Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Sturry Parish Council

which took place on Wednesday 14th October 2026 at the Broad Oak Village Hall.

Meeting opened at 7pm

160-26 **To note those, present and record any apologies:**
Present: Cllr Steve Birch (Chairman), Cllr Ann Davies, Cllr Gill Betts, Cllr Kathleen Warner, Cllr Ashley Bubb

Also In Attendance: Members of the Public, Ken (Council Cemetery Superintendent)

Apologies Received: Matthew J. Bridger (Locum Clerk & RFO), Cllr Mark Mulvihill, Cllr John Hogben (Vice Chair), Cllr Chris Gartland

Resolved: That the reason for absence for Cllr John Hogben and Cllr Chris Gartland be accepted in accordance with Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

161-26 **Notification of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Other Significant Interests (OSI's) or a Voluntary Interest:**
There were no Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI), Other Significant Interest (OSI), or Voluntary Interest made.

162-26 **To consider and adopt the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9th September 2026:**
The Council considered the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 9th September 2026.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 9th September 2026 be approved as a true and correct record for signing by the Chair.
(**Proposed:** Cllr Warner, **Seconded:** Cllr Betts) **Carried unanimously. (Cllr Bubb abstained)**

Action: Clerk to publish signed minutes on the Parish Council website.

163-26 **Public Open Session:**
No members of the public wished to speak.

164-26 **Monthly Reports.**
The Council received and noted information and reports relevant to the Council:

1. **Correspondence Received:** No extra correspondence received

2. **Clerk's Report:** Submitted a written report **(taken as read)**

3. **Councillors Training / Courses attended:** None

4. **Chairman and Councillors reports:** Councillors provided updates on the work they have been doing in the community.

5. **County and District Councillors reports:** Cllr Mckenzie and Cllr Moses (Canterbury City Council Councillors) Submitted a written report **(taken as read)**

6. **Community Warden report:** Submitted a written report **(taken as read)**

7. **Cemetery Superintendent's Report:** Submitted a written report **(taken as read)**

8. **Report from Committees:**

- ***Staffing Committee:*** *Cllr Betts reported on the recruitment process for a permanent Clerk and RFO.*

165-26 **Parish Office Fire Safety:**
The Council considered the quotes for the fire alarm system for the Sturry Parish Council Office.
Resolved: That the item be deferred to a future council meeting.
(**Proposed:** Cllr Betts, **Seconded:** Cllr Bubb) **Carried unanimously.**

166-26 **Accounting Software:**
The Council reviewed quotations for accounting software.
Resolved: That the item be deferred to a future council meeting.
(**Proposed**: Cllr Bubb, **Seconded**: Cllr Davies) **Carried unanimously.**

167-26 **Centenary Woodlands Bulbs:**
The Council reviewed quotations for the purchase of bulbs for Centenary Woodlands.

Resolved: That the purchase of 100 bulbs for Centenary Woodlands be approved and purchased. (**Proposed**: Cllr Davies, **Seconded**: Cllr Birch) **Carried unanimously.**

Action: Clerk to place order for delivery.

168-26 **Casual Vacancies:**
The Council considered an application from Paul Ireland for co-option to the Parish Council and asked the applicant questions.

Resolved: Deferred for final discussion and vote in closed session.

169-26 **Cemetery:** The council discussed the cost for materials required to top and maintain cleared grave plots within the Cemetery.

Resolved: That the Cemetery Superintendent purchase the materials for the Cemetery.

(**Proposed:** Cllr Davies, **Seconded:** Cllr Warner) **Carried with a majority (Abstain: Cllr Betts and Cllr Bubbs)**

170-26 **Councillor Parish Representation:** Cllr Betts ask that councillors put together a list of things they are keen to lead on in areas across the parish.

Resolved: That the item be deferred to a future council meeting.

(**Proposed:** Cllr Betts, **Seconded:** Cllr Birch) **Carried unanimously**.

171-26 **Armed Forces Covenant:** The Council discussed the Armed Forces Covenant.

Resolved: That the item be deferred to a future council meeting.

(**Proposed:** Cllr Bubb, **Seconded:** Cllr Birch) **Carried unanimously.**

172-26 **Communications Methods:** The Council discussed the creation of a residents' WhatsApp Broadcast Channel for public updates, and a Councillors' Broadcast Channel (admin-only) for urgent notifications from the Clerk.

Resolved: That the proposal to create WhatsApp Broadcast Channels not be pursued.

(**Proposed:** Cllr Betts, **Seconded:** Cllr Warner) **Carried unanimously.**

173-26 **Planning applications:** No planning applications were received for consideration; item noted.

174-26 **Finance:**

1. **Receipts & Payments:** Deferred due to issues with Rialtas system

2. **Payments for Approval:** Resolved: That the schedule of "payments and expenditure to be authorised" not be approved and commitments at the last meeting be looked at. (**Proposed:** Cllr Bubb, **Seconded:** Cllr Betts) **Carried unanimously.**

175-26 **Items for inclusion on the next agenda:** Clerk to remind councillors a few days before agenda is set for agenda items.

176-26 **Date of next meeting:**
Wednesday 11TH November 2026 at 7pm at Sturry Social Centre.

177-26 **To exclude the public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972:**

Resolved: That under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 and sections 100 & 102 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for closed session items.

(**Proposed:** Cllr Birch **Seconded:** Cllr Bubb) **Carried unanimously.**

The Council entered closed session and came back to previous item 168-26

168-26 **Casual Vacancies:**
The Council considered an application from Paul Ireland for co-option to the Parish Council.

Resolved: That Paul Ireland be co-opted onto the Parish Council
(**Proposed:** Cllr Betts, **Seconded**: Cllr Davies) **Carried unanimously.**

Action: Clerk to arrange a meeting with Paul to sign DPI Form, send to Canterbury City Council and set up council email access.

169-26 **Close of Meeting.**
The meeting closed at 8:29pm.

Signature: _____ **Date:** 11/11/26

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