

**Minutes of the meeting of Stoke by Clare Parish Council held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025 at The Barn, Ashen Road, Stoke by Clare at 19.30.**

**Present:**

Chair Cllr Dadd  
Vice Chair: Cllr Kiddy  
Councillors Cllr Smith Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Blake James

**In Attendance:**

Clerk to the Council Matthew Price – Clerk to the Council  
6 – MOP  
Cllr Bennett –Suffolk County Council

**1 Apologies for absence and declaration of interest**

- Cllr Rook - Personal

**2 Declarations of interest**

- None

**3 Public participation**

- Members of public were invited to give feedback and constructive ways forward on the management/future support needed for the Allotments, a spokeswoman read out various concerns that would like to be tabled and the main points for consideration were:

Fencing in between plots

Trees and ownership and maintenance

Bench placement

Invoices and rents

Tenancy agreement

Possibility of plot markers

Bramble's ownership and control

All of the points were discussed, and Council took on board the points as the continued hard work of the plot holders is not unnoticed and Council would be delighted to support where they can.

Future agenda items would need to be added to cover off tree costs, tenancy agreements and invoicing.

The Clerk asked for the full list of plot holders' details, contact numbers etc to cleanse the system and ensure there is one working document for future use, the spokeswoman informed the clerk that she would gain consent from the allotment holders to pass on their data and thus giving SBCPC the right of data controller.

A meeting on site will take place after the Christmas period to ensure the meetings points raised are a workable amount and the main effort will be on the brambles and ownership.

The Allotment holders were delighted to hear that Cllr Bennet suggested that there are various locality budgets available for on going community engagement projects and would be delighted to see if County Council could help.

^ MOP Left the meeting @ 20.05pm\*

**4 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 – Confirmed and signed by Cllr Dadd.

**5 Reports**

- a) Suffolk County Councillors – Cllr Bennett gave a brief run down of the discussions within council on the reorganisation and nothing was clear yet but would keep updating everyone, Cllr Bennet echoed the support of locality budget possibilities for the Allotment holders and said it would be great to help.

\*Cllr Bennett left the meeting @ 20.08pm\*

- b) West Suffolk Councillors report – None.

- c) To Consider SID device support, Cllr Dadd informed members that generous locality budgets were to be given by West Suffolk & County for the device, the chair showed all members the 3 quotes received and their requirements and usage and it was unanimously agreed to purchase one, further updates will be in the next council meeting
- d) Update on Playground repairs – It was unanimously agreed by members to focus on the safety elements over the cosmetic repairs, the costings are needed to be included in the 26/27 budget and monies from the reserves will enable the immediate repairs to be completed over the coming months.
- e) To agree Allotment plan – this is a continuation of the members questions and discussions, all members and public are happier now correct communication channels are open and hope that a new reset will be able to iron out previous challenges, All Members thanked the Allotment holders for their hard work and dedication
- f) To approve and consider Internal & External Audit recommendations – Unanimously agreed as per the working document produced.
- g) Update on tree report – Cllr Dadd informed members the tree report would commence in early 2026 and following the report all of the priority trees would be considered for works and brought back to Council for approval.
- h) Update on Co-option – The Clerk informed members of the process and this will be reviewed again in January Full Council meeting
- i) Approve engagement on behalf of PC on LG reorganisation – It was agreed the Clerk inform Suffolk of the members unanimous way forward.
- j) To approve 2026 Council meeting dates - Agreed
- k) To approve Annual General Public Meeting date for 2026 - Agreed

## 6 Members items and questions (not included elsewhere)

- a) A discussion on how the Village fete can be supported next year and to support all the hard working volunteers, all members had some great ideas and the Council will formulate these and pass on to the organisers, Cllr Dadd informed members of the possible donation the Council will receive from the proceeds, all members thanked everyone involved for such a valuable and needed day in the summer.

## 7 Finance

- a) Bank statements, presentation for payments for Oct & Nov 25 – Agreed and signed by Cllr Dadd.
- b) To consider and approve bank authorisation payments for the above period – Agreed and signed by Cllr Dadd.
- c) To consider budget 2026/27 – It was agreed that x2 EMR projects be allocated funds for the 26/27 precept – Unanimously agreed
- d) To approve West Suffolk SALC for internal Audit 2026 – Unanimously agreed
- e) To consider Grant request from SBC Bowls Club - Declined

Meeting closed: 21.30pm.