# Stody with Hunworth Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on Tuesday 8th May 2026 at 7pm at Hunworth and Stody Village Hall

**PRESENT**: Karl Carter (Chair) (KC). Charlotte Crawley (CC). Jeremy Philippi (JP), Alan Suffling (AS), Beverley Tiller (BT). Kerry Harris - Clerk. (KH)
NCC & NNDC Cllr Andrew Brown (AB), 6 Members of the Public

**26/36. Chair's welcome and to accept apologies for absence** – KC welcomed all to the meeting. He informed the meeting that Cllr Andrew Taylor has resigned from the Council and was thanked for his contributions while a Councillor.
Apologies were accepted by All for Cllr Adam Godwin.

**26/37. Declarations of interest and dispensations to speak** – BT declared an interest in Planning agenda item PF/26/1709 and was given a dispensation to speak.

**26/38. To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th May 2026** – These were agreed by all to be a true record of the meeting on a Proposal by BT and Seconded by AS and were signed by KC.

**26/39. Matters Arising, not included on the agenda** – There were none.

**26/40. To review the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting** – No amendments were needed.

**26/41. Open Forum for public participation**:

(i) Questions and comments from members of the public- A resident praised Cllr Taylor for his work while a Cllr.

A resident expressed concern about the number of rats in the vicinity of the Hunny Bell pub. KC will write to the Estate Manager.

A resident noted that the flooding on 20th August had reached knee height near the farmyard. KC contacted Charlie MacNicol who responded that the debris resulted from fields and verges due to an inch of rain/hail in 15 mins onto exceptionally hard ground. We have lightly cultivated as much land as we dare, to allow the water in and for fire risk.

A resident reported the debris to NCC Highways who cleared the debris near the Bridge and then by the Green.

(ii) To receive report from Cllr Brown for NNDC – Council's Funding Gap – costs are being driven by new waste requirements, children's and adult social care services and school transport, Revenues & Benefits Award – 98.3%revenue collection makes NNDC 4th best in Norfolk and 14th in the Country, Skills and Career Service – the monthly "In the Know" newsletter can be found on the NNDC website by typing in "Invest North Norfolk", Planning – a decision on whether Aldi or Lidl are granted planning in Holt will be decided on Thursday: Nexus have reported that the impact on Holt Town Centre will be 11% if only 1 is built but 22% if both stores are built; National Scheme of Delegation is a move by the Government to restrict what can be taken to Development Committees leaving more decisions in the hands of officers – in operation from the end of this month, Dam Hill Plantation – the operator has agreed to apply for a Certificate of Lawfulness, Anti-Social Behaviour: Holt – Everyone is advised to ring the police when anti-social behaviour is happening: the police triage according to the number of complaints, Shrubbs Poultry Farm – use PF/22/1753 &

PF/22/1796 to track on NNDC Planning portal, Unitary Authorities – have been paused by the National Government.

To receive report from Cllr Brown for NCC – Love your Market Town Grant has reopened, Trial of new pothole repair machine – the trial is taking place in South Norfolk over the first week of September to decide whether to purchase a machine, Potholes & road maintenance – new Government reporting requirements, Dept of Transport requires Councils to show how they are fixing potholes. Residents are encouraged to report potholes and road defects through the NCC "Report a Problem" portal, LGR – a judicial review has been submitted by the Reform leading administration, Fire & Rescue service – continuing to respond to high summer demand, Fridge & Freezer recycling – currently can only be taken to Hempton due to national capacity issues, Dennis Bacon named as preferred appointment for Chief Executive.
AB has seen recordings of the flooding in Hunworth. He has been informed by Charlie MacNicol that when the construction takes place flooding will be much improved.

**26/42. To receive an update on Planning Matters**

(i) FUL/2025/0028 – Holt Quarry Restoration Scheme – Awaiting decision. Cllrs agreed they had no further comments to make.

(ii) PF/26/0125– Holiday Units at Stody Hall – Approved

(iii) PF/26/1312– Stody Hall Replacement windows – Approved

(iv) PF/26/1698 - Hall Cottage Single storey extension & detached car port: Cllrs considered the design with a low profile pyramidal roof to be the most appropriate and with the lowering of the garden room to match the kitchen level we felt this had minimal impact from the view from the road – supported by All on a Proposal by AS and Seconded by JP. The car port and log store is similar to others locally and to minimise the view from the neighbouring property the PC request that the roof apex is kept as low as possible. Supported with one abstention on a Proposal by CC and Seconded by BT.

(v) PF/26/1709 - The Cottage Next to the Chapel single storey front & side extensions: The proposal is for a new garden room to be built at the same level as the downstairs bedroom and kitchen. Access to the existing living room is down steps and this new build will give more space on an equal level. There is also a plan to extend the porch slightly. The design was discussed and the application was supported unanimously on a Proposal by CC and Seconded by KC.

(vi) To receive an update on Florence Cottage – Residents have noticed building work at this property: the back end of the property has been demolished and one chimney has been removed. This has been reported to NNDC Planning Enforcement.

AB confirmed that any demolition in a Conservation Area requires Planning permission so the owner will have to apply for retrospective planning permission, which may be approved or may require reinstatement of the demolition

(vii)To agree responses to late planning applications - There are none.

**26/43 To receive an update on The Hunworth Bell pub and development** – Charlie MacNicol was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report: we are working through the numerous pre-commencement conditions, including archaeology, contamination, building regulations and further surveys. Whilst at the same time, we continue to review costs and the overall viability of the scheme in the current market environment.
There are 3 years from planning approval for work to start.

