



Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 26th March 2026 at 7.00pm

Sloley Methodist Church

Present: Phil Madeley (Chair), Leigh Rumsby (Vice Chair), Caroline Churchill, Peter Gorton, Stephanie Jones

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

Members of the Public: 7

1. Welcome and apologies for absence received from Tony Smith for personal reasons.
2. The resignation of Rob Sadler was noted. Council gave it's thanks for all the work Rob has carried out for the community. It was reported that North Norfolk District Council had notified that no requests had been received to hold an election. It was therefore resolved to advertise the vacancy in the village.
3. There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda or requests for dispensations.
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 22nd January 2026 were reviewed and it was resolved that they be approved. All agreed.

5. Public forum

Report from County and District Councillor, Nigel Dixon

- Local Government Reorganisation has been proposed as three unitary authorities; Greater Norwich Unitary, Eastern Unitary and Western Unitary. North Norfolk will be in the Eastern Unitary. Broadland and South Norfolk will be split between Eastern and Greater Norwich. Western Unitary will comprise, Kings Lynn, West Norfolk, Breckland and a bit of South Norfolk. Nothing will happen until 1 April 2028 which is vesting day for the new authorities. This is not a final decision but one that the Government are minded to propose but it will need a parliamentary act to be passed before it is officially confirmed. May 2027 will be the election of a shadow authority to carry out the preliminary work. This election will allow the current authority to continue until 31 March 2028. The challenge will be with the larger departments of highways, adult and children services. Nigel is not standing as County Councillor at the May 2026 elections.
- Albert Bartlett – there is no appetite in Worstead Parish Council or for the Ward Councillor to push forward with a review and roll back of the decision. No signs of anyone challenging the planning process but this is something that could be pursued should the Parish Council wish to. Albert Bartlett have produced a newsletter which has been distributed locally.
- The Woodyard – The newly installed northern entry is not yet in use because the correct Highways signage has not yet been installed.

A resident asked if the Albert Bartlett newsletter could be distributed by the Council. It will be placed on the Council website and the noticeboards.

6. To report matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda: for information only
- Parish Partnership Scheme update. This was successful and the installation of the White Gate will be scheduled for installation.

7. Planning

- a. Progress with the opposition to the outcome of planning application [PF/24/2474](#): Albert Bartlett was considered. No further action to be taken by the Council due to the lack of support, and the extensive resources this will need. Going forward the planning conditions will be monitored and reported if not met. A letter to be sent to NNDC to advise the Council's disappointment with the poor consultation with the community, the unsound process in the planning procedure, and the conflict of interest.
- b. Planning application [PF/25/1712](#) Apple Tree Cottage, Sloley was considered.
Comments: no objections.
- c. Planning application [PU/26/0500](#) Rear of Woodstock, Low Street, Sloley was considered.
Comments: The final colour of the finished building should be sympathetic to the local area.
- d. No planning applications were received following the agenda being published.
- e. The recent planning decisions were noted.

8. Defibrillator

- a. The costs of purchasing a small sign to acknowledge the installation of the defibrillator was discussed. It was resolved that a sign be purchased at a cost of £10.49.
- b. The provision of training in the use of the defibrillator for the Council and the community was discussed. The clerk has contacted two providers but had no response. No training is required to use the defibrillator but a link for online training will be placed on the Council website.

9. Book Exchange

The future of the library in the telephone box was considered. It was resolved that Caroline Churchill will take responsibility for this. All donations to be left in the phone box and it will be tidied and sorted every month.

10. Sloley Charities

An update was given on the Poor's charity and ways in which the appointment of Trustees can be resolved in order to move forward. After advice from an independent Charity Auditor it was resolved that in the short-term Tony Smith, Leigh Rumsby and Peter Gorton will stand as Trustees to form a quorum and get the charity back on its feet. All agreed.

11. Village Speed Limits

The process of applying to lower the speed limits on Anchor Street and High Street was adjourned to the May meeting in the absence of Tony Smith who is leading on this.

12. Highways

An update on Highways matters reported and any new issues were discussed. Reinstatement of grass verges is needed on Anchor Street from cars mounting the bank. Potholes along Anchor Street have been reported but there are still many to be filled.

13. Village Events

- a. Arrangements for a summer social event for the village was discussed. It was resolved that due to the low number of Councillors, a Christmas event will be organised.
- b. The village litter pick has now taken place. Council would like to support this event in some way in future. Contact to be made with the organiser.

14. War Graves Commission Memorial Maintenance

Progress on arrangements for the upkeep of the war memorial was presented by Philip Madeley. On inspecting it's current condition it initially needs cleaning of dirt and moss. Phil and Caroline will arrange to do this with guidance on the correct materials to use.

15. Public Footpaths and Rights of Way

Highways have been contacted regarding installation of a boardwalk over FP2. They are communicating with the landowner to discuss a solution.

A village footpath walk to check for any other issues, will take place on 6th June 1.00pm.

16. Policies

The following policies were resolved to be agreed in line with the new Assertion 10 requirements of the Annual Governance and Accounting Return:

- a. Freedom of Information Scheme of Publication and statement
- b. Data Protection Policy
- c. Asset Register 2026

17. Accounts

- a. The bank reconciliation to 28th February 2026 was agreed.
- b. The Clerk's attendance at the NPTS Spring Seminar at a cost of £11.20 (20%) was agreed.
- c. The Clerk's annual membership with the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £40.00 (20%) was agreed.
- d. The Council's annual subscription to Norfolk Parish Training and Support at a cost of £70.00 +VAT was agreed.
- e. The annual insurance renewal of £277.00 was agreed.
- f. Payment of the Clerk's extra 9 hours for 2025/26 was agreed.
- g. The purchase of Microsoft 365 subscription of £67.99 +VAT was ratified.
- h. The following payments for March 2026 were agreed and online authorisers agreed.

Voucher	Date	Supplier	Account name	Net	VAT	Total
80	27/02/2026	Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR
81	28/02/2026	Unity Trust Bank	Bank Service Charges	-6.00	0.00	-6.00
82	26/03/2026	Norfolk Parish Training and Support	Subscriptions	-70.00	-14.00	-84.00
83	26/03/2026	Sloley Methodist Church	Meeting Room Hire	-225.00	0.00	-225.00
84	26/03/2026	Anne Tandy	Clerks Expenses	-70.18	0.00	-70.18
85	26/03/2026	Anne Tandy	Office Equipment/Stationery	-10.18	-2.04	-12.22
86	28/03/2026	Anne Tandy	Clerks Salary	Redacted	Under	GDPR

18. Correspondence

- Collective Community Planning – Regulation 14 Consultation Tunstead & Sco-Ruston Neighbourhood Plan
- Norwich County Council – TRO for Westwick Road, Worstead 23rd – 24th February 2026
- RWE Renewables Uk Limited - Project Archaeology Exhibitions 20th and 21st March 2026
- Norfolk County Council – Norwich Wester Link project update

19. Items for the next Parish Council Meeting on **Wednesday 20th May 2026 7.00pm** at Sloley Methodist Church.

Meeting closed: 20:54

Signed

Date: