

Minutes of Tunstall Parish Council Meeting
Held on 9th April 2026 ~ Tunstall Community Hall

Members

Cllr. Karol Silovsky
Cllr. Oliver Morgan
Cllr. Neil Gilbert

Cllr. Kevin Ross
Cllr. John Denny
Cllr. Ben French

Cllr. David Broomfield
Cllr. Anna Spencer
Cllr. Lesley Cresswell

Present

Cllr. Karol Silovsky
Cllr. Kevin Ross

Cllr. John Denny
Cllr. Ben French

Cllr. Neil Gilbert
Cllr. Lesley Cresswell

Tiffany Pollock (Clerk)
15 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Spencer (holiday), Cllr. Broomfield and Cllr. Morgan (holiday).

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest and any Applications for dispensation on Agenda Items (either pecuniary or non-pecuniary)

Cllr. Silovsky declared that he is a member of St Michaels Church PCC and a Trustee of the Community Hall.

3. To receive any Declarations of Gifts or Hospitality received over the value of £50.00

None.

4. Public Participation - To receive:**a) Reports or comment from any member of the public**

A member of public requested if there could be publicity for ground nesting birds, they highlighted that there have been irresponsible dog owners who have disrupted nesting birds. The member of public offered to write an article for the next bulletin which could be shared on social media and the website.

They also noted that highways had previously closed Ashe Road for 1 day for pothole repairs but did not repaint the white lines. Cllr. Silovsky asked the Clerk to report this to highways and encouraged the resident to report this via the online 'report it' tool on the highways website.

A document relating to highways concerns on the B1069 from a resident was passed to all Councillors for consideration. Councillors encouraged residents to report all highways matters online via the highways website.

Cllr. Julia Ewart who is a candidate for the forthcoming elections in May was present and gave a short introduction.

Chair's initials:

A member of the public commented on the damage to the wall on the corner of Orford Road and requested if another letter could be written again to local farms.

b) Reports from County and District Councillors

None.

5. To agree Minutes of meeting dated 19th February 2026

Cllr. Cresswell presumes that the paragraph Cllr. Broomfield asked to be minuted at the last meeting related to a previous email conversation they had. Cllr. Cresswell has not been able to locate anything which is intimidating. The intention of her email discussion is to streamline work practices and to have conversations.

Cllr. Silovsky, having attended councillor training with SALC advised that their recommendation is that only items relating to the agenda are minuted. Therefore Cllr. Silovsky proposed that the paragraph is to be removed, this was seconded by Cllr. Gilbert and all Councillors were in agreement.

The minutes will be amended and circulated to all prior to the next meeting for agreement.

Action: Clerk

6. Highways and Flooding

a. To discuss and consider correspondence received from residents for speeding and increase in traffic volume on Snape Road/B1069

The Clerk had circulated all correspondence received from residents to Councillors prior to the meeting. Councillors briefly discussed the issues raised and agreed that speeding is a known issue in Tunstall. Councillors are aware that highways do not currently have any budget for this and that traffic regulation orders which are required to change speed restrictions are very expensive.

Councillors are also aware that highways will consider the amount of accidents which have occurred before making changes. Councillors suggested that residents collate and report issues to highways consistently.

b. To appoint a representative to create a parish agreed wish list of works for the B1069

Cllr. Cresswell indicated that she would be willing to work with residents to create a highways wish list of works, this was proposed by Cllr. Silovsky and seconded by Cllr. Gilbert. All Councillors were in agreement.

c. To receive an update for ongoing flooding issues.

Cllr. Denny reported that the works carried out at the Common by highways was good and that they had been considerate to neighbouring properties.

Chair's initials:

7. Tunstall Common/Forest

a. To receive an update from Cllr. Ross for Tunstall Common/Forest

Cllr. Ross reported that nightingales had been back at the Common, nightjars are also active on the Common which is why blackthorn is an important habitat for the species.

b. To receive an update for Pit Cottage

Cllr. Gilbert reported that he had met with the owner of Pit Cottage and their solicitor, the owner is unhappy with Cllr. Ross. However, Cllr. Gilbert explained that Cllr. Ross is the warden of the Common, a longstanding resident that knows the land intimately as his grandfather was a tenant farmer. Cllr. Gilbert had also explained to the owner and solicitor that residents at the Common had raised their concerns and as a parish council these concerns needed to be investigated.

Cllr. Gilbert has been working to establish the facts which has shown that the area of land in question is not registered as part of Tunstall Common. The title information was briefly reviewed again, and it was agreed that Tunstall Parish Council will wait to see any further developments from the owner of Pit Cottage. Cllr. Gilbert to respond to the owner's lawyer in due course.

Action: Cllr. Gilbert

8. Planning:

a. To discuss and agree response to the following Applications received:

- **DC/26/0871/FUL** Proposal: Ground floor rear extension and reconfiguration of existing accommodation. Site address: Three Corners, Longmans Lane, Tunstall, Woodbridge, IP12 2JE
No comments.
Conclusion: No Objection, proposed by Cllr. French, seconded by Cllr. Cresswell and all Councillors were in agreement.

b. Any other applications forthcoming or planning matters:

There were none.

