STANWICK PARISH COUNCIL

2025 Silver Jubilee Year

Chairman: Councillor Mark Taylor
Clerk to the Council: Ms J. L. Hodgson
www.stanwickparishcouncil.org.uk

MINUTES of COUNCIL MEETING

Date:	21st August 2025	
Venue:	Committee Room, Village Hall, Stanwick	
Time:	7.15 p.m.	
Present:	Councillors:-	M Taylor in the chair
		G Banks
		B Johnson
		S Kitchener
		G Konstantinidis
	Clerk to the Council	J Hodgson
	Members of the Public	1

25.72 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Ashby. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That Councillor Ashby's reason for absence be approved.

25.73 MINUTES

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 17th July 2025 as a correct record

25.74 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Kitchener declared an other interest in planning application NE/25/00765/FUL.

25.75 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

None.

25.76 CO-OPTION TO FILL THE CASUAL VACANCY

In accordance with the Parish Council's "Co-option Policy for casual vacancies", the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor Paterson had been advertised, following notification

from North Northants Council that the Parish Council was permitted to co-opt. One expression was received within the specified period and no alternative candidates presented themselves at the meeting. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That Mrs Sylvia Glanville-Hughes be co-opted to the Parish Council.

25.77 EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT

It was noted that the External Audit report from PKF Littlejohn for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 had been received. There were no matters arising from their audit. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been published on the Parish Council website on 11th August 2025, alongside the audited accounts, as required by regulations. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the External Audit Report be received and the content noted.

25.78 FOUR YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN AND THE COMPANION DOCUMENT

Further to Minute 25.55 the draft documents had been circulated to all councillors. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Four Year Strategic Plan and Companion Document be adopted with immediate effect.

The Four Year Strategic Plan is an evolving document that will be updated and modified as required during the term of this council.

25.79 STANWICK ROVERS FC

Further to Minute 25.54, the Club Secretary had provided the information requested and an annual agreement for use of the recreation had been signed on behalf of the Club and the Parish Council. It was noted that a Committee of required officers had been appointed on 16th July 2025 with a number of new members. The primary point of the contact is the club secretary, who is willing to meet with members of the Council as required.

It was agreed that the Council is reassured by the emerging working relationship between the Club and the Council and expects this to continue and develop further.

25.80 PLANNING CONSULTATIONS

NE/25/00765/FUL New front porch. Enlarge first floor rear dormer. Location: 5 Higham Road

Councillor Kitchener took no part in the discussion and voting of this item of business.

The initial appraisal sheet that forms Appendix A was noted. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

The Council does not object to this application providing the materials are sympathetic to the existing dwelling and there are no objections from neighbouring properties.

NE/25/00750/FUL Regularisation of Units A, B, 18 and 18a (A and B) as being within Class E use (retrospective) Location: Blands Yard

The initial appraisal sheet that forms Appendix B was noted. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council supports this application.

NE/24/01201/OUT Hybrid planning application for the phased comprehensive development of land north of Northampton Road, Rushden: Outline planning permission (all matters reserved except access point and first phase spine road) for Class B2 development; highways works (including provision of a new roundabout on Northampton Road), landscaping areas and associated infrastructure. Full planning permission for a supermarket (Class E), non-food retail unit (Class E), Drive Thru Unit (Class E / Sui Generis), EV Charging Facility (Sui Generis); landscape areas, associated infrastructure and public art. Location: Land North Of Northampton Road Rushden

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council has concerns regarding the impact on traffic volumes as the A45, especially on the approaches to Rushden Lakes are frequently congested and queuing. This impacts residents in the immediate and wider area as well as through traffic. Traffic on local roads is also adversely affected as a knock-on from this congestion.

25.81 SAFER IN STANWICK 6th SEPTEMBER

This community safety event hosted by the Parish Council will have representatives of Northants Police, Northants Fire Service, Northants Highways, British Judo, Local Area Partnership (LAP), North Northants Council Councillors, NHS health checks, SERVE as well as static stalls covering Neighbourhood Watch, Dark Skies and the Parish Council. Any member of the public attending has the opportunity to be entered into a free raffle with a prize of a bottle of wine and a box of chocolates (or similar). Posters have been put up, together with banners and social media posts. Leaflet flyers are being distributed with the Autumn Stanwick Diary Dates.

Kate Sullivan of the LAP, will be asking attendees what they need to keep well.

The event is also an opportunity for the Council to collate information to support funding applications.

