

STUKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes Monday 1st June 2026

Stukeley Parish Council's Parish Meeting was held on Monday 1st June 2026 at 19.15pm at The Club 4 Meeting Room, Second Floor, Alconbury Weald.

Present – Cllr T Close (Vice Chair), Cllr P Pearce, Cllr SJ Gaule, DCllr A Blackwell, DCllr T Sanderson, CCllr R Martin & one member of the public.

Emily Pacey – Clerk and RFO

As Cllr T Pinner sent his apologies Cllr T Close chaired the meeting.

Apologies

Cllr T Pinner (approved)

Cllr G Evans (approved)

Cllr P Tuck (approved)

Full Council Meeting

01/06/2026 Public Participation.

One member of the public attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding planning application 26/00854/PIP. The key issues highlighted were that the site lies outside the defined built-up area/settlement boundary and forms part of the open countryside; the proposal would result in further encroachment into rural land; the application does not adequately assess the cumulative impact of recent and proposed development at Green End; the submitted photographs and visual analysis do not reflect the current built context following the recently completed dwellings at Washingley Farm; the development would harm the rural character and setting of Green End; the site has not been identified through the emerging Local Plan process despite the Council actively selecting alternative housing allocations; and the limited benefit of up to three dwellings would not outweigh the harm caused by further ad hoc countryside development.

02/06/2026 Reports from County and District Councillors.

DCllr T Sanderson reported that HDC is now operating under a joint administration, with Steven Furgeson elected as Chair. He advised that the main priority is progressing the Local Plan, with site allocations required by December 2026, at which point the district is expected to come out of tilted balance. The current consultation closes on 10th June.

He further noted that the Government intends to change how planning decisions are made, with a greater role proposed for Officers, although the details of how this will be implemented remain unclear.

Cllr SJ Gaule expressed concern that Green End is not receiving full oversight within the Local Plan process and the Planning Department. She highlighted that there are now more than 30 dwellings at Green End, meaning it should be considered a built-up area, and that this should have been reflected in the HDC Local Plan. DCllr advised he will look into this matter, he also advised that he will arrange a face-to-face meeting between the Head of the Planning Department and Members of Stukeley Parish Council, to provide Councillors with an opportunity to raise their concerns regarding planning applications being approved despite not being included within the Stukeleys Neighbourhood Plan.

CCllr R Martin reported that limited progress has been made due to the recent elections. He expressed frustration that, despite having served a full year as a County Councillor, no meaningful action or decisions have been taken on key issues such as Highways.

He further advised that Cambridgeshire County Council is now comprised of 32 Liberal Democrat members, 10 Conservative members, 7 Reform members, 5 Labour members and 3 Green members.

03/06/2026 Update from Urban and Civic.

- New Street name for Road to the School – Alconbury Weald.
Urban & Civic provided the list of street names for Phase 1, which were selected based on historic families who owned, farmed, leased, or used land in the area according to local records. As Phase 1 is now nearing completion and the list of names has been largely used, work has begun on the naming strategy for Phases 2 and 3, with input from the Heritage Group. Further updates will be provided in due course. Urban & Civic also sought confirmation that Stukeley Parish Council was content with the use of *Gifford* for the road leading to the school. The Parish Council confirmed its approval of this name.

04/06/2026 To receive declarations of interest.

No members declared an interest on this agenda.

05/06/2026 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Cllr T Pinner, Cllr G Evans & Cllr P Tuck sent their apologies.

06/06/2026 To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11th May 2026.

It was agreed to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on the 11th May 2026, Cllr SJ Gaule proposed, Cllr P Pearce seconded and all were in favour.

07/06/2026 Finance.

7.1 – To review and approve the internal audit report for 2025/2026.

The clerk advised the internal audit report was completed on 28th May 2026 with no issues have been identified. The Clerk advised that, during the meeting with the Internal Auditor, the potential to review investment opportunities for the Council's substantial bank balances was discussed in order to maximise interest returns. A cash-flow analysis will be required to determine when funds will be needed and how much could be made available for investment. As an alternative to fixed-rate, fixed-term investments, the use of notice accounts (30/60/90 days) was also considered, as these may offer improved interest rates while still allowing access to funds in line with anticipated expenditure.

The Clerk will now begin reviewing available banks and current interest rates.

It was proposed by Cllr SJ Gaule, seconded by Cllr P Pearce and ALL were in favour to approve the internal audit report for 2025-2026 year end accounts.

7.2 – Consideration and approval of the Annual Governance Statement (AGAR 2025/2026.)
It was proposed by Cllr SJ Gaule, seconded Cllr P Pearce and ALL were in favour to approve the Annual Governance Statement (AGAR 2025/2026.)

7.3 - Consideration and approval of the Accounting Statements (AGAR 2025/2026.)
It was proposed by Cllr P Pearce, seconded by Cllr SJ Gaule and ALL were in favour to approve the Accounting Statements (AGAR 2025/2026.)

