

STAMBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 17 July 2025 at 7.30pm. The meeting was held in the village hall.

PRESENT:

Mr Neil Pyman (Chair)
Mr Martyn Fall
Mrs Wendy Anderson

Mr Nathan Robins
Mrs Val Kerrison
Mr Andrew Drysdale

IN ATTENDANCE:

3 Members of the public

CLERK:

Mrs Deborah Hilliard

25/53 Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Karen Grant, Richard van Dulken and Peter Schwier

25/54 Declaration of interests, personal or prejudicial

There were no declarations made.

25/55 Minutes of meeting held on 22 May 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2025 were approved as a correct record and signed.

25/56 Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

There were no matters arising.

25/57 Report of District Councillor/County Councillor

Cllr Peter Schwier was not present to report.

It was noted that Richard van Dulken of Braintree District Council had sent his apologies. It was noted that Cllr van Dulken had sent a written report received today which would be circulated by the clerk.

25/58 Pavilion

Points noted were:-

- It was noted that a new smart meter had been installed at the pavilion and was working well.

25/59 Playingfield

Points noted were:-

- Grass cutting – It was confirmed that the current contractor would be leaving at the end of the season, and a new contractor would need to be found.
- Gate – It was noted that Debbie would now order the gate. Once ordered Martyn will contact the groundspeople to arrange for the posts to be installed.

- Proposed new swing – it was noted that the CIF fund for 2025 had not yet been publicised. Debbie will continue to monitor. Debbie will also look into other funding streams.
- Play Equipment inspection – It was noted that the inspection had taken place, but the report had not yet been received.

25/60 Highways

Birdbrook junction with Chapel End Way – It was noted that work by Gigaclear had caused some disruption due to road closures and there had been some damage to the new road surface.

Overgrown hedges – Manns Cross – It was noted that these hedges had not been cut back. Debbie will contact the clerk at Great Yeldham on this matter.

25/61 Footpaths

Val reported that she planned to walk the footpaths in the parish and would report back any issues.

Footpath 17 – Chapel End Way – Broken planks on bridge. It was agreed that Val would visit the site and send photos to report the issue to ECC Highways.

Footpaths at Three Chimneys Farm – Debbie will send Martyn a photograph of the definitive map.

25/62 Planning

Local Plan Review – Nathan reported and confirmed he had attended the Braintree District Council meeting. He was able to report that the sites in Stambourne had been refused. However, it was noted that the site owners could still put forward proposals via the normal planning system.

Application Number 25/01174/FUL - Land Adjacent, 1 Church Road, Stambourne – to note response:-

“Stambourne Parish Council have considered this application and object on the basis of the following material considerations:-

- Layout and density of buildings
- Parking, highways and traffic

The Parish Council also has concerns that given the limited size of the site the village hall car park opposite the site would potentially be used for lorry parking or possible reversing point for site access and would seek clarification as to what measures would be put in place as mitigation.

Furthermore, the site is located close to a busy junction on small rural roads which could present further safety, traffic management issues and increased traffic during construction and beyond and again the Parish Council would seek clarification on this.”

25/63 Defibrillator – Chapel End Way

It was noted that Vicky Dowling had retired from monitoring the defibrillator at Chapel End Way. The Parish Council thanked Vicky for her contribution over many years. It was agreed to advertise for another volunteer in the newsletter.

25/64 Creamer Fund – Bleed Kits

It was proposed and agreed that the Parish Council fund the Bleed Kits as previously discussed from the Bonfire Fund. It was noted that the Trustees of the Creamer Fund had agreed to fund the cost of one bleed kit, and further kits were available for approximately £120 or £489 to include the cabinet. It was agreed that 2 kits and cabinets were needed. One for Chapel End Way and One for Church Road to be sited next to the defibrillators once permission to do so had been given.

25/65 Correspondence

Bonfire Night – The date was agreed as Saturday 8 November 2025.

Village Hall update – Wendy reported that taster classes for yoga and seated yoga would take place in the village hall and if successful, would start regularly in September. Bingo would start from 22 September at 3pm. It was noted that these were the most popular ideas that came out of the survey.

25/66 FinanceAccounts Paid

EALC annual subscription	£161.32
Mr N Pyman (reimbursement for gift)	£19.00
Zurich Insurance (annual premium)	£951.10
NVPC Ltd (PAT testing)	£76.20
Eden Print (newsletter)	£32.00
Stour Valley Joinery (pavilion shutters)	£1842.00
Eon electricity	£136.88

Accounts to be paid

M&N Pyman (1 st verge cut)	£723.60
Community Heartbeat Trust	£171.54
Online Playgrounds (inspection)	£129.60
Saffron Accounting (audit)	£75.00
Mrs D Hilliard (wages and expenses)	£805.41

Monies Received

VAT reclaim	£746.30
Cash in (bonfire)	£966.10
Pavilion hire	£90.00
Bank interest	£13.97

Estimated balances at 10 July 2025

Balance of Current Account	£21,136.87
Balance of Business Reserve Account	<u>£ 4,219.10</u>
Total	£25,355.97
Balance of Bonfire Fund	<u>£11,724.99</u>
Balance of General Fund	£13,630.98

25/67 Date, time and place of next meetings.

18 September 2025
20 November 2025

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at approximately 8.10pm.

Signed: A. Dingle

Dated: 18th Sept 2025

A. Dingle