

EAST STOKE WITH THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held in the Farndon parish council office at the Memorial Hall, Farndon on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 6.00pm.

Couns. Adrian Lee (Chairman)

Michael Lyon, Mary Cherry-Downes, Sid Davies, Teena Shaw and Spencer Davies

The Clerk Emma Goodman was present, NSDC Cllr Saddington, Cllr Haynes and 8 members of the public.

- 1) Apologies for absence – none
- 2) Declarations of Interest – none
- 3) Co-option of Parish Councillor – the PC received presentations from 2 applicants. Council voted with 3 votes for Karen Milbourne and 3 votes for Peter Page. The Chair held the casting vote and Karen was co-opted.

Cllr Milbourne was welcomed to the Parish Council

- 4) Minutes from the meeting held on 13th January – **APPROVED** and **SIGNED**
- 5) Actions from Minutes dated 13th January – it was confirmed that the invoice for the speed survey had been paid.
- 6) County / Borough Councillor Updates and Questions –

Cllr Saddington updated the PC with the following:

- The District Council tax had been set and will increase by 3.99% for 26/27.
- EST PC was confirmed as on the NCC expenditure reserve list for an interactive speed sign – Cllr Spencer Davies asked for confirmation of which roads were on the reserve list and that NCC would pay for the signs if this was the case.
- Payment has been received by EST PC for the grant request for the speed monitoring equipment.
- Cllr Cherry-Downes asked Cllr Saddington to look into the bend signs on Main Thorpe as there had been a situation where a car had missed the bend and crashed into the wall. There was concern the distance on the signs are incorrect.

Cllr Haynes updated the meeting on the following:

- A request had been made for a 1.4% reduction in Council tax as a large reserves pot is held. This was unsuccessful.
- The brown bins scheme has been launched.
- The housing budget has increased by 4.18% to assist in investment in council houses.

- Southern relief road – hopes are the road will be open by the summer of 26, another meeting will held shortly to confirm.

7) Update from working groups:

- a) Traffic / speed signs – Cllr Spencer Davies updated the Council of the ongoing communication regarding the survey, the invoice for the survey had been paid for by the PC. They are still waiting for confirmation of a date for when the survey will be carried out.

8) Open session for Members of the Public – (limited to 15 minutes)

- A member of the public reported that the Defibrillators were working ok and an advisory note for the pads would soon be out of date.
- A parishioner asked if the PC would be supportive of building parish friendships. Cllr Spencer Davies suggested that the PC were open to any suggestions that they would like to bring to a PC meeting where the PC could support the ideas such as a coffee morning. Cllr Cherry-Downes asked if there was a village what's app group for East Stoke. They confirmed there was a closed Facebook group.

9) Finance

- a) Schedule of Payments/Reimbursements – **APPROVED**
b) Budget Monitoring report - **NOTED.**
c) Savings account – it was **NOTED** that the account had been applied for.

10) Planning Applications – 26/00406/DISCON
Council voted 7 in support.

11) a) Report from Clerk – none

- b) Reports from Councillors – none

12) Date of Next Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 12th May 2026 Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting

The meeting closed at 6.45pm