

Stody with Hunworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on Tuesday 17th March 2026 at 7pm at Hunworth and Stody Village Hall

PRESENT: Karl Carter (Chair) (KC). Charlotte Crawley (CC), Adam Godwin (AG), Alan Suffling (AS), Beverley Tiller (BT). Kerry Harris - Clerk. (KH), NNDC Cllr Andrew Brown (AB).
5 Members of the Public

26/01. Chair's welcome and to accept apologies for absence – KC welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were accepted by All for Cllrs, Jeremy Philippi and Andrew Taylor. Apologies have also been received from NCC Cllr Dalby.

26/02. Declarations of interest and dispensations to speak – There are none.

26/03. To agree the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th December 2025 – These were agreed by all to be a true record of the meeting on a Proposal by CC and Seconded by AS and were signed by KC.

26/04. Matters Arising, not included on the agenda – No Update has been received from NCC Highways regarding the tank on the Track.

26/05. Open Forum for public participation:

(i) Questions and comments from members of the public-. A resident expressed concern about the damage commercial vehicles are doing to the corners of the Greens. There was also concern about damage to road verges. KC will contact the Stody Estate about damage on the Greens and contact Anglian Water to arrange a meeting as much of the damage to the Hunworth lanes occurred due to the recent road closure. He will copy NCC Cllr Dalby in the email.

A resident asked for clarification regarding the 35.8% rise in Council Tax. KH has responded that the annual increase amounted to £21.18 and was primarily to cover the anticipated costs for employing a contractor to cut the grass on the Greens. The resident also questioned the necessity of the Greens being cut at the frequency currently taking place. KC reiterated the PC's current position of supporting "No Mow May" and leaving the area under the trees on the Pub Green with longer grass.

A resident requested that the PC look into the introduction of a 20-mph speed limit for the village. Cllrs concluded that there are no mitigating factors for this in Hunworth and it was decided not to pursue this at this time as the village had no flashing speed sign nor Speedwatch group. Cllrs believe the 30-mph zone should start further up the road as you approach Hunworth from both Holt and Briston and would like to consider other speed mitigation measures. The Clerk will contact the Highways Engineer to arrange a meeting.

A resident challenged the height of the new outbuildings at the cottage on the Green. Cllrs have checked the plans and believe these are in line with the specification.

(ii) To receive report from NCC Cllr Dalby – Cllr Dalby had sent a written report – County Council elections to take place on 7th May; County Council budget agreed with a 4.998% increase in Council Tax; Update on number of emergency and non-emergency calls to the Norfolk fire service last year; Highway Improvements: NCC has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting local communities with the approval of 99 new highway improvement schemes for 2026-27 in the Parish Partnership scheme, and gave national updates on the Schools White Paper, the Post Office Green Paper and Environment Agency teams protecting waterways from pollution.

To receive report from NNDC Cllr Brown: Cllr Brown is standing to be a County Cllr. Stody with Hunworth is in the new Holt Division; Anglian Water have announced a new round of the Thriving

Communities Fund to provide grants for better drainage features such as ponds and rain gardens; an update on the closure of Corpusty School; concerns about fly-tipping; emergency help with fuel bills announced; new Vodafone mast at Saxthorpe.

26/06. To receive an update on Planning Matters

- (i) Breck Farm – currently no application – an advisory to PC that they are wanting to bring material on site as well as remove it. Any application will go to the County Council.
- (ii) FUL/2025/0028 Holt Quarry – Restoration scheme: Awaiting decision
- (iii) To agree responses to late planning applications – There were none.

26/07 To receive an update on The Hunworth Bell pub– A couple of matters are outstanding with the viability assessor. Depending on the outcome of discussions on the S106 legal agreement this may go to the April or May meeting, but will be delayed if this is not resolved.

26/08 To receive an update on Highways matters and Approve any Action.

- (i) To consider and Approve and action on the mud approaching Beck Farm – KC will write to Stody Estate.
- (ii) To receive an update on the new track on the Green and Approve any Action – some of the potholes have returned due to the surface being laid in wet weather: this was expected and the contractor will return and make good at no extra cost.

26/09 To receive an update on the Defibrillator and Defibrillator Training and Approve any Action– Over the last couple of months both the battery and pads have been replaced for reasons of date. No further action is anticipated.

26/10 Finance and Governance matters

- (i) To Approve the financial statement, the budget update and the following payments and receipts: Receipts: none; Payments — £47.00 ICO Renewal, £493.58 Clerk's salary: Jan - March, HMRC - £123.40 Tax on salary £91.14 Defibrillator Pads (Reimbursement to the Clerk), £38.64 Clerk's expenses, £809.58 Mower service (Reimbursement to the Clerk). This was Approved by All on a Proposal by BT and Seconded by AS.
- (ii) To Approve new signatories to the Bank Account for internet banking & cheque signature - This was deferred until the next meeting – KH will investigate other bank accounts. It was noted that the TSB is at the Banking Hub in Holt on Tuesdays.

AB left.

- (iii) To Approve a grant to Stody PCC for upkeep of the churchyard – A grant of £250 was Approved on a Proposal by BT and Seconded by AG
- (iv) To Approve the following policies: Financial Regulations, Risk Management, Information Audit, Asset Register, Data Protection for Councillors – Cllrs had read the policies and had no questions. The policies were Approved by All on a Proposal by CC and Seconded by BT.
- (v) To Approve a contribution towards Training costs for the Clerk to attend the following courses:£11.00 to be paid to Thursford PC (Internal Audit course) & £11.20 to be paid to Gunthorpe with Bale PC (NPTS Spring Seminar) plus 20% contribution towards mileage for each course – held in venues in Costessy – This was Approved by All on a Proposal by AG and Seconded by AS.

26/11 To consider any action regarding the heating Oil Savings company WCF Handlers – Councillors decided to take no action.