25.82 FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The item of fitness equipment at Stanwick Recreation Ground, HAGS 'push hands', has failed and a warranty claim has been lodged with HAGS UK.

25.83 'BUTTERFLY BANK' AT STANWICK RECREATION GROUND

A complaint regarding the strimming of the 'Butterfly Bank' at Stanwick Recreation Ground was discussed. The primary issue is that the group who undertook the initial development work did not leave in place plans to maintain it and the area had been overrun with nettles and brambles. This had let to the area being strimmed.

It was suggested that an approach be made to Stanwick Primary to see if it could be an ongoing project for them to maintain.

25.84 REPLACEMENT SPEED INDICATION DEVICE

Further to Minute 235.65 b Councillors considered the most appropriate locations for the placement of a speed indication device (SID). The preferred unit is the Elan City Evolis. It was noted that grants are available from the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner. And this should fund 2 units.

It was agreed that the first location would be on Chelveston Road, near the cemetery, as this was an area were pedestrians has to walk on the road to reach the cemetery. A pole is already in place to secure the unit to.

A secondary location could either be on Raunds Road on the approach to the roundabout or on Church Street, towards The Avenue.

Ideally, SIDs would be on all entrance points to the village, with potentially a 'school' one at the junction of Church Street and High Street.

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

> That a grant application be submitted to the Office of the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (Road Safety Community Fund) for funding towards two speed indication devices.

The fixed Speed Indication Device on West Street has been reported via Street Doctor, reference 8039934 18/08/2025. This is a device owned and maintained by North Northants Council.

An update on the proposed raised round about and fixed SID on Raunds Road had been requested again from North Northants Council. This has been outstanding for a number of years and should be followed up with North Northants Council councillors.

25.85 ‘TEMPORARY’ ROAD SAFETY SIGNS

It was agreed that a schedule for deployment of ‘temporary’ road safety signs shown be drawn up with signs being moved or changed on a monthly basis to ensure maximum impact.

25.86 BENCH ON THE CORNER OF VILLA LANE AND HIGH STREET

It was reported that a member of the public had offered to make a donation to the Council for a bench on the corner of Villa Lane and High Street to replace the recently removed item that had been in a poor state of repair. There have been a number of enquiries asking the bench would be replaced.

It was agreed that the Council should accept the donation and inform the donor that the Council would like to accept the donation and use the money to replace the bench at the junction of High Street and Villa Lane and the bench on the ‘Pound’ area at the junction of Newbridge Land and Church Street. There has historically been a bench at the this location next to the now closed Co-op building and there is a seating area there already on the wall.

This would form part of a Legacy Project for ‘Walk-Sit-Walk’ that aims to create a walking route with rest points around the parish to allow those with limited mobility to have the confidence to take a walk. Stanwick has an aging population and this project aligns with Pillars 2 and 3 of the Four Year Plan.

The Council’s preferred option would be for benches made of composite material as this will not require ongoing maintenance.

25.87 PAY AWARD FOR THE CLERK

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has reached an agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. These rates should be retrospectively applied from 1 April 2025. It was noted that the Parish Council’s custom was to adhere to the NJC’s renumeration scheme with regard to the Clerk’s pay. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the pay award be implemented with immediate effect and back dated to 1st April 2025.

25.88 *TAXUS* (small yews at St Laurence)

It was noted that whilst the responsibility for the church yard maintenance was transferred from the Parochial Church Council to the local authority in 1985, the maintenance of the *taxus* that line the main church path had been undertaken by members of the church. The church warden has requested that the maintenance responsibilities be taken back by the parish council. It was noted that an allowance of £500.00 had been included in the 2025-26 budget.

It was agreed that Turney Landscapes be requested to quote for work. The preferred outcome would be for the trees not to encroach on the central path.

25.89 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the schedule of payments that forms Appendix C to this Minute be approved for payment.

25.90 COUNCILLOR SITE INSPECTION

It was agreed that the notes that form Appendix D are a true record of the councillor walkabout and the actions taken/to be taken were approved.