**26/44. To receive an update on Highways matters and Approve any Action**.

(i) To receive an update on vehicle damage on the Greens – AS is concerned about damage to The Greens as a result of the size and volume of traffic and the increase in the volume of such vehicles through the village. AB recommended taking photos and sending these to NCC, noting that it is a Village Green.

AB is in the process of arranging a walk-through in areas of Thornage with the local Highways Engineer. He will include Hunworth on the walk. KC will liaise with AB.

To enforce a restriction of HGVs through the village requires a Traffic Regulation Order and for enforcement to be supported by the police, which will persuade SatNav operators to remove it from an acceptable route.

(ii) To receive an update on Barbers Lane Stody Footpath No. 1 to a Restrictive Byway 57399/HP421/2 – The PC were informed by NCC of this application in 2023 and objected to it. It has now reached the Inspector who was not aware on the PC's objection, which has now been forwarded to him.

(iii) To receive an update on the Hunworth Road Bridge – The Deputy Bridge Team Manager informed the PC that a general inspection of the bridge is carried out every 2 years. The last one was on 6th August 2024 so the next is scheduled for this year. The inspections are carried out and recorded in accordance with national standards and best practice. The inspector will look at all visible elements and determine whether the condition has deteriorated since the previous inspection, e.g. cracks, spalls, settlement/movement. The inspection is not an assessment of the bridge's load carrying capacity, although any significant deterioration my trigger the need to carry out that assessment.

(iv) To Approve obtaining a quotation for a French Drain to relieve flooding in Hunworth – A property has been flooded at the end of the track across the Green – this is primarily due to a water collection tank that is the property of NCC that fills and then overflows. The PC have received a quote to create a French Drain across the Green to alleviate the problem. AB suggested Parish fundraising for this.

KH and AB to liaise re Highways and lead local flood agency at NCC. If work is undertaken, the PC would need to contact NCC re work being undertaken on a Village Green

(v) To consider and Approve any action to apply for funds via the Parish Partnership for 2027 – there are currently no projects suggested. It was noted that the closing date for applications (1st December) is before the next meeting, so an Extraordinary meeting will be organized if a project is considered.

**26/45. To receive an update on the Hunworth Greens, grass cutting and mowers**

(i) To consider the options for cutting the Hunworth Greens for 2027 and going forward – The current contractor uses his own equipment so the main Parish mower has been sold. The current contract is for £1,900 for a maximum of 10 cuts, with the option of paying for additional cuts. Cllrs agreed to add 2 additional pieces of land to be cut to the proposed contract for next year: the triangle at the Holt end of the village and the area near the telephone box.

Quotes will be obtained for discussion and decision at the next meeting for a 3-year contract.

AB left. 2 Residents left.

(ii) To Approve the sale of the Battery mower – Selling the mower by sealed bid was Approved by All on a proposal by CC and Seconded by JP.

**26/46. Finance and Governance matters**

(i) To Approve the Financial Statement, receipts and payments since the last meeting and to note spending against the budget – The balance on the Bank Account from 14th August statement was £11,015.95. Since the last meeting: Receipts: Bank compensation £40.00 due to TSB blocking the PC account in error and cancelling cheques; Payments – Grass cutting 2 (Replacement cheque) £190.00, Insurance (Replacement cheque) £264.00, Hall Hire (Sept & Dec) £54.00,20% towards Clerk's training £10.40, Grass cutting payments 4 & 5 & 6 (Reimbursement) £570.00, Clerk's Expenses £71.22, Clerk's salary £613.73, Tax on salary £153.40. There were no questions and the Financial Statement was Approved by All on a Proposal by AS and Seconded by CC.

(ii) To receive an update on changing the bank used by the Council – The Co-operative Bank have withdrawn PC Accounts, so an account has been opened with the Unity Trust Bank. The current account switch was finalised today – 8th September

(iii) To note the Local Government pay award of 3.3% backdated to April 2026 – This was noted.

(iv) To note the HMRC increase in mileage rate & adopted in the Green Book from £0.45 to £0.55 per mile – This was noted.

(v) Clerk's Training: to Approve the following costs £10.40: 20% contribution to the Code of Conduct course and £52 + VAT payment for Training for the 2027 elections - % of net costs to be reimbursed by other PCs the Clerk works for – This was Approved by All on a Proposal by BT and Seconded by CC

(vi) To Approve the following policies: Co-option, Equal Opportunities – There were no questions and the policies were Approved by All on a Proposal by BT and Seconded by AS.

**26/47 To note any Correspondence.**

NNDC Local Plan review & call for sites
Police online neighbourhood meetings
NCC & NNDC Cllr Brown reports
Closure of Church Lane 11th August
Anglian Water Webinar
NPTS Update
NNDC Electrical waste update
Planning Policy consultation
Letter from Deputy Leader of NCC
NNDC Mobile Connectivity Survey
NCC Parish Partnership Invitation
Cllr Brown reports for meeting

**26/48. Dates of Parish Council meetings –** 7pm, Tuesdays 1st December, 9th March, 11th May

**26/49. Any other business for information only** – KH clarified that the Cllr vacancy needs to be advertised for election for 14 days and if no election is sought by 10 electors the vacancy can be filled by co-option at the next meeting.

CC has prepared a "Welcome" Sheet for new residents to the Parish. This will go on the agenda for the next meeting

**26/35. Close the meeting** – KC thanked everyone for coming and the meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Signed Date