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:	18th December 2025	
Venue:	Committee Room, Village Hall, Stanwick	
Time:	7.15 p.m.	
Present:	Councillors:-	M Taylor in the chair
		J Ashby
		G Banks
		S Glanville-Hughes
		B Johnson
		S Kitchener
	Clerk to the Council	J Hodgson
	Members of the Public	0

25.151 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the apologies of Councillor Konstantinidis be accepted.

25.152 MINUTES

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held 20th November 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

25.153 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

25.154 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME

None.

25.155 PLANNING MATTERS

a. Planning consultations

25/01615/FUL Change of use (currently Sui-Generis classification) to a Ground Floor Class E Premises and a First Floor Residential Flat. At 2 High Street, Stanwick, NN9 6QA

Appendix A refers. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council does not objection to this application as it appeared to be reverting the building to a previous arrangement with accommodation and business premises. The Council is aware that parking options are limited at this location.

b. Planning appeal: Appeal Reference No. **APP/M2840/W/25/3375990** and the Application Ref. No **NE/25/00542/PDU** Change of Use of Agricultural Building to 1 no. large dwellings (465sqm) and 4 no. small dwellings (each 100sqm), including operations to convert the building. Location: Hillstone Farm Higham Road

It was agreed that the Council did not have any new comment to make.

25.156 <u>SPONSORSHIP OF THE PRIZES FOR DAFFODIL TRAIL 2026</u>

A request from Stanwick Pocket Park Group to sponsor the 3 top prizes in the Daffodil Trail was considered. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council would sponsor prizes for the Daffodil Trail 2026 to the total value of £50.00 and this would be allocated to the grants budget.

25.157 <u>DONATION TO THE FIRST RESPONDERS</u>

Community First Responders (CFRs) are volunteers who are trained by the East Midlands Ambulance Service to attend certain types of emergency calls in the area where they live or work. Their role is to help stabilise the patient and provide the appropriate care until the more highly skilled ambulance crew arrives on scene to take over the treatment. They rely on donations from local businesses and organisations in order to purchase specialist equipment such as training defibrillators and Resuscitation Annies.

The Parish Council has arranged a free public training session on 24th January at the village hall. At present there are 23 individuals registered to attend the training session. The village hall is offering the building for free. (Minute 25.108f refers)

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Council would make a donation of £50.00 to the Community First Responders after the event as this aligns with Pillar 3 of the Four Year Plan.

25.158 <u>BUS SHELTER OPPOSITE RAUNDS ROAD</u>

A proposal was made to consider painting the plexiglass of the bus shelter opposite Raunds Road to make it easier to cover up graffiti in future as it could be sprayed over. This is the shelter that is targeted most and the fact that the plexiglass is to the rear of the shelter, to paint the screen would not reduce visibility or create a 'blind spot' that would impinge on community safety. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That work be instructed to paint the plexiglass of the bus shelter on Raunds Road, next to the Pocket Park in a solid colour that compliments the shelter and that a further treatment of anti-graffiti coating be applied.

25.159 <u>LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN</u>

It was suggested that a proposal to the Local Transport Plan for an upgrade the Raunds Road Zebra crossing to a Puffin Crossing and a Puffin Crossing on West Street be made.

North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) will be providing the opportunity town/parish councils to submit transport schemes for consideration for future funding. The intention is that the received scheme proposals will be used to assist the development of an approved programme of transport schemes for North Northamptonshire. There are no guarantees that suggested schemes will receive funding. Parish councils will be able to identify a maximum of three schemes that they must prioritise.

Upgrading the existing zebra crossing to a puffin crossing is recommended to improve safety, accessibility, and traffic efficiency at this location. Zebra crossings rely on driver compliance and offer limited protection for pedestrians, particularly on busy or higher-speed roads. A puffin crossing provides signal-controlled priority, reducing the risk of driver non-yielding and improving safety for vulnerable users. Its sensor-based technology adjusts crossing times based on actual pedestrian presence, ensuring sufficient time to cross while minimising unnecessary delays to traffic. This upgrade therefore offers a more reliable, controlled, and efficient crossing solution that better meets modern road-safety standards and user needs.

