

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council

held at the Court House, Stradbroke on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 commencing at 7.30pm

**Present:** Edward Chew, Karen Lynch, Maureen John, Caroline Stebbing (c), Toni Wisbey

**In attendance:** Odile Wladon (Clerk), District Cllr Linder and 6 members of the public.

Item Ref	Description
<b>26.02.01</b>	<p><b>Chairman’s welcome</b></p> <p>Notice was given that the meeting would not be broadcast to the Parish Council’s Facebook page. Members of the public were reminded that this is a meeting of the Parish Council held in public; it is not a public meeting. Members of the public may address the Council with comments on agenda items including planning applications during the public forum.</p>
<b>26.02.02</b>	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>(a) Councillors received apologies for absence from Lawrence Champion, James Hargrave, Russell Ayling and Antony Bush.</p> <p>(b) Councillors <b>resolved</b> to accept the apologies received.</p>
<b>26.03.03</b>	<p><b>Declarations of Interests</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interests received.</p>
<b>26.02.04</b>	<p><b>Dispensations:</b> There were no requests for dispensations received.</p>
<b>26.02.05</b>	<p><b>Councillor vacancies:</b></p> <p>Councillors noted that:</p> <p>(a) No election has been called to fill the latest vacancy; therefore all vacancies can be filled via co-option.</p> <p>(b) No applications for co-option have been received.</p>
<b>26.02.06</b>	<p><b>Minutes:</b></p> <p>Councillors <b>resolved</b> to approve the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.</p>
<b>26.02.07</b>	<p><b>Updates from Councillors/Committees/Clerk</b></p> <p>(a) Updates from Committees: no meetings since last full Council meeting.</p> <p>(b) Update for Broadband working group: no update at this meeting</p> <p>(c) Councillors with specific responsibilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Youth Voice – no update at this meeting</li> <li>ii. Climate Change – information will be available at the Annual Village Meeting</li> <li>iii. SALC – no update at this meeting</li> <li>iv. Bus transport – the Wednesday bus to Diss will close this month due to lack of demand.</li> </ol> <p>(d) Training – none booked or attended.</p> <p>(e) Action taken by the Clerk.</p> <p>Agreed with Michlmayr that clock chimes will be reconnected and repainting of clockface has been held up by the very wet weather.</p> <p>Cemetery – Councillors approved a quote for works to plant a memorial wildflower meadow.</p> <p>Playing Field – Councillors approved a quote for the removal of grass cuttings at the playing field.</p>
<b>26.02.08</b>	<p><b>Public forum:</b></p> <p>A question was raised about how many “paupers” graves are at the cemetery – Clerk will respond with information.</p>

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	A comment was raised about hedge cuttings being left on the playing field site by home owners when they cut their hedge. Clerk will put a request to home owners to tidy up in the monthly.
26.02.09	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>(a) Councillors determined responses to the following planning consultations:</p> <p><b>DC/25/05422</b> – Reconsultation: Application for consent to display an advertisement – retention of large black and white aluminium and PVC illuminated backlit sign 14 wide and 4.5m high showing Skinners brand name and design. Roger Skinner Ltd, Queen Street IP21 5HL. <b>Comments to be submitted.</b></p> <p><b>DC/25/05398</b> – Listed building consent: repair or replace roof tiles woodwork and chimneys. High House, Wilby Road. <b>Support</b></p> <p><b>DC/26/00137</b> Listed building consent: retrospective application for replacement windows in front elevation (like for like replacement) and replacement of modern double glazed timber windows on rear elevation to match those at the front. Passmore Weeks and Richardson, Church Street. <b>Support</b></p> <p>(b) Councillors noted the outcome of the following planning applications determined by MSDC:</p> <p><b>DC/25/04640</b> – Listed building: Grove Farm, Queen Street GRANTED</p> <p><b>DC/25/04030</b> – Grove Farm, Queen Street GRANTED</p> <p><b>DC/25/03449</b> – Hepwood Logdge, Wilby Road. Discharge of conditions 8, 9 &amp; 10</p> <p>(c) Other Planning matters</p> <p><b>DC/26/00097</b> – Application for lawful development certificate. This is being considered by officers at Mid Suffolk District Council. Mulberry Lodge, Laxfield Road.</p>
26.02.10	<p><b>District Councillor report:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A high court decision on whether the May 2026 County Council elections can go ahead will be published before the end of Feb. 2026</li> <li>• No update has been received on whether there will be 1 or 3 unitary authorities in Suffolk.</li> <li>• Central government is proposing a reduction in grant funding. Rural areas seem to be more affected than urban areas. Officers have completed a comprehensive response to the consultation on the proposal.</li> </ul>
26.02.11	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><u>Monthly accounts</u> - Councillors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. noted account balances at 31<sup>st</sup> Janaury2026. Deposit £139,084.69 Current £17,298.92 Bank statements were initialled by Chair.</li> <li>ii. <b>resolved</b> to approve the payments as per the schedule appended to the minutes.</li> <li>iii. noted receipts in January 2026</li> </ol>
26.02.12	<p><b>Updates on Council Projects</b></p> <p>(a) <u>Pedestrian/Highways Safety Project:</u> To receive an update on the following project areas: <b>Karen</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. SIDs Highways have been chased about installing the pole on New Street and have advised this will be carried out as soon as possible. A meeting with officers on site was requested to enable a suitable location to be found for the pole on Laxfield Road – officers advised this was not possible. Investigations continue.</li> </ol>

