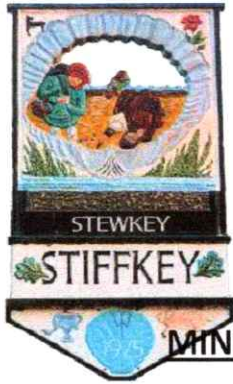


STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman:- Councillor A. Hooper

Vice-Chairman:- Councillor M. Williams



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF STIFFKEY **HELD ON TUESDAY 26TH MAY, 2026 AT 7.00 PM** **IN STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL**

Present:-

Chairman – Cllr. J. Lawrence, Vice-Chairman – Cllr. M. Williams,
Cllr. P. Claydon, Cllr. P. Harrison, Cllr. A. Hooper,
Cllr. R. Husain and Cllr. J. Sugden.

Julie Chance – Clerk.

Four members of the public also attended the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27TH MAY, 2025

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 27th May 2025, having been circulated, were taken as read, **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Attached.

4. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS' REPORTS

4.1 Community First Responders:- Attached.

4.2 Stiffkey Village Hall:- Attached.

4.3 Parochial Church Council:- Attached.

Clerk:- Julie Chance, Pine Lodge, Gimingham Road, Trimingham, Norfolk, NR11 8HP

Telephone No:- 07305048062

Email:- clerk@stiffkeyparishcouncil.gov.uk

- 4.4 Camping Hill Garden Plots:-** Attached.
- 4.5 Stiffkey Local History Group:-** Attached.
- 4.6 HATS:-** Cllr. Hooper reported that the scheme is up and running and the charity status is now in place. There are four volunteer drivers with some back-up drivers if needed. The volunteers are all DBS checked and have ID. The scheme has been used three times to date. Two donations have been received towards the scheme.
- 4.7 Community Speed Watch:-** Attached.
- 4.8 Stiffkey Playing Field:-** Cllr. Claydon reported that the grass maintenance has commenced and the area is in good condition. The Stiffkey Cricket Club was unable to play all matches scheduled last year due to lack of players. This year is not looking hopeful for a team due to lack of funding and being unable to afford insurance. The Playing Field AGM was held on 14th April. The pavilion needs repair and grant funding has been sought. The work needed is external decoration, the ceiling and the roof on the tractor shed. The tractor is now 60 years old and is becoming more temperamental. The Committee are looking at purchasing another tractor. The Committee thanks the Harrison family who supply the fuel for the tractor. The play area is in good condition and is inspected annually. The Committee are looking for more volunteers to help with grass maintenance.

5. QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

None received.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30 pm.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date

Chairmans report for the APM on the 26th May 26

Can I thank you all for being here tonight at this APM

And firstly can I thank every one of you for all your contributions to the meetings and the village of Stiffkey, there are many little jobs that the councillors do behind the scenes that go unnoticed and unappreciated so thankyou again,

For the last twelve months the parish council have worked very well together,

The health and transport scheme is now up and running after a lot of hard work from many people especially Tim Adams and Alex Hooper, lets hope this continues for the residents of Stiffkey,

Health is still in the forefront of what we do in this village and I would like to say a special thanks to David Hooper for not only giving up his time to be a first responder but for also for organising further CPR training, David can also be seen put to work in and around the village by his wife Cllr Alex Hooper

Relationships with the Natural Trust over the years has not been ideal but I'm pleased to say that both the NT and the PC now have a much better working relationship, so lets continue working with them to look after and protect this wonderful part of coastline.

My I thank Rocky and Alex for continuing the village news letter, this has proven to be a great success.

Can I thank all those who attended the other meetings out side of the parish council whether it be in person or by video

Can I thank my vice chair for his contribution, Martin has as we know had major health issues but has still always been there if support was needed.

We cannot forget the village lost a gentleman in the last 12 months,

Mark Harrison was a parish councillor for many many years he stood for what for what he believed in (was it good for the village) he worked tirelessly

Willing to help out when and where he could, he is missed and will be for many years to come.

