

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th March 2025 at 8.00pm.

Present:- Cllrs S Henley, A Brodie, C Newitt and J Stanley

Interim Clerk- Mrs L Carter, Sgt Greg Harrison (Northamptonshire Police) and 10 members of the public

PRIOR TO THE FORMAL MEETING

Sgt Harrison attended to address concerns from local residents regarding a rave which took place over the weekend of 28th February to 1st March. He explained the decision-making process that the police went through and answered questions from residents. He outlined the regulations relating to such events and that, with only 17 officers on duty that night across the whole area, they were there to monitor and contain and to prevent the event from growing. They had road block in place but some attendees arrived by crossing fields to access the site.

Sgt Harrison left at 8.55pm along with the 10 residents.

2367. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Overton and Callear. Cllr Smith had also sent his apologies.

2368. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

None declared

2369. Update from Unitary Councillors

Cllr Smith unable to attend due to ill health.

2370. Approval of Minutes

Councillors approved the minutes of the meeting on 15th December for signature.

2371. Matters for discussion outstanding from previous meetings

None

2372. Vacancy

Councillors accepted the resignation of Cllr Simon Mtchell who was moving out of the village and asked the clerk to contact West Northamptonshire Council to request advertising of the casual vacancy.

2373. Planning

2025/5001/FULL – Land to the rear of Bank House Main Street, Church Stowe – Erection of single dwelling. **Decision pending**

2025/2097/FULL at Old Dairy Farm Main Street Upper Stowe NN7 4SH -Building for agricultural use with vehicular access and hardstanding (retrospective) to include demolition of the welfare area. **Approved by Committee on 19th February 2026_ Noted**

Grand Union Canal Transfer - Phase Two Public Consultation – 11 Feb 2026 – 2 April 2026.

This related to a scheme to bring water from the Midlands to the Southeast to secure future drinking water supplies, protect the environment, ensure future water availability for canal navigation, and unlock investment in communities.

There were no major developments planned within the parish and the clerk was asked to complete the response on behalf of the Council with no comments.

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

2374. Statement of accounts/accounts for payment.

- i. Councillors Approved payments to:-

HMRC. (Jan – Mar)	£195.00
Clerks Salary (Jan – Mar)	£780.00
NCALC Cllr Training	£63.60
S Henley (printing & postage)	£55.25
Mugleston’s Heating & Plumbing (inc VAT)	£3,012.00
TOTAL	£4,105.85
- ii. Councillors noted Bank Charges for Dec- Feb of £4.25 per month -Total £12.75
- iii. Councillors noted the balance at the bank of £8,752.39 at 28th February 2026.
- iv. The clerk advised that she had submitted a VAT claim for £625.20

2375. Community Defibrillators.

The Clerk had made contact with a company that could supply Bleed Kits at a cost of £89.00 + VAT each, and would also arrange defibrillator training in conjunction with Cllr Henley.

AGREED: to purchase the Bleed Kits in the new financial year at a cost of £178.00 +VAT

2376. Highways and Footpath

The clerk had received notification of works to Weedon Road commencing on 13th April necessitating off peak closure for five days. It had been added to the village Facebook page

2377. Speedwatch

The PCSO had confirmed that she would arrange for monitoring in Upper Stowe and was in contact with two residents to assist.

2378. Village Newsletter

The next newsletter would be delivered after Easter covering the period up to August, and would advertise the Annual Parish Meeting on 11th May

2379. West Northamptonshire Council.

- i) Consultation on Local Plan - No comments regarding Rural Policy but would ask that any development permitted adjacent to village confines is appropriate to the settlement. – The clerk would respond accordingly
- ii) Parish & Town Council Election Recharge Consultation (previously circulated)
Councillors **AGREED** to Option C as their preference.

2380. NCALC.

Cllr Stanley had completed his training – Off to a Flying Start

2381. Matters for information and discussion

Dog Fouling had become an issue again, but it was acknowledged that it was mainly visitors to the parish using the footpaths.

No date was proposed for a village litter pick

Cllr Newitt raised the issue of sheep contained by an electric fence across one of the local footpaths. Cllr Brodie agreed that it was their land and they would speak to the owner of the sheep to relocate the fence and to ensure that it was signed appropriately for public safety.

2382. Future Meeting dates

Proposed Meeting dates for 2026 were 11th May (AGM and Annual Parish Meeting), 14th Sept and 14th Dec.

Signed

11th May 2026