The Highways Community Liaison Officer and a highways engineer visited the zebra crossing on the 9th December and reported "Based on this, our initial view is that the reported near-miss incidents are more likely linked to driver behaviour rather than infrastructure shortcomings"

By providing a Puffin Crossing for West Street, it would improve the pedestrian route for people using Stanwick Lakes.

The presence of the Puffin Crossings may have a side benefit of making Stanwick less attractive cut through for other traffic.

Stanwick Primary School has emailed their support for a Puffin Crossing on Raunds Road.

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That Stanwick Parish Council submits a proposal for a Puffin Crossing on Raunds Road as a first priority and a Puffin or Toucan crossing at the crossing point outside the service entrance to Stanwick Hotel as a secondary priority.

The Council proposes the 'bund' of Spence Parade/High Street as a location for cycle parking.

The Clerk is authorised to submit the proposals to North Northants Council via the consultation.

25.160 POPLAR TREES AND TREE GUARDS

Further to Minute 25.136 d it was noted that the trees and tree guards had been set at the cemetery.

25.161 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS AT SPENCER PARADE GARDENS

An outline proposal for environmental improvements at Spencer Parade Gardens, working with Stanwick Primary School and Stanwick Pocket Park Group was considered. It was agreed that this proposal should proceed as it aligns with Pillar 1 of the Four Year Plan. The Clerk is authorised to make the necessary grant applications.

25.162 DEAD HAWTHORN TREE SPENCER PARADE GARDENS

It was note that Cllr Ashby will be removing a dead hawthorn tree from the Spencer Parade Gardens. Minute 25.114f refers.

25.163 MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR

A request was received from Stanwick Rovers Football Club asking that the Council consider making a financial contribution to the maintenance costs of the defibrillator on the outside of the football club house as this available for public use. It was agreed that the Football Club be asked for details of the maintenance regime so that the Council may better understand the requirements and costs. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Council provide a payment of £130.00 towards recent costs incurred by Stanwick Rovers FC for replacement batteries and pads. This aligns with Pillar 3 of the Four Year Plan.

25.164 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Further to Pillar 4 of the Four Year Plan, an email update from North Northants Council (NNC) regarding the forthcoming Community Governance Review was noted. NNC will conduct the review under Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the relevant national guidance document. The review can examine a number of situations but the most relevant to Stanwick is the electoral arrangements for parishes, including the ordinary year of elections; council size; the number of councillors to be elected; and parish warding.

The first stage consultation closes on 20th February 2026.

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to respond to the Community Governance Review Consultation to submit Stanwick Parish Council's request to increase the number of members to nine.

25.165 DIOCESE & CHURCHYARD WORKS

Further to Minute 25.145 i, it was noted that the Diocese had agreed that the proposed works to the yew trees that line the path could proceed. However, they require an application through their system to be made for works to the box shrubs.

25.166 BENCHES

Further to Minute 25.136 c, the benches have been received from Glasdon UK Ltd and a quote to install the concrete plinth is cost prohibitive. Alternative arrangements need to be determine to install the bench on Church Street. Mr Mission has been instructed to install the bench at the top of Villa Lane.

25.167 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the schedule that forms Appendix B be approved for payment.

25.168 GRANT APPLICATION

It was noted that the grant application to the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund for nameplates and notice board for Mallows Grange had been unsuccessful. Minute 25.136 a refers. The correspondence made it clear they would not fund name plates. It was agreed that sponsorship from businesses should be sought for the costs on notice board on Mallows Grange and for the name plates.

25.169 CHRISTMAS FAYRE AND LIGHT SWITCH ON 2025

The event on 30th November was reviewed. It was agreed that this had been a successful event building on previous events. A number of potential enhancements were discussed. It was agreed that the 2026 event would be on 29th November.

25.170 INCIDENT ON HIGH STREET

It was noted that on 29th November 2025 an ambulance that could not get through High Street due to parked vehicles. At 18.20 an ambulance with a person on board, trying to reach hospital with blue lights flashing got stuck due to parked cars.

There were cars stacked up behind the ambulance and the visibility was poor due to the weather and lighting arrangements. It took 10 minutes for residents to find the owner of the vehicle and get it moved. The owner was not a resident of High Street

Minute 23.181 Feb 2024 records that a request for yellow lines submitted for this location to minimise the chances of this situation occurring.

