

Minutes of the meeting of Stapleford Parish Council,
Held on
Thursday 15th of January 2026
Waterford Village Hall at 19:30

The meeting commenced with the following members present: Cllr J Oakins (Chairperson), Cllr A Roe, Cllr A George, Cllr R Bewick

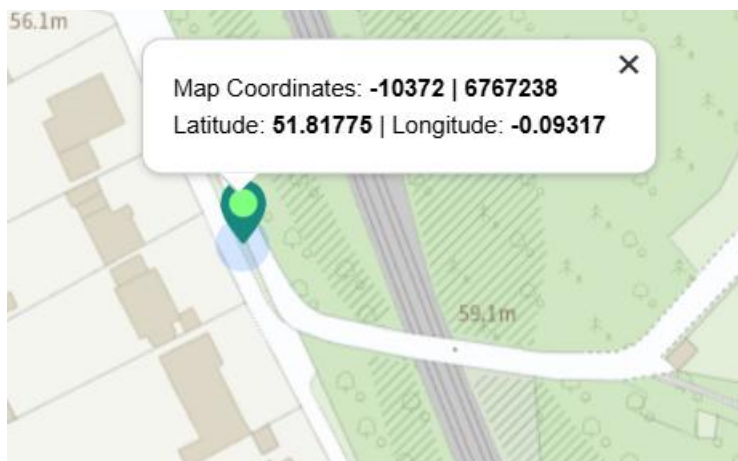
1. **Apologies:** Cllr M Randall

In Attendance:

2. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December:** Signed as a true record.

3. **Traffic Calming Measures on the High Road in Waterford:** MP Chris Hinchcliff has written to all Parish Councillors and residents, expressing support for efforts to challenge the County Council's lack of action regarding dangerous roads. The Clerk has been asked to compile a timeline of actions taken, by combining the minutes from previous meetings, to present at next month's meeting.

4. **Rat run off Vicarage Lane in Waterford:** Land Registry searches have established that the land affected by structural problems does not have a registered owner. As a result, responsibility for its maintenance may rest with Hertfordshire County Council.



The Clerk has been asked to compile a timeline of actions taken, by combining the minutes from previous meetings, to present at next month's meeting.

5. **Waterford Marsh:** The Clerk has confirmed that, due to the anticipated cost, the Parish Council must obtain three quotations before proceeding with the tree work. Councillor Bewick will contact Tree Heritage to secure the third quote.

6. Precept: Precept setting: The council's expenditure for the previous financial year was £7,537.00, with the precept set at £7,500.00. For the current financial year, projected spending is £ taking into account the quotation received for tree work in the Marsh. After reviewing the council's current account balance, members agreed to set the precept at £7,500.00, which should ensure a healthy level of reserves remains.

7. Correspondence:

Letter from MP Chris Hinchcliff
December Crime report
Defibrillator case opened at Waterford Hall

8. Finance and accounts.

The council is asked to approve / note the following payments:

1. D Houghton Salary January	██████████
2. DH December Quarterly Payment	£94.57
3. Waterford Hall Hire	£20.00
4. Website maintenance payment	£650.00
5. Land Registry Searches	£21.00
6. Office 365 Subscription	£84.99

Receipts

Balances

Current Account – £19,036.12 as of today

Accounts have been considered and reviewed at this meeting

7. Planning:

New: 43A High Road Waterford

Decisions: None

Informational:

Clerk: The Clerk has been asked to follow up with CMS regarding the erosion of the pathway between Stapleford and Waterford.

Cllr Roe: There has been a significant increase in heavy truck traffic along Bramfield Lane. It was suggested that the Parish Council write to the relevant authorities to request the reopening of the pit, as ongoing work appears to be taking place at the quarry.

Date of next meeting: The Parish Council will meet on 19th of February 2026 at Waterford Village Hall, at 7.30pm.