

OVERSTRAND PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 MAY 2026 IN THE PARISH HALL

Present: Cllr B Stratton (Chairman) and Cllr G Partridge (Vice-Chairman)
Cllrs V Bond, A Debbage, A Fitch-Tillett, E Newcombe and G Turner.
District Cllr A Fitch-Tillett.

Members of Public: - 1

Minutes taken by: Kelly Batterham

1. Election of Chairman and Acceptance of Office

Cllr Stratton was proposed by Cllr Fitch-Tillett and seconded by Cllr Debbage. It was agreed - Cllr Stratton was elected as Chairman and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman and Acceptance of Office

Cllr Partridge was proposed by Cllr Debbage and seconded by Cllr Fitch-Tillett. It was agreed - Cllr Partridge was elected as Vice-Chairman and duly signed the Acceptance of Office.

3. To receive Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Smith

4. Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

Cllr Fitch-Tillett declared an interest in item 8 as she sits on the Planning Committee at NNDC.
Cllr Stratton declared an interest in item 14.2 as his company may quote for some of the work relating to the Village History Trail.

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

5.1 Members agreed the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1 April, which were duly signed by the Chairman.

6. Committee and Group membership

- 6.1 Members agreed the membership of the Finance Committee as Cllrs Bond, Debbage, Newcombe, Partridge and Smith.
- 6.2 Members agreed the membership of the Employment Committee as Cllrs Newcombe, Smith and Stratton.
- 6.3 Members agreed the membership of the Planning Committee as Cllrs Bond, Debbage, Fitch-Tillett, Newcombe and Partridge.
- 6.4 Members agreed the membership of the Allotments Committee as Cllrs Bond, Partridge and Stratton with Mr Roy Spittles being the allotment tenant representative.
- 6.5 (I) Members agreed the membership of the Parish Assets Working Group as Cllrs Bond, Debbage, Newcombe and Stratton.
- II. Members agreed the membership of the Events and Publicity Working Group as Cllrs Newcombe, Partridge, Stratton and Turner.
- III. Members agreed the membership of the Traffic Management Working Group as Cllrs Bond, Partridge, Smith and Stratton.
- IV. Members agreed the membership of the Village History Trail Working Group as Cllrs Newcombe, Partridge, Smith, Stratton and Turner.
- V. Members agreed the membership of the Biodiversity Working Group as Cllrs Fitch-Tillett, Newcombe, Partridge and Stratton.
- 6.6. Members agreed the membership of the Shoreline Management Committee as Cllrs Fitch-Tillett, Newcombe and Partridge with Mr Ralph West as a non-Councillor.
- 6.7 Members agreed the membership of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group as Cllrs Bond, Fitch-Tillett, Newcombe, Partridge and Stratton.
- 6.8 Members agreed to defer the review of the Employment Committee Terms of Reference.
- 6.9 Members agreed to defer the review of the Planning Committee Terms of Reference.
- 6.10 Members agreed to defer the review of the Allotments Committee Terms of Reference.
- 6.11 Members agreed to appoint Cllr Debbage as Internal Control Officer.

7. Document Review

- 7.1 Members agreed to adopt the Standing Orders.
- 7.2 Members agreed to adopt the Code of Conduct.

8.1 The Chairman confirmed that the Tide Timetables had been updated.

District Cllr referred to the Annual Report submitted for the Annual Parish Meeting – annexed hereto. District Cllr Fitch-Tillett added that the footpath behind Bracken Avenue may come to the next Planning meeting at NNDC, however the head of planning had not heard anything to date and there had been no response from the applicant.

The Clerk reported that there had been one reported violence and sexual offence in Overstrand during February 2026, located on Hillingdon Park. The outcome of this was that the police were unable to prosecute the suspect. There had been no crimes reported during March 2026.

One member of the public spoke in relation to the footpath to the rear of Bracken Avenue.

12.1 To consider planning applications received by North Norfolk District Council:

PF/26/0465 Erection of a sauna and shed on the footprint of demolished shed
(retrospective).
Sea Marge, 16 High Street, Overstrand NR27 0AB

Members agreed to make no comment on this application.

12.2 There were no planning decisions by North Norfolk District Council to report.

13.1 Members discussed the status of Council Working Groups and scheduled meeting dates

14.1 Cllr Newcombe supplied the following website statistics for April 2026 which were relayed to the meeting: 763 users (an 18% increase from previous month) of which 54.3% were on mobile devices, 38.4% used desktops to visit the site and 7.3% used a tablet. The most popular pages for April 2026 were the Council homepage (176 views), Update on re-opening the promenade (135 views), What's On (117 views), Our Village (100 views) and Agendas and Minutes (70 views).

14.2 The Chairman requested a Working Group meeting to take place to discuss further with a view to obtaining a detailed idea of costs for the project.

14.3 Members had all been furnished with a copy of the proposed 3-year street light maintenance contract from TT Jones and a recommendation from the Clerk to accept the quotation and contract as it offered the service that the Council required at a competitive price and the Council has a good established relationship with the contractor.

15.1 Cllr Partridge detailed that the Working Group had substantially moved things along and were almost at the stage to seek a consultant to pull the plan together. Cllr Partridge proposed, seconded by Cllr Newcombe and it was agreed that the Clerk could begin to seek grant funding for a consultant.

The Clerk informed members that she would be preparing the end of year accounts over the coming weeks ready for inspection by the internal auditor and that the AGAR would be on the next agenda for approval.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 3 June 2026 in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.16pm.

Chairman..... Date.....

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2026

GENERAL

Throughout the year The Overview and Scrutiny Committee which is chaired by my Conservative colleague Cllr Victoria Holiday has attempted to get Broadband and WIFI providers to improve their service to residents in the District. A little bit of progress had been made from Three and Vodaphone. Having attended Cabinet as an observer throughout the year, I am sad to have to say that I don't think I have seen full attendance from the ruling LibDem members which is disappointing.

Obviously, the threat of Local Government Reform has been having over our heads for most of the year. Lead by the LibDems NNDC supported the three council option. My colleagues abstained as we do not see the need for change. However, the Three Council Option has recently been confirmed and will come into effect in two years' time.

WARD ISSUES

Three big issues affecting Poppyland:

Coastwise – The Community Transit Plans are very nearly complete – these are plans to manage the Parishes of Overstrand, Sidestrand and Trimingham and the effect of Coastal Erosion to 2050. The Coastal Department did manage to squeeze in some urgent works to Overstrand Sea Wall, before the spending deadline.

The huge development of land around Pine Tree Farm in Northrepps has caused 2 Public Meetings and has stalled due to a severe Highways objection.

The proposed permissive footpath link from Forest Park Caravan Site to Overstrand village centre is also highly controversial and, as yet, no decision has been reached.

Overstrand Parish Council is to be congratulated for the progress made on preparing their Neighbourhood Plan

And, very recently, an application has been received for a development of 15 houses on the Overstrand Garden Centre Site.