This was raised with Ward Councillors and Northants Highways on 1st December. Officers have made a site inspection and it will be discussed at meeting of the Traffic Regulation Orders/Parking Review Team in early January. The Parish Council has been invited to comment on the consultation for the East Northants district area Parking Review Proposals that includes this area of High Street, Church Street and Samuels Close. It was proposed and

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to respond to the consultation after reviewing the Councils previous decisions and consultation feedback for double yellow lines at these locations.

25.171 CLERK'S APPRAISAL

It was noted that Clerk's appraisal has been completed

25.172 DATES OF THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

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)

Other dates of note:
11th February 2026 Community Garden Committee AGM at 7.15pm location TBA
29th November 2026 Stanwick Christmas Community Fayre Sunday

Meeting closed 7.55pm

Chairman

Appendix A

Planning Application initial assessment sheet

Ref number	25/01615/FUL
Proposal	Change of use (currently Sui-Generis classification) to a Ground Floor Class E Premises and a First Floor Residential Flat.
Site address	2 High Street
If relevant	
Planning Policy references	Sui-Generis classification this is a 'catch-all' planning terms for everything else. 'Class E' is a broad category of commercial, business and service uses. It was introduced by the Business and Planning Act 2020. Class E effectively amalgamates the former Class A1 (retail), Class A2 (financial and professional services), A3 (restaurants/cafes), B1 (offices) along with health/medical uses, creches, nurseries (all formerly D1 uses) and indoor sports/recreation (formerly D2 use). Permission is not required to change between any of the uses within Class E. The only retail uses not included in Class E are small shops under 280 square metres, selling 'essential' goods and not located within 1km of other similar shops. These shops are in Class F2.
Conformity to Stanwick Neighbourhood Plan. Available on our website to download and view.	**HSG2 Infill housing development** Proposals for infill housing development within the built-up area of Stanwick village will be supported where they would not materially adversely affect the character of the settlement, or residential or visual amenity, and where it is demonstrated they will not result in on-street car parking or increased risk of flooding **HTG2 Avoidance of harm** Development proposals that will harm the significance of a heritage asset should demonstrate consideration has been given to options or measures that would avoid that harm. Note: the location is opposite the grade 1 listed St Laurence Church
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	Within 2km
Bio-diversity Net Gain (new build only)	N/A
Off road parking	No on-site parking is provided for off road parking

Schedule of Payments presented for authorisation at the meeting **Appendix B**

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
None		

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
Bosworth's Nurseries & Gardens (Poplar trees)	£251.88	
Turney Landscapes Nov 25 grounds maintenance	£742.66	
Mr Mission - bins, refurbish cemetery bollards, sever ivy	£480.00	
Stanwick Village Hall – committee room hire Dec 2025	£11.00	
J Hodgson – key cabinet, graffiti remover , oil drum x 2, etc	£180.47	
Northants CALC training SGH	£55.20	
HMRC third quarter tax & NI due after 6/01/2026	£1749.12	
Glasdon UK Ltd (2 x benches)	£1720.13	

The above payments were approved at meeting 18/12/25 _____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

Date	Method	Payee and reason	Amount
25.11.25	DDM	Flotek (Phone & Broadband)	£63.60
30.11.25	DDM	Agilico	£40.08
30.11.25		Unity Trust Bank monthly charge	£6.00
30.11.25		Nat West transaction charge	£0.70
03.12.25	STD	Stanwick Village Hall Trust – office rent	£240.00
09.12.25	STD	Northamptonshire Pension Fund	£632.94
09.12.25	DDM	Yu Energy Nov 2025 street lights	£34.37
09.12.25	DDM	PEAC quarterly printer rent	£132.16
15.12.25	DDM	Wave – water rates	£5.00

Table 5: Money received since the last meeting:

Date	Where the money was received from	Amount
24.11.25	Stanwick Pre-school INV94	22.60
25.11.25	Stanwick Village Hall INV95	23.20
28.11.25	Interest	29.18
01.12.25	S Bowls Club cr slip 45 INV93	14.40
01.12.25	B Trafford Smith copying cash	2.00
01.12.25	Xmas stall cash for Fayre	44.00
05.12.25	HMRC VAT refund	554.94
12.12.25	Exton cr slip 47 grave B2	105.00

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