On behalf of the people of Norfolk I shall be sending a letter expressing our sincere condolences.”

**A dedicated email address for condolences is in place:
condolences@norfolk.gov.uk**

Norfolk Schools buck the national trend with 'best ever' GCSE results.

The class of 2022 was the first ever GCSE cohort to have completed their entire studies with some form of Covid disruption – having started their courses after the pandemic hit. The group were also the first to sit traditional exams since 2019 – with experts predicting ahead of time that fewer pupils would come away with the very top grades. It was also predicted that results would eclipse those of 2019, but overall would be lower than 2021. But in Norfolk and Waveney some schools boasted their “best ever” results, bucking this national trend. A special mention to all of the pupils and staff at the Harleston Sancroft Academy on their outstanding results.

This year Norfolk County Council are offering subsidised tree packs to everyone in Norfolk through the Jubilee Trees for Norfolk scheme: www.norfolk.gov.uk/jubileetrees. People applying for these packs can be individuals, landowners, or businesses, which shows that this scheme is invaluable to applicants who can't show community benefit for their planting. These people can't usually access tree offers, so tree packs and tree guards with up to 50% reduction is a great opportunity for them. A range of native tree packs including hedges and orchard packs are available through our website. Also, we are offering to Parish and Town Councils and community groups carefully selected heritage orchard packs through this Jubilee scheme which are slightly more expensive than the other packs at £200 (these saplings are larger in size). We are keen to see more community orchards spring up around the county, as these are a wonderful haven and resource for wildlife and people – a legacy for future generations.

Homes for Ukraine update

So far, we have welcomed 880 Ukrainians to Norfolk through the Homes for Ukraine scheme, which is over two-thirds of the 1200 guests that we are currently expecting in the county. We are grateful to all our hosts and communities for offering such a warm welcome to our new arrivals. The processes for the Hosts safeguarding and housing checks, and for welcoming new arrivals are now well established, as is the information and support available to hosts and guests on our website and through regular emailed updates to hosts. If you have any questions relating to support for hosts and guests under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, please contact



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ncchomesforukraine@norfolk.gov.uk

The Stars of Norfolk and Waveney Awards have officially launched for 2022 and are ready to receive your nominations. To mark a decade of recognising the great and good, new categories have been introduced to extend the net of recognition. The annual celebration highlights those often unseen acts of kindness, bravery and selflessness that make our communities special. To nominate and to see the categories visit starsofnorfolk.co.uk. Entries will close on 16th October 2022. Finalists will be announced on 19th November 2022 and the winners will be revealed at the awards ceremony at Norwich Cathedral on 1st December 2022.

A reminder about the Household Hazardous Waste Day being held at Norwich South Recycling Centre on the 15th and 16th of October 9am – 4pm, where you can dispose for free such items as: aerosols, household chemicals and cleaners, fire extinguishers, garden pesticides and fertilisers, paint, photographic chemicals and wood preservatives. (www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste)

Also, a reminder that the road between the Pulhams and Harleston is closed for repair work to Starston Bridge from 12th September to 3rd of October with appropriate diversions in place.

Best Wishes,
Martin