

STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 January 2026 at 6pm in the Speedwell Rooms.

Present:

Councillors:	B Bingham	S Hartley	D Parsons
	C Chambers	C Jackson	D Rhodes
	J Collins	P Mann	E Tidd (Chair)

In attendance: Mrs S Doherty (Town Clerk & RFO), Mr D Melsome (Finance Assistant) and 11 members of the public.

2526-73 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Standing apology for Councillor K Thornton. Apologies were received from Councillors M Bagshaw, S Bean, B Dyke, P Jacobs, A Ogle, J Ridgway and P Wilson.

2526-74 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

2526-75 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was requested that it be clarified that Cllr Bagshaw's request for an additional seat on the HR Committee was for his group not him personally.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 25 November 2025 be approved and signed as a true record.

2526-76 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair had no announcements to make.

2526-77 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A representative from Middlecroft Community Network wished to express their thanks to the Town Council for supporting and working with them to put on the Christmas events at the Speedwell Rooms. Both the senior citizen's Christmas dinner and the kids Christmas party were very popular and they hoped to work with the Council again if it decided to run the events again.

A representative of the Inkersall Allotments association read out a speech expressing their determination that they be allowed to continue managing their allotment site.

A resident queried the granting of CIL money to a local school asking how the facilities would be available to the wider community.

The applicant for the Bowls Club Grant, later on the agenda provided detail on what the building would be used for and how it would be inclusive to the wider community.

Chairs Initials

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2526-78 PRESENTATION BY FRIENDS OF BENT LANE WOOD

The lead representative for the Friends of Bent Lane Wood gave a presentation on a speculative project that they would like the Town Council to support them with once the planning application for the site allocated as H32 in the Chesterfield Local Plan had been dealt with. Additional documents were provided to Councillors with more details on the costs and grant funding already in the pipeline.

He stated that the proposal would not cost the Town Council any money or be any risk to it as the Friends group would be prepared to manage the site in perpetuity and raise their own funds. They simply needed the council's help to secure the land from the Borough Council. He had support from the Business Manager at Netherthorpe School as it was felt that this would be a good facility for SEND children. He had also garnered support from local businesses who were prepared to support the project and provide materials eg fencing.

RESOLVED:

That the project be supported in principle and that a further discussion be held at a future meeting.

2526-79 GRANT APPLICATIONS

a) Community Development Chesterfield - £8,000 towards running costs for Youth Club provision in Poolsbrook

RESOLVED: That the application be supported in principle but deferred to the next meeting pending further information being provided on the equipment that was proposed to be purchased.

b) Staveley King George V Bowling Club - £5,500 for additional shelter at side of existing clubhouse

RESOLVED:

That the funds be granted from CIL money, subject to confirmation that planning permission is not required or has been secured if necessary.

c) Duckmanton Primary School - £1,000 for greenhouse and tools

RESOLVED:

That the grant of £1,000 be awarded from the Little Breck Solar Farm fund.

2526-80 FINANCE MATTERS

a) Schedule of Payments

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of payments over £3,000 to 30 November 2025 be approved.

b) Budget Monitoring Reports – NOTED

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c) Bank Reconciliation to 31 October 2025 – NOTED

d) Reserves Report – NOTED

e) Addition of Mr D Melsome, Finance Assistant as a limited bank signatory to assist with administering payments.

RESOLVED:

That Mr D Melsome be added as a limited signatory to the Council's bank accounts.

2526-81

APPROVAL OF REASON FOR ABSENCE – S85 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

a) Councillor Bagshaw

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Bagshaw's reason for absence be approved for a period of 6 months. Councillor Chambers to be appointed as a substitute for him on Committees and working parties etc.

b) Councillor K Thornton

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Thornton be granted a further 6 months extension to her reason for absence.

2526-82

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

a) Markham Pit Wheel Committee

RESOLVED:

That Councillors D Parsons and M Bagshaw (when he is recovered) be appointed to the Markham Pit Wheel Committee.

b) Councillor Trustees to the Staveley Hall Management Charity (name to be confirmed)

RESOLVED:

That Councillors P Mann and E Tidd be appointed as trustees on the Staveley Hall Management Charity.

2526-83

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE INTERVIEW PANEL

The Town Clerk advised that the Council needed to appoint an Interview panel in order to select the initial independent trustees for the new Staveley Hall Management Charity. Advertising for these could commence once the panel was appointed.

RESOLVED:

That the interview panel comprise of the two appointed trustees at minute number 2526-82b and Councillor C Jackson.

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2526-84 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The Chair agreed to a 5 minute comfort break adjournment at 6:54pm, the meeting reconvened at 6:59pm.

2526-85 STAFFING REVIEW

Councillors considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk and RFO.

RESOLVED:

- A) That the revised staffing structure as set out in the report be approved.
- B) That the establishment of a full-time Operations Manager role on grade SCP28-32 be approved.
- C) That the alignment with the Medium-Term Financial Plan be noted.
- D) That the officer capacity and organisational risk assessment set out in Appendix C to the report be noted.
- E) That the creation of two new in-house cleaning operative posts, totalling 33 hours per week be approved.
- F) That it be noted that the cleaning posts are structured differently from the previous contracted arrangements and will not be eligible for the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- G) That authority be delegated to the Town Clerk and RFO to finalise job descriptions, recruitment and implementation arrangements.

2526-86 UPDATE ON ALLOTMENTS REVIEW

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update on the progress with the allotments review. Councillors discussed the latest developments and requested legal advice be sought.

2526-72 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10th February 2026 – Special Finance Meeting only.

The Chair thanked Councillors for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7:28pm.

Signed: _____
Chair

Chairs Initials