9. To review and discuss Action Log

- **Draft letter for Forestry Commission and MP raising concerns of diseased trees** – Awaiting response from Chillesford Tree Warden.
- **Review and update of Community Emergency Plan** – Cllr. Silovsky felt frustrated that the emergency plan had been completely rewritten. The working group has previously reviewed the plan and adapted it, as well as Cllr. Silovsky having attended the emergency plan meeting. While Councillors welcome comments from all Councillors it is disappointing that

Chair's initials:

assistance couldn't be given within the working group. There will be an update at the next meeting.

- **Tunstall Parish Plan** – Cllr. Gilbert gave thanks to volunteers who helped with the questionnaires and reported that there have been 11 questionnaires completed online and 3 returned in paper. Cllr. Cresswell agreed to leave some questionnaires in Caulfields garage and The Green Man. There will be an update at the next meeting. Cllr. Gilbert requested if the call for sites information could be posted on the Tunstall website.
- **Contact Cllr. Reid to request assistance for signs at Snape Road/Orford Road junction** – There will be an update at the next meeting.
- **Land claim at Tunstall Common** – see agenda item 7 b.
- **Alternative funding source for the bulletin** – Cllr. Spencer has sourced a further 2 months funding for the bulletin.
- **Community Speedwatch** – The police have visited the sites for assessment, there will be an update at the next meeting.

10. To receive an update for the Tunstall Parish Plan including questionnaire

This was discussed in Item 9 above.

11. To discuss and consider Tunstall joining a neighbourhood watch scheme

Cllr. Gilbert had attended a neighbourhood watch meeting in Kesgrave and believes that Tunstall should sign up to the scheme. A representative is willing to attend a parish council meeting to discuss the scheme further, the Clerk will forward the dates to them.

Action: Clerk

12. Recreation Ground/Community Hall

a. To receive an update of the Community Hall Charity/Committee

Cllr. Silovsky read the minutes received from the Community Hall, Cllr. Silovsky highlighted that volunteers are required to assist with the repairs to the potholes in the car park.

b. To discuss improvements to the children's play area and application for funding from East Suffolk Council

The Clerk explained that the Trustees of the Community Hall have agreed to replace the main piece of play equipment in the children's play area. The Trustees have requested if the Parish Council would apply for the funding from East Suffolk Council, the cost of the VAT will not be included in the funding. However the Parish Council are able to reclaim this.

All Councillors agreed that funding for this should be requested by the Parish Council, this was proposed by Cllr. French and seconded by Cllr. Ross.

Chair's initials:

13. To receive an update for East Suffolk Planning Alliance

There will be a meeting on Saturday 18th April in Framlingham which the Parish Council have been invited to, Cllr. French indicated that he may be able to attend.

14. To receive an update for Joint Parish Traffic Initiative meeting

No further update.

15. Finance Matters:

a) To receive Accounts as of 31st January 2026

The Clerk had circulated the accounts to all Councillors prior to the meeting, these were accepted by all Councillors, proposed by Cllr. Silovsky and seconded by Cllr French.

b) To discuss draft budget for 2026/27

The budget continues to be a working document, and it was agreed that spending would be monitored closely.

c) To confirm the start date of the clerks pension

The Clerk explained that although the council had previously agreed for her pension to start from August 2025, the Local Government Pension Scheme requires the exact date. All Councillors agreed that the start date for her pension will be 1st August 2025, this was proposed by Cllr. Gilbert and seconded by Cllr. Silovsky.

The Clerk highlighted the council will be required to pay the back pay for this, Cllr. Ross asked if it was possible to use the interest from the Common account to cover this. The Clerk agreed to contact the auditor/SALC for advice.

Action: Clerk

d) To authorise the following Invoices for Payment:

i. SALC (payroll)	£57.60
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Cllr. Silovsky proposed the payment for the above invoice; this was seconded by Cllr. Gilbert and all Councillors were in agreement.

e) To note Payments made since last meeting:

i. East Suffolk Services	£21.63
ii. D Bracey (play area inspection)	£132.00
iii. SALC Councillor training	£79.20
iv. T Pollock (Clerks salary)	£643.97
v. T Pollock (Clerks salary)	£643.97

Chair's initials:

vi.	K Ross (Common account)	£710.00
vii.	D Broomfield (expenses)	£309.73
f)	<u>To note Payments received since last meeting:</u>	
i.	<i>None</i>	
g)	<u>To note Bank Balances as of 31st March 2026:</u>	
i.	Barclays Bank (Current Account)	£470.67
h)	<u>To note Building Society balances as of 31st March 2026:</u>	
ii.	IBS (Tunstall Parish Council)	£2,090.24
iii.	IBS (Tunstall Common Fund)	£99,553.00

16. Documentation – to review and accept where appropriate

- **Asset and Responsibilities Register** – to be discussed at the next meeting.

17. Meetings – To receive agenda items for next meeting and agree date of Meetings

The annual parish meeting and annual general meeting will be held on 6th May, following this the next parish council meeting will be held on 4th June. Both meetings will start at 6pm.

Items to add to the next agenda:

- Items from this meeting.
- Interest from the Common account.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed:
Cllr. Karol Silovsky, Chair

Date:

Tiffany Pollock
Clerk to Tunstall Parish Council

Chair's initials: