



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 23rd July 2026 at 7.00pm

Sloley Methodist Church

Present: Caroline Churchill (Chair), Leigh Rumsby (Vice Chair), Peter Gorton, Stephanie Jones, Tony Smith

Also Present: Anne Tandy, Clerk to the Council, Adam Varley County Councillor, Nigel Dixon District Councillor

Members of the Public: 4

1. Welcome and thanks given to Phil Madeley for his time as Chair. Apologies for absence received from Philip Madeley and Steven Carey.
2. There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda or requests for dispensations.
3. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 20th May 2026 were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting. All agreed.
4. **Public Forum**
 - County Councillor – Local Member Fund has been scrapped by the current administration. It was suggested that Council rights to County Hall to express disappointment at the loss of this benefit. Parish Partnership should still be available.
 - District Councillor – The direction of the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is uncertain and with a new Prime Minister may result in changes. County Council is challenging the structure through a Judicial Review. No work is being undertaken by County at this time to progress LGR.

District Council is mandated to review its local plan due to the low number of developments coming forward which falls well below national targets. A further call sites will be issued during the summer. Scoping Assessment is being undertaken to decide how the plan should be prepared. Deadline for comments is 31 August 2026. The plan will need to be agreed by April 2029.

Changes are coming to the way planning applications are decided. More decisions to be taken by Officers rather than Committees. Concerns raised in this respect with regard to the Albert Bartlett application decision as an example of why this change is concerning. Local District Council Community Grant Fund scheme for small sums of money to help local groups is available.

Police Reports are no longer available at parish meetings but information can be obtained and shared via an online drop in session. The next one will be on 5 August at 6.30pm. The Clerk should be sent details of this.
 - Resident raised concerns regarding complaints to the planning department about the number of vehicles on their property. The planning officer stated there was no issue.
5. Matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda: for information only
 - The White Gates are progressing to installation.

6. Planning

- a. There were no planning applications received since publication of the agenda.
- b. A response to the North Norfolk Plan Review was discussed. Questions to be circulated to Councillors for comments and Caroline Churchill to collate and submit.

7. Highways

- a. Following the footpath walk carried out by Councillors, a number of access and signage issues have been raised with Highways. Consideration was given to options to improve Public Right of Way FP2 and the bogey section which is fairly inaccessible. A boardwalk was proposed as the preferred option. The Clerk will pursue the ways in which this could be delivered. The landowner will install a gate/stye at the end of FP2 to stop it being used in anyway which is prohibited on a footpath.
- b. An update on Highways matters reported. Concerns were raised about an electric bike speeding around the village and this will be raised with Norfolk Police at their online drop in session on 5th August.
- c. Advice has been requested from Highways Norfolk County Council regarding the reduction of speed limits in the village. Tony Smith reported that the Government Rural design guidance states that villages should be limited to 20mph. However, It was felt that 30mph would be sufficient. This was supported and will be pursued with the local Highways Engineer to progress.

8. Norfolk Ponds

It was discussed whether an expression of interest in working with Norfolk Ponds to develop appropriate habitats should be pursued. It was agreed to submit an expression of interest in taking part in this project.

9. Worstead Grant Application

The options for new noticeboards was discussed and the style was agreed. Both Noticeboards will be single door, one will be locked and the other open to all residents to use. The existing posts will be reused, if possible. The Clerk will obtain three quotes to include in the grant application.

10. Norfolk County Council Bus Shelter Grant Scheme 2026-27

Advice has been requested on the suitability of installing a bus stop on Station Road and whether to go ahead and apply to the scheme. No response has been received to this request. It was therefore proposed that the due to the limited number of services this would not be pursued at this time.

11. Christmas Event

Planning for a village event was discussed and it was agreed to set up a working group to manage the preparations in between Parish Council meetings. Stephanie and Leigh to be part of the group and attending residents agreed to be members of the group also. Phil Madeley to be asked to lead the group. A budget was set at £250.00 from the contingency fund.

12. Sloley Charities

A update on matters relating to the appointment of Councillors as Trustees was given. As there has been no response, it was proposed that this matter now be moved to a confidential section of the end of the meeting. All agreed.

13. Councillor Training

Attendance at Councillor Refresher Training was discussed. It was agreed that Steve Carey be invited to take part in Councillor Induction Training with Norfolk Parish Training and Support.

14. Policies

The adoption of a Co-option Policy was considered and agreed.

15. Accounts

- a. The bank reconciliation to 30th June 2026 was agreed. The balance including reserves was £6,984.86.
- b. The 1st quarter budget report up to June 2026 was reviewed and agreed.
- c. The following payments for July 2026 were approved and the online authorisers will be Caroline Churchill and Tony Smith

No.	Date	Ref.	Description	Supplier	Account name	Net	VAT	Total
106	28/06/2026	Standing Order		Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR
109	31/07/2026	BACs		Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges	-7.00	0.00	-7.00
110	28/07/2026	BACs		Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR
105	30/06/2026	BACs		Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges	-7.00	0.00	-7.00
107	23/07/2026	BACs		Anne Tandy	Clerks Expenses	-61.65	0.00	-61.65
108	23/07/2026	BACs	Ink Cartridge - 20%	Anne Tandy	Stationery	-6.08	0.00	-6.08

16. Correspondence

- Age UK – Supporting Older People in your Community this Loneliness Awareness Week
- Norfolk County Council – Temporary Road Traffic Order Smallburgh
- Norfolk County Council – Temporary Road Traffic Order Tunstead
- Norfolk Resilience Forum – Fire Safety Campaign – Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service

17. Items for the next Parish Council Meeting on **Thursday 24th September 2026.**

- Possible referral to the Local Government Ombudsman to be looked into with regards to concerns with governance at North Norfolk District Council Planning Department.

18. Moved from Item 12. **A proposal to exclude the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 was considered. It was agreed to exclude the public due to the confidential nature of the item to be discussed – early stages of a dispute.**

Sloley Charities. Next steps were discussed and agreed.

Meeting closed at: 21:09

Signed

Dated