Stiffkey parish council has glue holding it together keeping it safe, legal and working smoothly and this glue is our clerk Julie,

As current chair I would like to thank Julie for her hard work and dedication for all she has helped with

The Stiffkey CFRs attended **52 emergency call-outs** in the year ending **30 April 2026**. This represents just over a **50% increase year on year** and is largely due to efficiencies and improvements in despatch at the Norwich Control Centre, which have led to CFRs being more widely utilised.

Over the last 12 months, we spent just under **855 hours on duty** and were on shift a total of **178 times**, averaging just under **15 shifts per month**.

Of these 52 call-outs:

Ten were Category 1 – life-threatening illnesses and injuries. These included suspected heart attack, anaphylaxis and stroke. We were also first on scene at a multi-casualty RTA, which was subsequently attended by the Fire Brigade and the Air Ambulance. This was the first of two occasions in the past year on which we assisted the highly skilled teams from the East of England Air Ambulance. We were also first on scene at a suspected drowning on the beach between Wells-next-the-Sea and Holkham. This call-out was subsequently supported by the Coastguard, who assisted in bringing the casualty back to safety ahead of a rapidly rising Spring tide and in near-darkness.

Thirty-nine call-outs were Category 2 – general emergency calls for non-immediately life-threatening conditions. These included difficulty breathing, loss of consciousness, and a fall from a ladder.

Three call-outs were Category 3 – urgent calls, which were generally non-injury falls of unknown duration.

In this reporting period, we had **no Category 4 (less urgent) calls**.

This year, the majority of emergencies to which we were dispatched were in Wells-next-the-Sea, with call-outs extending along the coast as far as Sheringham to the east, and inland to Holt, Gunthorpe and Hindringham to the south. We were also called to several inland incidents, particularly in Holt.

Mileage this year reflects the increase in call-outs, with over **460 miles covered**. Of our 52 official call-outs in this reporting period, **four were in Stiffkey**.

Our operational radius remains roughly **ten miles from Stiffkey** and, on average, we generally arrive on scene within **11 minutes**. This compares to an average response time of **53 minutes** for ambulance crews during the same reporting period. This means we are often on scene between **15 minutes**, and in one case **up to three hours**, before paramedic crews arrive.

This year, we had no call-outs where ambulance crews did not subsequently attend, which again indicates improved ambulance availability, including RRVs.

The **Raizer II lifting chair** has continued to be a valuable asset over the past year and has been utilised several times, including one incident in which it safely lifted a woman with a broken arm at Wells Community Hospital.

In March, the Wells and Fakenham CFR Group ran a **Community CPR Training Evening**, which was well attended by residents of Stiffkey. It is hoped that this training can be repeated regularly to ensure CPR skills within the village remain current.

In terms of our ongoing training and professional development, we have attended a variety of sessions designed to improve our medical knowledge and practical skills. We have also recently completed our mandatory annual Basic Life Support certification.

In June 2025, the CFR Team attended a half-day training exercise provided by EEASt ambulance crews and volunteers. This was designed to give us the opportunity to deliver emergency care in a series of simulated emergency situations. It proved to be an excellent opportunity to receive feedback and further training in the management of medical emergencies.

As ever, the CFR Team is always grateful for further support and assistance, as only fuel costs incurred while attending emergencies are covered. Other mileage costs associated with compulsory monthly training, annual re-certification, and similar commitments are not reimbursed.

Wear and tear to vehicles, uniforms, and equipment is also not covered, nor is the annual running cost of the NMA — the device that allows EEASt's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to provide us with despatch instructions, medical history, and navigation to scene. Once again, we would like to thank the Parish Council and the members of the village who have kindly contributed toward our costs.

Village Hall Report

I am pleased to report that the Hall has continued to be used on a regular basis over the past 12 months. The varied use – from one off training – such as for CPR and as a crucial role as a polling station to regular use for Swap shop, the History group, parish council meetings and so on.

