

# Strumpshaw Parish Council

## Minutes

Council meeting held at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, 27 August 2025 at Strumpshaw Community Hall, Mill Road, Strumpshaw. NR13 4FS

Present: Ellie Buckton (Chair), Russ Blake, Brian Jones, Tina McAulay (Vice Chair) and Bob Morgan.  
In attendance: Tanya Rowlandson (Clerk). Members of the public: None.

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Michael Green.

**2. Declarations of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest**

None.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 6 August 2025**

These were agreed as a true record of proceedings.

**4. Matters Arising**

None.

**5. Public Open Forum (15 minutes)**

There were no members of the public present.

**6. Co-option of new councillor**

Brian Jones was duly co-opted onto the Parish Council following a unanimous vote of approval by members. Cllr Brian Jones then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was warmly welcomed to the meeting by the Chair on behalf of all members.

**7. Planning application 2025/2394, 4 Woodland View, Strumpshaw**

Council raised no objections to the submitted proposal. It was noted that the site borders woodland owned by the Page family, and reference was made to guidance in the emerging local plan regarding external lighting and the dark skies policy. Members stressed the need to minimise lighting and to use low-impact, downward-facing fixtures to safeguard local wildlife habitats. The absence of lighting on the southern elevation was welcomed as an environmentally considerate design feature.

**8. Buckenham Wood site visit**

Members met on site at Buckenham Wood earlier this evening with Sheridan Sayer to discuss and share initial ideas for a management plan for the parish council owned part of the woodland. The discussion was agreed to be both useful and informative. Members instructed the Clerk to send a formal thank-you to Sheridan and to request a quotation for developing the plan.

**Key elements to be considered include:**

- Dogs on leads policy
- Peaceful enjoyment for all ages
- Meadow area improvements, including an accessible picnic bench
- Youth engagement (e.g. Brownies, Cubs, Scouts)
- Accessibility enhancements
- Biodiversity and habitat creation
- Community involvement
- BAWT path extension (~100m)
- Cliff path safety and potential terracing
- Quotation to survey the Stone Pit (community orchard)

**9. Unity Trust Bank**

The Unity Trust Bank account application form was duly signed by the Clerk, alongside Cllrs Ellie Buckton, Russ Blake, Tina McAulay, and Bob Morgan.

**10. Clerk update Long Lane trod and interim grass cutting**

The Council noted correspondence from Tom Cox (Highways Engineer), confirming that an update will follow by the end of the week and that the Long Lane trod remains a priority for Norfolk County Council. As an urgent matter, the Council confirmed—its earlier discussions (carried out by email) to instruct K Monsey to undertake a one-off interim grass cut of the informal path at a cost of £175.00.

**11. Date of the next meeting**

Tuesday 16 September 2025, at 7:30pm.

*The meeting closed at 7:10pm.*

Chair's Signature..... Date.....