25.91 DATES OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

6th September 'Safer in Stanwick' (13.00 – 16.00)
18th September Council meeting (19.15)
20th November Council meeting (19.15)
15th January 2026 Council meeting (19.15)
19th March 2026 Council meeting (19.15)
16th April 2026 Annual Parish Meeting (19.00 to 21.00)
21st May 2026 Annual Council Meeting (19.15)

Meeting closed 8.14pm

Chairman

Appendix A

Planning Application initial assessment sheet

Ref number	NE/25/00765/FUL
Proposal	New front porch. Enlarge first floor rear dormer
Site address	5 Higham Road
If relevant	
Planning Policy references	The East Northamptonshire Council Householder Extensions Supplementary Planning Document adopted June 2020 Local Plan part 2 Policy EN11 Design of Buildings/Extensions: a) Integrates positively with the surrounding area and creates a continuity of street frontage in terms of appearance, layout, massing and scale; b) Does not detract from the character of the existing building(s); c) Creates visual interest through careful use of detailing and appropriate materials.
Conformity to Stanwick Neighbourhood Plan.	N/A

Available on our website to download and view.	
Conformity to "Supplementary Planning Policy for Sustainability and Mitigating the Effects of Climate Change" of Stanwick Parish Council. Available on our website to download and view.	N/A
Distance to SSSI/RAMSAR	N/A
Bio-diversity Net Gain (new build only)	N/A
Off road parking	N/A

Appendix B

Planning Application initial assessment sheet

Ref number	NE/05/00750/FUL
Proposal	Full Planning Permission. Regularisation of Units A, B, 18 and 18a (A and B) as being within Class E use (retrospective)
Site address	Blands Yard Church Street

If relevant	

Planning Policy references	The current Use Classes were last updated on 1 September 2020.
	Generally for any applications, the Use Classes in effect when the application was submitted will be used to determine it. There are other specific areas of legislation that will allow use of Use Classes as they were at a specific point in time. However, it is advised that you confirm the specifics of any of these potential situations with the relevant local planning authority.
	Class E - Commercial, Business and Service
	In 11 parts, Class E more broadly covers uses previously defined in the revoked Classes A1/2/3, B1, D1(a-b) and 'indoor sport' from D2(e):
	• **E(a)** Display or retail sale of goods, other than hot food
	• **E(b)** Sale of food and drink for consumption (mostly) on the premises
	• **E(c)** Provision of:
	  ○ **E(c)(i)** Financial services,
	  ○ **E(c)(ii)** Professional services (other than health or medical services), or
	  ○ **E(c)(iii)** Other appropriate services in a commercial, business or service locality
	• **E(d)** Indoor sport, recreation or fitness (not involving motorised vehicles or firearms or use as a swimming pool or skating rink,)

	• **E(e)** Provision of medical or health services (except the use of premises attached to the residence of the consultant or practitioner)
	• **E(f)** Creche, day nursery or day centre (not including a residential use)
	• **E(g)** Uses which can be carried out in a residential area without detriment to its amenity:
	  o **E(g)(i)** Offices to carry out any operational or administrative functions,
	  o **E(g)(ii)** Research and development of products or processes
	  o **E(g)(iii)** Industrial processes

Conformity to Stanwick Neighbourhood Plan. Available on our website to download and view.	N/A
Conformity to "Supplementary Planning Policy for Sustainability and Mitigating the Effects of Climate Change" of Stanwick Parish Council. Available on our website to download and view.	N/A
Distance to SSSI/RAMSAR	N/A
Bio-diversity Net Gain (new build only)	N/A
Off road parking	N/A

Email from site owner dated 7/08/25

…we have submitted a Planning Application to Regularise Units A (All Electric), B (Northants Pressure Washers), 18 (Pestwise) 18 (a)A (Acorn's existing Nursery) and 18(a) B Raunds Electrical. We have done this on the advice of our Planning Consultant (Dean Wishart at CC Town Planning) as currently these units (apart from 18(a)A) have never had formal Planning Permission for change of use from the old shoe factory. As you know these Tenants have been in these units for over 20 years and unless they move out I don't envisage anything will change.

Appendix C

Schedule of Payments presented for authorisation at the meeting.

Table 1: Schedule of cheques presented for authorisation at the meeting

Cheque no	Payee and reason	Amount
None	None	None

Table 2a : Schedule of electronic payments made between meetings

Payee and reason. Financial regulation 7.7 Payment set up by the Service Admin (Clerk)	Authorised by	Amount
Turney Landscape March 2025 (late request)	JA GB	£1053.22
Duane Holben – fence patching at the cemetery	JA GB	£120.00
J Hodgson – stationery & banners	JA GB	£80.90
Melba Products Ltd – oil drum convertor (bin lid at Rec)	JA GB	£135.67

Table 2b : Schedule of electronic payments presented for authorisation at the meeting

