Approved Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Stow
Thursday 2nd July 2026 7.00 pm, The Cross Keys Stow

Present: Cllr Waudby, Cllr Hewitt, Cllr Eden, Cllr Turner, Cllr Booth
In attendance: Miss N Culliford (Clerk), Cllr Mullally, two members of the public

Open Public Session
A resident in attendance (who provides support to the Parish Council for speed sign maintenance) advised that the speed warning sign on Sturton Road has been successfully repaired. Another sign along Ingham Road that has ceased working has been taken to an external repair service. The speed units are capable of recording direction and speed of vehicles passing but require an add on device to enable this. This data is provided in CSV/XLS format and the add on functionality is interchangeable between signs.

The resident enquired whether this functionality is of interest to the Parish Council and can provide further information if required. It was also noted that the signs themselves are moveable so there may be opportunity to set temporarily in specific locations, though installation restrictions would need to be considered here. Cllr Mullally offered to engage Cllr Wimhurst (LCC) to seek advice re this.

016 Apologies for Absence
Apologies were received from Cllr Arden and Cllr Martinson.

017 Declarations of Interest (in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and any dispensations that may arise)
There were no additional declarations of interest.

018 Minutes for Approval from previous meeting of Thursday 7th May 2026
It was proposed by Cllr Eden and seconded by Cllr Booth to accept the minutes of the May 2026 Parish Council meeting as a true copy of the meeting. Resolved all agreed in favour.

019 Clerk's Report on Matters Arising
a. Cllr Waudby confirmed that the lawnmower stored by a resident and listed on the current asset register is no longer in working order. **Action:** Clerk to remove from asset register

b. Wording drafted by the clerk to outline a third PC priority for 2026-7 relating to financial sustainability was approved. **Action:** Clerk to update objectives on the PC website.
It was acknowledged that this activity, involving the identification of potential grants and funding streams, should be led by an individual Cllr.
Action: All councillors to consider this activity and advise the Clerk if they would like to volunteer for this.

c. Cllr Eden has discussed the proposed closure of St Mary's churchyard with a representative of WLDC and has advised that Stow PC do not intend to take on maintenance responsibility should the MoJ approve the closure. As a result, the PC have signed the necessary part of the closure request form and will continue liaise with the PCC and WLDC (led by Cllr Eden) until transfer of maintenance responsibility takes place (forecast April 2027). The primary risk to the PC in the interim is the condition of the churchyard wall.
Action: Clerk to include brief update to residents in content for next Bugle edition.

020 Accounts and Governance
The clerk shared a summary of income and expenditure for the period since the last meeting (1st May to 30th June 2026). It was proposed by Cllr Eden and seconded by Cllr Waudby that the payments be accepted. Resolved all agreed in favour.

EXPENDITURE & INCOME DETAILS	RECEIPTS	PAYMENTS	ANNUAL BUDGET	SPEND TO DATE	INCOME TO DATE
Clerk Salary & Tax		406.62	2700	587.34	17.97
PC Insurance Renewal		511	520	511	
Memberships/Subscriptions		47	175	47	
Grass Cutting/Hedge Maintenance		1670.76	4250	1670.76	
Misc.		60	100	60	

PC Bank Balance as of 30/06/2026	**£17,140.13**
Balance includes:	
Stow Recreation Fund	£4,936.33
Of which, ringfenced for accessible play park equipment	*£468.87*
CIL Allowance for items for village use	£2,232.16
Total	£7,168.49

021 Council and Village Issues
a. Future grant exploration and management – *Discussed as part of 'matters arising (see item 19b)*
b. Update on proposal to close St Mary's churchyard to future interments – *Update provided as part of 'matters arising' (see item 19c)*

022 Highways
No updates to report

023 Communication with Parish Residents
a. Stow Bugle: It was agreed the following content would be contributed for the next issue:
- An introduction to new Cllr Mrs Clare Booth.
- An update to residents regarding latest progress on the proposal to close St Mary's churchyard.

Action: Clerk to prepare content and forward to Bugle team

024 Planning
The following application has been submitted to WLDC since the last PC meeting:
WL/2026/00530 – Manor Farm Stow Park Road LN1 2AL. Prior approval change of use of agricultural building to 1no. dwelling.
The PC have not been consulted on this matter due to the nature of the application and have no comments to add.

025 Correspondence
No additional correspondence to report

026 County and District Councillor Reports
None received.

027 Review of Open Actions
a. Two savings accounts have been identified by the clerk to potentially use for ringfenced funds (SRF, CIL).
Action: Clerk to further explore the higher interest account and feedback key information.

b. The clerk has received no response from LCC regarding ownership of land at Stow cemetery entrance and the status of repair to South Drive gas pipe.
Action: Clerk to compose letter to LCC Chief Exec. to escalate matters.

028 AOB
No other business to report

Chair closed the meeting at 19:49pm