7.4 – It was proposed by Cllr P Pearce, seconded by Cllr SJ Gaule and ALL were in favour to approve the schedule of payments for June 2026.

Stukeley Parish Council - Schedule of payments - June

<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Powers</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>	-	-	-	-
E Pacey	Payroll	£800.12	<i>S/O</i>	LGHA 1989 s7
HMRC	Employee Deductions	£199.80	<i>Bacs</i>	LGHA 1989 s7
HMRC	Employer NI Deductions	£87.44	<i>Bacs</i>	LGHA 1989 s7
Peterborough Print	June magazine	£530.00	<i>Bacs</i>	LGA 1972,s 133
Beam	Grass Cutting Order 4 & 5	£2,400.00	<i>Bacs</i>	Highways Act 1980,s.301
Online Pump Supplies	Water pump - allotment	£318.00	<i>Card</i>	Allotment Act
Defib4Life	Defib & Cabinet - Alconbury Weald	£1,542.00	<i>Bacs</i>	CIL
Mark Saunders	Internal Audit 2025-2026	£250.00	<i>Bacs</i>	LGA 1972
T&S Gardening	Village Maintenance	£130.00	<i>Bacs</i>	Highways Act 1980,s.301
Gallagher	Cyber Insurance	£367.36	<i>Bacs</i>	LGA 1972
	Total	£6,624.72		
<u>Income</u>				
Allotment Holders	Allotment Fee 2026	£385.00	BACS	
Parish Newsletter	Adverts	£755.00	BACS	
	Total	£1,140.00		

08/06/2026 Planning / Tree Works Applications Update.

- 26/00301/FUL - 1 Green End Great Stukeley Huntingdon - Self build two storey dwelling and detached garage.

Stukeley Parish Council has reviewed this planning application and wishes to record its support for the development, subject to strict adherence to the recommendations set out in the Ecological Appraisal and eDNA Update (Greenwillows Associates Ltd, May 2026).

The Council requests that the applicant and any appointed contractors fully comply with all ecological mitigation and management measures identified in the appraisal, specifically:

- Implementing all Great Crested Newt protection measures, ensuring no disturbance to potential breeding or terrestrial habitats during site preparation and construction.

- Observing seasonal timing restrictions for works to avoid sensitive breeding periods for protected species.
- Maintaining appropriate buffer zones around the pond and associated terrestrial habitats, as recommended in the report.
- Undertaking habitat enhancement measures to preserve and improve local biodiversity value.
- Committing to ongoing ecological monitoring and supervision where required to ensure compliance with the appraisal's conclusions.

By following these recommendations, the Council believes the development can proceed responsibly, ensuring that local wildlife and ecological interests are safeguarded in accordance with planning and conservation policy.

- 26/00854/PIP - Land East Of Washingley Farm Green End Great Stukeley - Permission in Principle for the erection of up to three dwellings.

Stukeley Parish Council objects to this planning application on the basis that the proposed development lies outside the settlement boundary defined in the Neighbourhood Plan for Great Stukeley. This remains a fundamental planning concern and a clear reason for objection. However, it is also recognised that, in the context of the current decision-making framework and the application of the tilted balance, this conflict with the development plan may be afforded reduced weight when considered in isolation. It is important to emphasise that the Parish fully supports plan-led strategic growth within Huntingdonshire. The parish already accommodates, and continues to support, significant strategic development in the wider area, including Alconbury Weald and other major allocations nearby. These developments have made a substantial contribution to the district's housing delivery.

Against this background, the Parish's concern is not opposition to housing growth in principle, but the distribution and cumulative impact of additional development. The Stukeleys Parish has already experienced a disproportionate level of growth in the district through strategic allocations such as Alconbury Weald, and continues to do so, with further developments expected at the strategic sites of St Johns and Northbridge. This proposal forms part of a wider and recent pattern of multiple Permission in Principle approvals at Green End, which together represent a substantial and rapid increase in the number of dwellings within what was previously a very small and loosely formed rural cluster. The cumulative effect of these permissions is materially altering the scale and character of the area, moving it towards what effectively amounts to a defined built-up area, rather than sporadic countryside development.

It is further noted that a growing number of Permission in Principle applications are being determined under delegated powers rather than being considered by the Development Management Committee. While this reflects established decision-making arrangements, it has the effect that incremental changes in a single location are assessed in isolation, with limited opportunity for elected members to consider the cumulative impact of repeated approvals on settlement form and spatial strategy.

Huntingdonshire's Local Plan identifies a threshold of 30 dwellings as the point at which development begins to constitute a defined built-up area rather than isolated or sporadic development. Green End has reached this threshold through incremental permissions, without any plan-led reassessment of its role within the settlement hierarchy or its suitability as a focus

for growth.

This change in scale is not supported by corresponding services, infrastructure, or safe pedestrian connectivity, and relies on an unadopted access road. In this context, further development would reinforce an emerging pattern of unplanned settlement consolidation in a constrained rural location, and risk weakening the clear separation and rural character between settlements that the plan-led system seeks to maintain.