Payee and reason Payment set up by the Service Admin (Clerk)	Amount	Authorised by
NCALC training costs GB, BJ MT Code of Conduct in Practice	£165.60	MT JA
Stanwick Pre-school - grant	£200.00	MT JA
Stanwick Village Hall – committee room Aug 2025	£11.00	MT JA
Turney Landscapes July invoice	£1595.81	MT JA
Mr Mission (replacement rec bin & instal post shoes)	£150.00	MT JA
Stanwick Village Hall – grant for blinds	£300.00	MT JA
PKF Littlejohn – external audit fee	£504.00	MT JA
J Hodgson – oil drum, paper, shoe bolt posts holders, stamps	£117.44	MT JA
Internal Transfer Deposit Acct to Current Acct UTB	£10000.00	MT JA

The above payments were approved at meeting 21/08/25 _____Chairman

Table 3: Payments made on the corporate debit card (Clerk only) Financial Regulation 9

Date	Payee and reason	Amount
None	None	None

Table 4: For information (Financial Regulation 6.8 & 7.9) automated payments

	Method	Payee and reason	Amount
25.07.25	DDM	Flotek (Phone & Broadband)	£63.60
30.07.25		Unity Trust Bank monthly charge	£6.00
03.08.25	STD	Stanwick Village Hall Trust – office rent	£240.00
09.08.25	STD	Northamptonshire Pension Fund	£635.06
09.08.25	DDM	Yu Energy July 2025 street lights	£24.59
09.08.25	DDM	Yu Energy July 2025 sensor regulator	£8.00
17.08.25	DDM	Wave – water rates	£5.00

Table 5: Money received since the last meeting:

Date	Where the money was received from	Amount
22.07.25	Interest on acct closure	£107.05
23.07.25	Stanwick Bowls Club Inv 87 & 88	£45.85
25.07.25	G Cutmore donation for paper	£2.00
30.07.25	Blenkharn Mon Masons A26 000036	£105.00
31.07.25	Stanwick Rovers FC Annual pitch rent	£140.00
06.08.25	HMRC VAT refund	£942.61
12.08.25	Abbotts & Sons 000037 D Moore	£935.00
20.08.25	Abbotts & Sons 000038 R Stone	£830.00

Note: *The General Power of Competence adopted 15th May 2025*

Appendix D

Councillor site inspection 30th July 2025

Present: Mark, Brian, Jonathan, Sue & Jenny

Sites inspected: Allotments, social area, community garden; Stanwick Recreation Ground; Spencer Parade Gardens

Weather – dry

Allotment area:

Tap by plot 20 is missing a cover ***Action***: Cover to be replaced

Plot 1 has a lot of dry pallets and wood. Tenant to be asked the intention. Concern re fire risk and rodent habitat. ***Action taken*** Tenant has been emailed

The children's picnic table is showing signs of wear and has been moved from its 'fixed' position. ***Action*** Monitor

A pile of builders rubble has been left by car park – enquiries to be made as to where it has come from & when it is going. 31/07/25 Confirmed as being removed from site by Pocket Park Committee.

It was agreed that the grass cutting on the communal areas was to a good standard.

Recreation ground:

Car park bollards and gravel require replacement and/or remedial action.

Butterfly Bank discussed – a long term maintenance regime is required. ***Action taken*** Minute 25.83

Play equipment chains and shackles etc inspected – arrangements to be made for oiling to take place. ***Action taken*** Mr Mission instructed

Professional quote required for repairs to the Nexus.

The trees around the bench require a crown lift.

The oil drum bin at the Needham Road entrance requires replacement. (Lid on order)(replacement oil drum ordered 31/07) ***Action taken*** Work completed

Consider severing ivy around trees.

Main pitch appeared in good condition and it was pleasing to see people using the recreation ground

Spencer Parade Gardens

Crown lift required around the path to give 2m clearance. (31/07/25 arranged with Turney Landscapes, to be completed before 6th Sept)

Location of banner support structure agreed as behind the QEII wall.

Gardens otherwise appeared tidy.

It was suggested that a planting scheme be devised for the area in front of the banner structure and QEII wall.

Ivy severing on trees to be considered.

Other

The bench in memory of Skip outside the Post Office would benefit from maintenance. ***Action taken*** Mr Mission instructed to power wash and sweep underneath

The bench at the top of Villa Lane could be replaced. ***Action taken*** Minute 25.86

A 'walk and sit' project could be put together to create a walking route with suitable stops to encourage people with limited mobility to get outside and exercise.

End.