The 200 Club also continues to successfully operate and small one-off grants have helped us ensure that for all the community events the Hall hosts, there is no charge.

Trustees have held a number of meeting to look at how we move forward with the upkeep of the building and after extensive research and consultation have unanimously decided that a smaller more modern building which offers our community a free to use safe space is the way forward. The addition of a solar panel roof we hope will help with running costs, reduce the carbon footprint of the facility and give the opportunity to become a generator with the Greenhoe local energy club and by virtue of that membership help our community with lower electricity costs.

Our website will shortly be updated where the proposed plans for the building can be viewed.

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN and ST. MARY, STIFFKEY

Church Report for the Annual Meeting Stiffkey Parish Council on 26th May, 2026

Our church services continue to run regularly, Revd Ian Whittle being supported by Roger Bland in covering the nine Parishes in the Benefice. As for some other parishes, Stiffkey PCC chose not pay the full Parish Share to the Norwich Diocese for 2025, but we will be working with the Benefice Treasurer to make sure the Benefice meets the overall requirement as far as possible. This is key to ensure that we have an incumbent in place.

Recognition of volunteers

We are indebted to all the willing band of helpers who clean the church and put in fresh flowers when needed, those providing home-baking, serving teas and refreshments at events and to the team who continue to cut and keep the churchyard in an immaculate condition.

This year's achievements relate to the roof fundraising and establishing the Charity Status for the PCC, notably

- the enthusiastic and industrious work of our interim Treasurer and Gift Aid Officer to secure funds for repairs to the roof and to provide governance of our financial and HMRC affairs. Also for a heightened communications and publicity profile via Church Notes and posting of events
- Trustees of the Charity formed in late 2024 to establish its policies and align with Church of England requirements as a foundation for the new organisation.

Fundraising

The church's usual August events raised over £970 at the Stalls on the Knoll and £690 from the SLHG exhibition both including gift aid. The Christmas Carol Service and Carols at the Red Lion raised over £760. Funds were boosted in 2025 with a donation from the concert given by the Cambridge Gilbert and Sullivan Society. We are grateful to Stiffkey Parish Council for supporting us with a grant of £50 towards fire and security.

More recently, the PCC hosted over Easter weekend, the 'Then and Now' History Group exhibition first shown last year raising donations of £390 towards the Church Fabric Fund. We are planning the launch of an annual "Made in Stiffkey" event at the Church during August to showcase the spirit of the village and the talents of its residents – this year focussing on our local artists.

Our "Stalls on the Knoll" event will take place on Sunday morning 30th August and will work in conjunction with Stiffkey Local History Group's exhibition. This year's title is "Fading Memories. The story of the Stiffkey Light Anti-Aircraft Training Camp" and will run for the Bank Holiday weekend.

We acknowledge with thanks, regular donations from other members of our village, without which the Church finances would not balance even for the regular upkeep.

Alan Duff

Secretary, Stiffkey PCC 2026

stjstiffkey.sec@outlook.com

5th May 2026

Garden Plots Report

Once again, the garden plots continue to be a successful addition to the village with all plots currently being cultivated – use continues to range from flowers to fruit and vegetables as well as quiet outside space for peaceful contemplation.

While there have been some problems with Muntjac over the past 12 months, the decision to not try and fence the plots does not seem to have made any more of a negative impact.

With the giving up of one plot due to health reasons has resulted in new and younger membership joining the community.

Flowers grown on the plots can regularly be seen in amongst church displays in both Stiffkey, but also the neighbouring communities – while it is not uncommon for in season vegetables to be shared as part of Swap Shop.

STIFFKEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Chair Annual Report

At the April 225 AGM both Geraldine Green and John Wykes, chair, and vice chair, respectively, resigned from the committee. The new committee thanked both Geraldine and John for their total commitment to the running of Stiffkey Local History Group.

Elected to the new committee. Colin Adlington-De'Ath. Chair. Steven Bashforth vice Chair. Alan Duff. Treasurer. Pauline Adlington-De'Ath. Secretary. Sarah White. Committee member. Unfortunately for personal reason both Steve and Sarah resigned from the committee. Ian Curtis and David Clifton were co-opted onto the committee.

Aiming to make the History Group more inclusive we introduced of a monthly email newsletter updating members with forthcoming events, and plans, going forward.

A well-attended, guided tour of Fakenham Gas Museum by one of the museum's trustees was an enlightening and entertaining few hours. The Group made a donation of £50 to the museum as a thank you for their welcome and guided tour.

The annual History Group's August Bank Holiday Exhibition told the story history of Stiffkey, Then and Now.

Photographs and informative descriptions of the history of Stiffkey resulted in a successful exhibition, enjoyed by the many visitors during the Bank holiday weekend.

Our special thanks to Alex and David Hooper for their total commitment to the exhibition, taking on the onerous task of compiling the exhibition photographs and writing captivating descriptions of the village, then and now. Our thanks also to Ian Curtis for his invaluable contribution to the exhibition. And, not forgetting all the members who manned the exhibition over the three days, providing teas and coffee, and on occasion, expert advice to visitors.

During the Bank Holiday weekend, Geraldine Green conducted a series of excellent and well received, tours of St John the Baptist and Mary's churchyard. It was a pleasant and informative event.

STIFFKEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

One of the first ideas for making the group more relevant, was the introduction of a series of evening talks by guest speakers. Titled 'An evening with...' the first was held on 22nd of October and our guest speaker was Professor Roger Bland, who presented a fascinating insight into the archaeological finds beneath Stiffkey and the surrounding villages. The evening concluded with Professor Bland taking questions from members of audience. Our sincere thanks to Professor Bland for such an informative and entreating evening.

We counted twenty-eight members and guests, ensuring the making of a successful evening. We also welcomed several new members to the history group. Again our thanks to all the members and guests who made for such a pleasant evening possible.

Ian Curtis, was the second of our guest speakers, when on the 24th of February presented an enthralling and entertaining talk on the history of bait digging and those men and women dug the bait in years gone by.

The PCC provided a second chance, for residents and visitors, to enjoy last August's Then & Now exhibition. Held in the village church of St John the Baptist and St Mary and organised by members of the PCC. With the support of members of the history group, the exhibition provided, residents, with a second chance to study the exhibits that detailed the history of Stiffkey, Then & Now. Visitors, alike, had the opportunity, not usually afford to them, to view and enjoy the photographs of the houses, shops, and pubs, and the many stories of the residents of Stiffkey who worked and lived in the village, Then & Now. Our thanks to all the volunteers to helped man the exhibition over the Easter Bank holiday, and to those who baked the excellent, and much sought after, cakes and biscuits enjoyed by visitors to the exhibition.

Because of unforeseen circumstances, the third the planned series of 'An Evening with..' was postponed to a date later in the year.

In keeping with several local history groups, who have websites, the committee agreed that the history group should have its own website. It was hoped to go live before April, but, for a number of reasons, that has not been possible. It will be live within the next month or two, but certainly before the summer so that we can promote the exhibition. The website address will be stiffkeyhistory.com.

STIFFKEY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Stiffkey Local History Groups 2025/26 year has been an eventful and fulfilling year. But it would not have been possible without the support of the village hall committee and the Parish Council, both of whom we would like to offer our sincere thanks. We would also like to thank the Parish Council for their grant of £50 towards the costs of staging the August 2025 exhibition.

Community Speed Watch Report to Parish Council – May 2026

The Speedwatch group has continued to conduct regular monitoring sessions, a full breakdown is set out below. Unfortunately, limited volunteer availability has meant that it has not always been possible to carry out a weekly session. Despite ongoing efforts to recruit additional members, the group currently relies on a core team of five or six dedicated volunteers who regularly contribute their time. Three members are required to be present for each session.

It is evident that the group's presence has a positive impact on reducing vehicle speeds, and increasing the number of sessions would further enhance this effect. Anyone interested in joining is encouraged to contact the administrator, Jackie Appleby, at jackieappleby295@gmail.com, or speak to one of the current volunteers for further information.