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	<p>ii. 20mph Suffolk County Council have stated that for the 20mph speed limit to be considered updated traffic surveys have needed. County Cllr Lloyd has been asked for assistance in this matter as the delay which has led to the survey's being out of date was not caused by the Parish Council.</p> <p>iii. Waiting restrictions Councillors discussed the previously circulated consultation responses. Councillors <b>resolved</b> to continue with the project.</p> <p>(b) <u>Pedestrian crossing points</u>: no update for this meeting.</p> <p>(c) <u>Neighbourhood Plan review</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft Neighbourhood Plan Review has been prepared and is being reviewed by the Steering Group and LUC.</li> <li>• Councillors <b>resolved</b> not to proceed with a design code, as it would only be relevant to the additional site being included as the 3 sites being carried forward already have some form of planning permission.</li> <li>• Councillors <b>resolved</b> not to proceed with a Housing Needs Survey is not required as the Housing Mix policy has not been changed.</li> <li>• Councillors noted that the Parish Council will need to fund any strategic environmental assessment work – this will cost approximately £10,000. Councillors noted this was likely to be funded from the CIL funds.</li> <li>• Councillors agreed a provisional date for launching Plan Review consultation: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026, suggested date for Annual Village Meeting – Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026 which would include a presentation on the review. This is subject to the draft being ready in time.</li> </ul> <p>(d) <u>Tennis Courts</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grant from Mid Suffolk District Council has been accepted.</li> <li>• A meeting took place between members of the F&amp;P Committee and the Tennis Club, the following actions were agreed. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email correspondence will not be used for urgent communication.</li> <li>2. Lighting upgrade will take place prior to resurfacing.</li> <li>3. Clerk will inform Brook Electrical that Tennis Club will be contacting them.</li> <li>4. Tennis Club will work with Premier Sports to revise the specification.</li> <li>5. Tennis Club to project manage on a daily basis.</li> <li>6. Tennis Club will liaise with Community Centre on access and electrical works required.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• Councillors noted that the Tennis Club has confirmed they will make contribution to the project.</li> <li>• Negotiations are underway as to when the resurfacing works will commence start date is dependent on when lighting can be upgraded.</li> <li>• The solicitor working on the lease has advised that the cost has increased. Councillors <b>resolved</b> that the Parish Council contributes £1,000 to the cost.</li> </ul> <p>(e) <u>Clock</u>: Winding mechanism is complete and the chimes will be reconnected. Work on the clock face has been delayed due to the weather.</p> <p>(f) <u>Playing field safety &amp; security</u>: Works have not yet been ordered and a meeting to review the compound size has yet to be arranged.</p> <p>(g) <u>Chapel</u>: No update for this meeting.</p> <p>(h) <u>Play equipment</u>: Councillors agreed that a discussion on what to include to replace the piece of equipment recently removed from Westhall takes place with members of the</p>

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	public at the Annual Village Meeting. Direct discussions with the pupils at the primary school can take place during term time.
26.02.13	<b>Policies and Council protocols and documents for approval or review:</b> None
26.02.14	<b>Playing field:</b> it was agreed that the Clerk will prepare a report of options and legal requirements for Councillors to review at a later meeting.
26.02.15	<b>Correspondence:</b> (a) Tabled: Councillors noted and <b>agreed</b> actions for correspondence tabled at the meeting. Email: MSDC re catchment and landscape nature recovery grant event: 4 <sup>th</sup> March at the Mix, Stowmarket. Noted Email: regarding first responders, Clerk has replied. No further action Email: regarding site selection outcomes, Clerk has replied. No further action (b) Emails: Councillors to note correspondence previously circulated - SALC bulletins
26.02.16	<b>Next meeting:</b> Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2026

Meeting closed at: 8.30pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: