

STONHAM PARVA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHURCH LANE
ON MONDAY 20th JULY 2026 at 7pm

26.71 PRESENT: Cllrs M Sealby (Chair), I Richardson, K Dawson, L Courtenay, M Goodrum and E Thwaites

26.72 WELCOME: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

26.73 APOLOGIES : There were no apologies for absence

26.74 APPROVAL OF ABSENCE: There were no absences to approve.

26.75 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr I Richardson declared an interest in 26.88 as he is an allotment holder.

26.76 DISPENSATIONS – None

26.77 Public Forum: No members of the public attended but a resident had spoken to Cllr Richardson about his and others concerns about the changes to the A1120/A140.

26.78 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 15th JUNE 2026- Minutes confirmed as correct.
Proposed by M Goodrum, seconded by L Courtenay.

26.79 REPORTS

26.79.1 County Councillor Report: County Cllr Hicks attended the meeting and read his report. Key points include:

- A1120/A140 link road proposal
- Alarm raised over solar panels on Suffolk farmland

26.79.2 District Councillor Report: District Cllr Hardingham attended the meeting and read his report. Key points include:

- Waste collection update
- Joint Local Plan Consultation

26.79.3 Footpaths/Pavements – Further email sent to Earl Stonham Farms field (next to woodland) regarding broken gate and overgrown but these have not been dealt with.

Action – I Richardson will pass on telephone number of new farm manager.

26.79.4 Cemetery/St Marys Churchyard – Interment of ashes on 25th July.

26.79.5 Play Area/Playing Field – Playing field purchase is progressing, the Parish Clerk gave permission for a valuation to be carried out at the cost of £250.00.

A query was raised regarding land registry which was being looked into a few years ago but unsure if this concluded.

Action – W Brame to check emails and documents to see whether land registry was completed.

26.79.6 Neighbourhood Watch – No update.

26.80 SALC – M Sealby attended SALC AGM on 9th July 2026. Focus is on people and having people at the forefront of all the changes. Also improving IT and modernisation.

26.81 COMMUNICATION – Clarification from previous meeting on communication – if a Councillor has an interest about a topic/point then this needs to be raised at a meeting and they will be copied in to any emails.

Accessibility Audit (required for Assertion 10) by Suffolk Cloud has been carried out and no issues were found.

Discussed Councillor list, address to be removed and only email addresses given.

26.82 PLANNING INCLUDING APPLICATIONS – Decision notice for DC/26/01225 for Barn 4 at Hall Farm Barns, Church Lane received. Full approval has been granted for agricultural to dwelling subject to conditions.

26.83 ROADS/ROAD SAFETY – Suffolk County Council decision to spend £1.5m to assess the A140/A1120 junction. If this goes ahead it will be funded by central government.

26.84 TRAINING/CONFERENCES – No update.

26.85 GOVERNANCE – Financial regulations approved. Proposed by M Sealby, seconded by I Richardson.

Internal Audit Action Plan has been updated and everyone reviewed this.

26.86 FINANCE – The Q1 26/27 accounts were reviewed. Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by L Courtenay.

The June bank reconciliation was reviewed against the June bank statement. Proposed by L Courtenay, seconded by K Dawson.

26.87 STAFFING – The Parish Council have met their employment requirements and the pension re-enrolment has been completed.

26.88 ALLOTMENTS – Email to be sent to all plot holders (current and former) to advise of a meeting with the Parish Council (once location confirmed).

Action – W Brame email all plot holders regarding meeting once location confirmed.

26.89 EVENTS/FUNDRAISING – I Richardson has spoken to the Car Club and they are busy on 31st July 2027, have pencilled in for 7th August 2027 – may need to change date of fete.

26.90 MAGPIE SIGN – All agreed to send a formal email to the tender company and give 7 days to receive reference details otherwise contract is not awarded.

26.91 ST MARYS CHURCH – I Richardson has spoken to CCT and the lady who sorts funding has now left so There is no one currently to discuss funding for a kitchen.

Theatre production on 19th August 2026 – leaflets to be delivered to all houses.

26.92 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 17th August 2026

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.58pm