Session dates	Location Name	Location Speed Limit	Sessions	Vehicles	First Letter Issued	Second Letter Issued	Total Letters	Further Action	No Further Action	Hours	No Further Action Reason
Jan-25											
10/01/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	8	7	0	7	0	1	1.25	Hire vehicle
Total for month			1	8	7	0	7	0	1	1.25	
Feb-25											
03/02/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	20	1	4	4	0	4	0	0	1	
19/02/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0.5	
19/02/2025	Stiffkey, Bridge Street	20	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0.5	
21/02/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	30	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	
27/02/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	0.75	
27/02/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	
Total for month			6	17	17	0	17	0	0	4.25	
Mar-25											
05/03/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	30	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	
12/03/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	1.25	
17/03/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	
28/03/2025	Stiffkey, Bridge Street	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.75	
Total for month			4	9	9	0	9	0	0	4	
Apr-25											
08/04/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	1	
14/04/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	1	
22/04/2024	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	1.25	
29/04/2025	Stiffkey, Wells Road	30	1	5	4	1	5	0	0	1	
Total for month			4	21	20	1	21	0	0	4.25	
May-25											
08/05/2025	Stiffkey, Church Street	20	1	8	8	0	8	0	0	1	

15/05/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Total for month			2	8	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	2	
Jun-25													
04/06/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0.5	
04/06/2025	Stitkey, Bridge Street	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5	
12/06/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	
20/06/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	
Total for month			4	10	8	0	8	0	0	0	2	3	
Jul-25													
03/07/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	6	5	0	5	0	0	1	1	1	Incorrect vehicle
10/07/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0.75	
25/07/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	8	7	1	8	0	0	0	0	0.75	
Total for month			3	17	15	1	16	0	0	1	1	2.5	
Aug-25													
01/08/2025	Stitkey, Bridge Street	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	
12/08/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	7	6	0	6	0	0	1	1	1	Incorrect vehicle
26/08/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	
29/08/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	6	4	0	4	0	0	2	2	1	Incorrect vehicles
Total for month			4	21	18	0	18	0	0	3	3	4	
Sep-25													
05/09/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	7	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	1	
10/09/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	
26/09/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	10	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	1	
Total for month			3	20	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	3	
Oct-25													
07/10/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	6	5	0	5	0	0	1	1	1	Dispute letter
16/10/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	3	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	
30/10/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0.75	
Total for month			3	14	13	0	13	0	0	1	1	2.75	
Nov-25													
07/11/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	0.75	
20/11/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	11	8	1	9	0	0	2	2	0.75	Incorrect vehicles
28/11/2025	Stitkey, Church Street	20	1	13	13	0	13	0	0	0	0	0.75	
Total for month			3	30	27	1	28	0	0	2	2	2.25	
Dec-25													
03/12/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	5	4	0	4	0	0	1	1	1	Incorrect vehicle
10/12/2025	Stitkey, Wells Road	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	1	
Total for month			2	11	10	0	10	0	0	1	1	2	
Total for Year			39	186	172	3	175	0	0	11	11	35.25	
2026													
Jan-26													
04/01/2026	Stitkey, Wells Road	30	1	3	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	Dispute letter

16/01/2026	Siffkey, Church Street	20	1	5	5	0	5	0	0	1	
Total for month			2	8	7	0	7	0	1	2	
Feb-26											
03/02/2026	Siffkey, Wells Road	30	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	
17/02/2026	Siffkey, Church Street	20	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	1	
27/02/2026	Siffkey, Wells Road	20	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	0.5	
Total for month			3	6	6	0	6	0	0	2.5	
Mar-26											
05/03/2026	Siffkey, Church Street	20	1	6	6	0	6	0	0	1	
17/03/2026	Siffkey, Wells Road	20	1	9	9	0	9	0	0	1	
24/03/2026	Siffkey, Wells Road	30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Total for month			3	15	15	0	15	0	0	3	