

DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

Minutes of the Bradfield Combust with Stanningfield Annual Parish Meeting held at Stanningfield Village Hall on Monday 12th May 2025 at 6.30pm

Members of the Electorate

1 member of the electorate was present.

A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

25/001	Introduction The Chair welcomed those present.	
25/002	Confirmation of the minutes of the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting. The version of these minutes was signed in July 2024 by the Chair of the Parish Council. This year the minutes from this Annual Parish Meeting will be confirmed at the next Annual Parish Meeting in 2026.	
25/003	Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chair of the Parish Council A Year Of Change. Last year in July we received the resignation of our Parish Clerk Nicola Glading having served for six years. Fortunately, Jane Spenser was quickly recruited. The Councillors have been active in ensuring the Council continues to effectively represent the interests of the residents of the Parish. In the year the Council has completed the refurbishment of the Village Hall by replacing the lighting. It has also continued to work with Suffolk County Council on the plan to install Electric Charging Points in the Village Hall car park, which hopefully will be completed by the end of the year. Unfortunately, however, the Council has had to withdraw from the plan to install EV Charging Points in the Manger car park in Bradfield Combust, as the freeholder has withdrawn support, possibly due to the lease agreement, although this has not been confirmed, as no contact has been possible with the freeholder. Another major project agreed last November was the plan to restore the allotment area, which had been neglected for several years. As a result, only a few allotments were being cultivated, with the rest of the area covered in long grass, weeds and brambles, hiding all manner of debris. Due to the efforts of Councillors and volunteers, considerable progress has been made and there are already residents showing interest in renting plots, as plots are cleared and made ready for cultivation. A special thank you to Councillor Ruth Duchesne and her husband Richard Duchesne for overseeing this and for the use of their equipment in this process. This Council asset could be a useful source of income in the future, contributing to the finances to either	

	<p>minimise increases in the annual precept or adding to reserves for future new capital expenditure. In this regard, the Council has also formalised its working relationship with the Stanningfield Community Association (SCA) with the aim of promoting the Village Hall as a Community Centre for the benefit of all Parish residents. Under this agreement the management committee has been charged with investigating the opportunities to host additional activities and events in order to not only add additional amenities but also cash to fund incidental capital expenditure.</p> <p>The Parish Council recently purchased two defibrillators, a new Notice Board, and statues for both Bradfield Combust and Stanningfield to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Thank you to Pauline and John from The Red House for taking receipt of the delivery of the two defibrillators and to John for then taking care of the electrical install of these.</p> <p>There were plans to refurbish the Stanningfield Village Sign which would have been costly. However, very fortunately, this has been done by an anonymous donor/s for Stanningfield and the Parish Council wish to express their sincere thanks on behalf of the Parish residents for this very generous donation.</p> <p>The Parish Council has funded the training of all the Councillors to effectively understand their role and responsibility as Parish Councillors.</p> <p>Finally, I am pleased to announce that, for the second year running, the Parish Council has not increased the precept despite rising inflation. Further, due to careful financial control, the Council has not only sufficient funds to cover operational costs but also has reserves to meet unexpected costs and planned capital expenditure. Therefore, it has been both a busy and successful year, which has only been achieved because of the commitment and energy of the Councillors and our Parish Clerk.</p> <p><i>Councillor Tony Langan</i></p>	
25/004	<p>To note the annual accounts for 2024/25</p> <p>The unaudited accounts of the Parish Council have been completed and the Parish Council end the financial year with £28,059.</p>	
25/005	<p>Reports from grant recipients</p> <p>None received.</p>	
25/006	<p>Reports from community groups</p> <p>Karen attended from The Art Club. There used to be 11 members when she joined but sadly, when Covid hit, a lot of members didn't return after. There are now only 5 members. They are trying to grow the Club but have struggled to do this. It is felt that bringing back a publication in the village would help to get the word out.</p>	

	<p>Jane reported for the Stanningfield Carpet Bowls Club – they have won several cups in 2024. It's a very popular club and well attended. They meet for practice on Tuesday evenings.</p> <p>Glynis reported for the Ladies Club that meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. They have speakers attend – a lady from Women's Aid talking about domestic violence, as well as talks on bee keeping and hedgehogs. Outings take place, recently attending The Hare for lunch. An annual Christmas lunch also takes place. There are roughly 16 members but room for growth as, once again, numbers dropped after Covid.</p> <p>Jane reported on behalf of the SCA. The annual clean up took place at the Village Hall recently; windows, pressure washing, the gazebo was cleaned, floors scrubbed. The SCA plan the Annual Fete which takes place on the 1st Saturday in June. This is well attended and raises funds for those organisations taking part. An Autumn bazaar also takes place in early November. There is also bingo on offer on the last Friday of the month.</p>	
25/007	<p>To invite the public to raise any matters for discussion</p> <p>Could we please look at editing the contact details held on Google for Stanningfield Village Hall.</p>	
25/008	<p>Consideration and decisions on subjects so discussed</p> <p>The Parish Clerk will look at trying to get the contact details updated for the Village Hall which are inaccurate on several sites and varies on search engines.</p>	
25/009	<p>Meeting closed 7.15pm</p>	