



Parish Council Meeting Minutes 26th November 2025 7.00pm at Sloley Methodist Church

Present: Caroline Churchill (Chair), Peter Gorton, Stephanie Jones, Phil Madeley, Rob Sadler, Tony Smith

Also Present: Anne Tandy, Clerk to the Council and Nigel Dixon, District and County Councillor.

Members of the Public: 1

1. Welcome and apologies for absence received from Leigh Rumsby for personal reasons.
2. There was a declaration of interest from Peter Gorton in item 10b on the agenda. There were no requests for dispensations.
3. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 24th September 2025 were reviewed and proposed as an accurate recording of the meeting. All agreed.
4. Public forum and reports from the County/District Councillor
 - Written report from the North Norfolk MP, Steff Aquarone
 - *See entry after item 12 for the District Councillor's report.*
5. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda: for information only
 - a. Village Sign. Clarification is awaited on whether the charity are able to release the funds back to the Council.
6. **Planning**
 - a. Progress with the opposition to the outcome of planning application [PF/24/2474](#): Albert Bartlett was discussed and updated. It was again proposed that the Chairs of Worstead and Sloley Parish Councils meet with the Chief Executive of North Norfolk District Council to discuss matters further.
 - b. No new planning applications were received following the publication of the agenda.

19:16 District Councillor Nigel Dixon arrived.

7. Defibrillator

The costs for installing the defibrillator at Sloley Methodist Church were discussed. Delays have been caused by the Clerk's workload and waiting for the Church to consult their own electrician. It has now been agreed by the Church that the Council should obtain their own quotes. It was agreed in May 2025 to allocate delegated powers to the Clerk to have this work completed within a budget of £500.00. In view of the changes to the project and the time elapsed since this was agreed and having regard to the Council's current financial situation, it was requested that this matter is reconsidered. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk will obtain quotes as required and apply to the Norfolk Community Fund for the relevant amount to cover the costs.

8. Sloley Charities

- a. An update was received from the Poors charity: Cllr Caroline Churchill has resigned from the charity. The application period for winter payments has now closed and they are being processed. A new Trustee application has now been received. All tenancy plots are now allocated. Actions are being considered regarding mature oak trees encroaching on neighbouring land. Council suggested they would like to receive a regular financial update. Council thanked Caroline for taking on the role of Trustee and the work that she has put in. It was proposed and agreed that direct contact be made with the Charity Commission for further advice around matters relating to the Council's powers to assist the Charity.

Phil Madeley arrived at 19:19

- b. The appointment of a new Trustee was considered. This was refused on the basis that one of the referees is an existing Trustee and this would present a conflict of interest.

9. Village Speed Limits

It was discussed whether steps should be taken to commence the process of applying for the speed limit on Anchor Street be lowered in view of the safety concerns relating to speeding traffic. Cllr Tony Smith will review Norfolk County Councils Policy for Speed Management, as a first step.

10. Highways

- a. An update was given by Cllr Rob Sadler on Highways matters. No new issues to be reported.
- b. A request from a resident to support an application for the footpath between Broad Road and Frankfort to be formally recognised as a Public Right of Way (PROW) was considered. After discussion it was agreed that this is a matter for the PROW team at Norfolk County Council and not a matter for the Parish Council.

11. Christmas Village Event

It was proposed that there is now insufficient time to arrange an event before Christmas. After further discussions it was proposed that a New Year event be considered for 17th January 2026. This will be in the form of a 'Quiz and Nibbles' and residents will be canvassed to ensure there is an appetite for the event. The Clerk will be advised if this should go ahead in order to book St Bartholomew's Church and a donation to the Church for £100.00 to cover heating and light be considered.

12. Meeting Dates 2026

The meeting dates for 2026 were agreed. The date has been changed to the last Thursday of the month. The list of dates will be posted on the website and noticeboard.

Item 4 – Public Forum revisited to allow the District Councillor to present his report.

Matters relating to the Albert Bartlett planning application and the installation of white gates on Anchor Street were reported. The LGR Consultation is running currently and everyone should consider submitting their comments. The New Local Plan is being adopted by North Norfolk District Council on 18 December 2025.

20:18 Nigel Dixon left the meeting.

13. Civility and Respect Pledge

It was proposed to sign the [Civility and Respect Pledge](#) as promoted by the Society of Local Council Clerks and the National Association of Local Councils. All agreed.

14. Armed Forces Covenant

It was proposed to sign up to the [Armed Forces Covenant](#) which supports armed forces personnel and veterans in the community. All agreed.

15. Affordable Housing Crisis

It was proposed that a response to Councillor Wendy Fredericks regarding Rural Exception Sites to deliver affordable housing to local residents. It was agreed that affordable housing is needed in the village but there is no scope for the Council to deliver this. It is hoped that the new Local Plan will govern this when it is adopted.

16. Budget 2026/27

- a. The Parish Council Budget for 2026/27 was reviewed. It was proposed that this be approved. All agreed.
- b. An application to the Parish Partnership Scheme for a fully funded white gate on Anchor Street at a cost of £2,000.00 was agreed.
- c. The precept request for 2026/27 was proposed as £7,000.00. This will equate to £62.61 per band D property. This is an increase of £24.77 on last year. All agreed.
- d. The appointment of Sue Lake as Internal Auditor for 2024/25 at a cost of £75.00 was approved.

17. Policies

The adoption of the following policies was agreed.

- a. Complaints Procedure
- b. Expenses Policy
- c. Filming at Meetings Policy
- d. Press and Media Policy
- e. Staff Appraisal Policy
- f. Training Policy
- g. Dignity at Work Policy

18. Accounts

- a. The bank reconciliation to 31st October 2025 was agreed. The total balance including reserves was: £7,105.68.
- b. The following payments for November 2025 were approved, and the online authoriser will be Cllr Caroline Churchill.

Voucher	Date	Description	Supplier / customer	Account name	Net	VAT	Total
65	31/10/2025	September 2025	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges	-6.00	0.00	-6.00
66	28/10/2025	October Salary	Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR
67	30/11/2025	October 2025	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges	-6.00	0.00	-6.00
68	26/11/2025	Whole Council Training	NPTS	Training	-295.00	-59.00	-354.00
69	10/11/2025	Whole Council Training	Ashmanhaugh Parish Council	Training	105.00	0.00	105.00
70	26/11/2025	WAH/Travel	Anne Tandy	Clerks Expenses	-61.96	0.00	-61.96
71	26/11/2025	Ink Cartridges - 20%	Anne Tandy	Stationery	-14.09	0.00	-14.09
72	28/11/2025	November 2025	Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR

19. Correspondence

- Norwich Western Link – update
- Norfolk County Council's Budget Consultation 2026-27

- Various correspondence regarding the Albert Bartlett planning decision
- North Norfolk District Council - Publication of the Inspectors Report - North Norfolk Local Plan Examination (21)

20. Items for the next Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 22 January 2026 at 7.00pm.

Meeting closed at 20:52

Signed