

# Stamfordham Parish Council

**Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025 commencing at 730pm in Stamfordham Village Hall**

**Those Present:** Cllr L Boylan (Chairman), Cllr C Reynolds, Cllr R Williams, Cllr M Lloyd, Cllr J Turner

**In Attendance:** C Miller (Clerk), V Jones (County Cllr)

**2025/54 Apologies for absence**

Cllr S Parker

**2025/55 Co-Option Vacancy**

The Clerk advised due to an admin error relating to the County Council governance review, it appeared to be a grey area whether the Council should have 7 or 8 Cllr's. The official order had contained 8, however this should have remained at the long-standing number of 7.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed to remove the item from the agenda.

**2025/56 Members to confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting held Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were a true record.

**2025/57 Public Questions**

There were no public questions.

**2025/58 Planning Matters**

**2025/58/01 Planning Applications received. Members to consider applications.**

- 25/01875/FUL: East Cottage, 4 Bridge End – proposed widening of Bridge End carriageway to provide on-street parking – Parish Council had submitted objection to the proposals. The land was owned by the County Council and currently used as a bus stop to ease danger for schoolchildren.
- 25/02312/LBC: Heugh House, Heugh – Listed Building Consent for retention of existing box frame and replacement of existing single glazed timber sashes with new to match existing – the Parish Council had no comments to make.

**2025/58/02 Planning Application permitted. Members to note approvals.**

- 25/01453/FUL: Hawkwell Grange Cottage – Improvements to existing vehicle access and creation of new driveway to serve Hawkwell Grange Cottage
- 24/04353/FUL: Standwell Farm House, Harlow Hill – remodelling of existing east wing, replacement lean-to, removal existing dormers and associated works

**2025/58/03 Planning Application NO 23/03549/FUL, Annexe at Harlow Hill. Members to receive update on Stage 2 Complaint response.**

As the complaint had been made by the Parish Council (a public body), it could not be investigated.

**2025/58/04 Planning Application refusal. Members to note.**

- 25/01519/FUL: East Cottage, 4 Bridge End – Two-storey rear extension, internal reconfiguration

**2025/58/05 Neighbourhood Plan.****1.Members to receive update from Working/Steering Group**

There was no update available.

**2.Members to receive update on purchase of I.T. equipment to aid Neighbourhood Plan**

I.T. equipment was no longer required. Item to be removed from agenda.

**3.Members to be advised of government withdrawal of NP funding**

The Clerk advised the Labour government had withdrawn NP funding. The County Council were to offer further guidance in due course.

**2025/59 Financial Matters****2024/59/01 Payments. Members to authorise the following payments**

PAYABLE TO	DETAIL	NET	VAT	GROSS
Lloyds bank (retrospective)	Bank charges			
Stamfordham Village Hall	Rent for meeting room 15/5/25	£37.50	NIL	£37.50
	Rent for meeting room 17/7/25	£30.00	NIL	£30.00
Rusty Restorations Ltd	Restoration of village signs	£1800	NIL	£1800
Northumberland County Council	Rent in respect of land at First School	£120.00	NIL	£120

**RESOLVED:**

Members approved the payments.

**2025/60 County Councillor Report**

The new administration at County Hall working well. Changes were being made to planning areas and local area councils. Strategic planning will remain, however instead of five area committees, there will be three to cover the County - North, West and South-East. More emphasis will be put on working with the Parish Council's, community groups, police and NHS. There have been changes to how County Cllrs contact Officers, which must be requested electronically, however there were teething troubles. County Cllr had completed the required form in relation to concern regarding the Bay Horse and to request speed monitoring strips (agreed at previous Parish Council meeting). Dropped kerbs to be implemented in the parish.

**2025/61 Climate Change**

Nothing to discuss.

**2025/62 Parish Maintenance and related issues****2025/62/01 Bay horse. Members to consider Health & Safety issues**

Tree works were being carried out at the property.

**2025/62/02 Parish footpaths. Members to receive update**

County Council had carried out clearance works between Dark Lane and the Church, stile requires further repair. Weed spraying had been actioned in the parish.

**2025/62/03 Possible footpath to playing field. Members to consider costs**

Several contractors had been contacted, with one realistic quote received.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1.Members agreed to accept the quotation of £13200 + VAT from THC Landscapes.
- 2.County Cllr to confirm whether she could contribute an amount via small members scheme.
- 3.Community organisations to be contacted to ask if they could make a financial contribution.

**2025/62/04 Parish Signage. Members to receive update on repairs**

Signage had been repaired. Further quote for signage at bridge end to be sought.

**RESOLVED:**

Cllr Reynolds to contact contractor for quotation.

**2025/62/05 Parking within the parish. Members to consider issues**

Members agreed there was little that could be done to improve parking in the parish. Item to be removed from agenda.

**2025/62/06 Play area maintenance. Members to consider issues**

**1.Members to consider costs for play area maintenance agreement**

Cleansing works had been arranged.

Quote for maintenance agreement to be considered at next meeting.

**2.Members to consider annual RoSPA inspection report**

Annual RoSPA report not yet received.

**2025/63 Noticeboard. Members to consider request for noticeboard at Harlow Hill.**

Cllr Parker seeking quotations.

**2025/64 Members to consider items for inclusion on County Council Local Transport Plan 2026-2027**

The Clerk advised the current Parish Council requests were 1. Resurfacing at Eachwick. 2. Traffic calming Paddock Lane.

Proposals for 2026-2027 to be confirmed at next meeting.

**2025/65 Changes to email requirements for local councils. Clerk to give verbal update**

The Clerk advised all Parish Council's had to have a dedicated .org / .gov email address and Parish Cllrs should also have their own dedicated email.

**RESOLVED:**

Members agreed email addresses should be set up via the website host. The Clerk to arrange.

**2025/66 Members to confirm Cllr Reynolds as Village Hall Committee Parish Council representative**

**RESOLVED:**

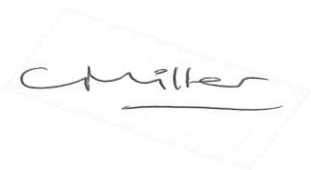
Members ratified Cllr Reynolds as the Village Hall Committee Parish Council representative.

**2025/67 Urgent business/items for next agenda**

There was no urgent business / items for next agenda.

**2025/68 To confirm the date of the next meeting**

The next meeting of Stamfordham Parish Council will be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025 commencing 730pm in Stamfordham Village Hall

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Miller', is written over a faint, rectangular grid pattern.

Claire Miller, Clerk/RFO

The meeting closed at 9pm

DRAFT