For these reasons, the proposal is considered contrary to the spatial strategy and settlement hierarchy principles of the Local Plan when viewed in the context of cumulative impact

<https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/>

09/06/2026 To consider updates and reports on current and upcoming issues.

9.1 Play Areas risk Assessment – nothing to report.

9.2 Defibrillators – nothing to report.

9.3 Street Lighting – nothing to report.

9.4 Stukeleys Parish Magazine Update – nothing to report.

9.5 Allotments - Cllr P Pearce reported that Knot Cuts have confirmed they will sponsor the Best Presented Allotment competition. It was agreed that both sites would be included, with the competition to be held in July/August 2027 to allow tenants sufficient time to prepare their plots. The value of the vouchers and the allocation for first, second and third place at each site will be agreed nearer the time. Cllr T Close advised he would speak with Natalie at Urban & Civic to inform them of the Parish Council's competition, as Urban & Civic are responsible for the allotments at Alconbury Weald.

9.6 Trees & Footpaths Maintenance – Cllr P Pearce enquired whether Whiting's had replaced the trees at the playing field in Great Stukeley. The Clerk confirmed she would follow this up.

10/06/2026 North Huntingdon Cumulative Impacts Group Update.

Cllr T Close advised he attended the previous North Huntingdon Cumulative Impacts Group on Wednesday 20th May, he confirmed Paul Boofman was elected as Chair for this group. Cllr T Close advised he will keep attending these meetings on the Parish Council's behalf.

11/06/2026 To renew Stukeley Parish Council's Cyber Package Insurance.

It was agreed that Stukeley Parish Council will renew its insurance Cyber package insurance policy with Hiscox for the period 9th June 2026 to 8th June 2027 at a cost of £367.36.

12/06/2026 Christmas Lights 2026 - CIL Funds.

The Clerk reported that confirmation has been received from the CIL Officer at Huntingdon District Council that Stukeley Parish Council is permitted to use CIL funds for the provision of Christmas lights. The Council noted this clarification and agreed that any future proposals for Christmas lighting can therefore be considered for CIL expenditure.

It was agreed that Cllr SJ Gaule would provide the Clerk with details of local companies to be invited to tender for the project. Cllr SJ Gaule also confirmed she would carry out a walk-around of the village to identify which street lights in Great and Little Stukeley should be used for the Christmas lights.

Cllr T Close advised he would speak with Natalie at Urban & Civic to confirm whether they are content for the Parish Council to include Alconbury Weald in the project, noting that the Boulevard has been suggested as a potential location for Christmas lights. He will also ask whether Urban & Civic have any additional areas they would like considered.

- 13/06/2026 Planters - Entrance of Great Stukeley and Little Stukeley Village.**
This will be added to July's agenda.
- 14/06/2026 General Powers of Competence.**
The Council resolved that it meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the General Power of Competence, as the Clerk is CiLCA-qualified and at least two-thirds of Council members were elected at the May 2026 elections. The Council therefore adopted the General Power of Competence for the 2026/27 municipal year.
- 15/06/2026 Local Highways Initiative Update.**
The Clerk reported that she has chased Evans Amoateng, LHI Officer at Cambridgeshire County Council and he has advised the Council is still awaiting confirmation of the designer allocation dates, these dates are required for the design work to commence. He has advised that unfortunately there has been a delay in this allocation due to current workload pressures within the design team and he will update the Parish Council as soon as possible.
- 16/06/2026 Great Stukeley Park Update.**
The Clerk reported that Whiting's had requested a purchase order for the play area works, which has now been issued. However, Whiting's have not yet confirmed a start date for the installation. The Clerk advised that she has been regularly chasing for a confirmed date, as the Council wishes the project to be completed by the autumn.
- 17/06/2026 Correspondence and Communications.**
- Huntingdon to Alconbury Weald Active Travel Shared-Use Facility
Construction on the new shared-use facility is scheduled to begin on Monday 1st June. Initial activity will focus on establishing the contractor's compound within the former Three Horseshoes pub car park and undertaking early investigation works. Temporary traffic signals will be in operation to facilitate these investigations, starting with the section between Mill Road and Church Way in Little Stukeley.
Weekly updates will be provided from Cambridgeshire County Council to confirm the specific areas of work as the scheme progresses.
Letters notifying residents along Ermine Street were issued last week.
- 18/06/2026 Items for next agenda.**
- Stukeley's Neighbourhood Plan Partial Review 2027
- 19/06/2026 Date and Venue for 2025 PC Meetings.**
6th July 2026 - Little Stukeley Village Hall.
7th September 2026 – Great Stukeley Village Hall.
5th October 2026 – The Club 4 Meeting Room, Second Floor, Alconbury Weald.
2nd November 2026 - Little Stukeley Village Hall.
7th December 2026 - Great Stukeley Village Hall.

CLOSE OF MEETING – 20:45