



PARISH COUNCIL

the Village Hall on **Monday 28th April 2025 at 7.30 pm**

Present:

Councillors: P Hitchcock, S Linham, S Wheeler, T Woodley, L Wilson, L Templeton, J McLaughlin

Clerk: Becky Jones

Minute No.		ACTION
25/172 25/172.1 25/172.2	TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE: Apologies – none Declarations of interest/Dispensations – Cllr Wilson item 25/179.2 - BESS proposals	
25/173	MINUTES – To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting 1st April 25 RESOLVED: The minutes were signed by the chairman as a correct record of the meeting	
25/174	REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – A resident raised concerns about the frequency of grass verge cutting, noting that only three cuts are planned and the next may be up to eight weeks away. It was put forward that the council request the proposed mowing and verge maintenance schedule covering our parish area for 2025 and potentially consider the need for additional cuts; this is to be added to the May agenda. It was also noted that current equipment used by NNC is unsuitable for sloped verges, and supplementary cuts should be considered. A member of the public asked that thanks be formally recorded to Tim Haynes and Ian Scarisbrick for their work to help maintain the verges and trees. Another resident spoke regarding items 25/176c (Fly Tipping) and 25/180.1 (Flooding), raising related concerns. Two members of the public addressed item 25/176d, regarding speeding and the 20mph zone proposal. They suggested altering road layout on Newland Street to help calm traffic, including removing a "give way" and adding another. A meeting and site walkabout are to be requested. Concerns were also raised about overhanging branches along the footpath near Newland Street, making access difficult. It was suggested that Len Brooks Farms be contacted to cut back the branches.	Clerk/PH Clerk PH/Clerk
25/175	NNC WARD REPRESENTATIVES – To receive an update and consider any action proposed – no members present due to the forthcoming elections	

Chairman's signature:

Date:

25/176	MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS – To receive updates and determine future actions a – 25/165 b – School Lane streetlamp and damaged wall The Clerk was asked to contact North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) to request that National Grid supply power to the streetlamp on School Lane, confirming that works to wall has been completed and highways equipment removed b – 25/165 c – request for a closed bin in the children’s play area Ongoing – Clerk to complete form to request the installation of a replacement bin c – 25/165 d - Fly Tipping Cllr Hitchcock/Clerk to chase the Executive Member for Highways - Macaulay Andrew Nichol following the email received on 25th March d – 25/165 g – Speeding and the proposal of 20 mph zones NNC/Highways to send 6 advisory 20 mph signs	Clerk Clerk Clerk
25/177	GREENWAYS PROJECT – To receive a report of the Griffin Trail project and consider and agree any actions proposed 25/177.1 ‘No parking beyond this point’ sign to help alleviate the increase in cars being parked in Braybrooke The Council AGREED to purchase and install an advisory ‘No parking beyond this point’ sign 25/177.2 Legal maintenance agreement between BPC and The Landowner Ongoing, Clerk to forward the official diversion map to the Solicitor 25/177.3 Purchase of the Interpretive Sign Ongoing 25/177.4 Agree purchase of finger posts and any other posts/signage required The purchase of fingerposts and any additional signage or posts was agreed. Further reflective posts were ordered. Progress on installing two dog/litter bins and signage stating "Please pick up after your dog" is ongoing. A quote for five oak fingerposts had been obtained and Cllr Wilson offered to contribute to 50% of the cost to purchase them. The Clerk will seek additional quotes for comparison. Discussions are ongoing regarding a potential alternative route near Waterloo Cottage to minimise use of church land. Gt Oxendon Parish Council, NNC, and WNC are involved in exploring this option. A response is awaited from the Church regarding use of a portion of their land. Gt Oxendon PC may require assistance but are currently awaiting confirmation of route, costs, and permissions. A potential solution will be added for further discussion.	Clerk Clerk Clerk

Chairman’s signature:

Date:

25/178	FINANCE	
25/178.1	To receive the finance report, bank statements and reconciliation Reports received – appendix A	
25/178.2	To consider and approve the accounts for payment RESOLVED: The accounts for payment were AGREED - appendix A	
25/178.3	To receive and review the Q3 & Q4 budget monitoring, EOY accounts for 24/25, end of year reserves and quarterly internal controls reports The Council received the budget monitoring reports, end-of-year (EOY) accounts for 2024/25, and the quarterly internal controls reports. Taking guidance from the Finance Advisory Group, the Council was satisfied that all financial matters were in order. Members expressed contentment with the end-of-year financial position. It was agreed that discussion on reserves would be deferred to the following month's meeting.	
25/178.4	To approve the receipts and payments against the budget for year end 2024/25 As above and APPROVED	
25/178.5	To consider and agree the allocation of any surplus funds into earmarked reserves for year 2024/45 Deferred until the May meeting	
25/179	PLANNING	
25/179.1	Consider response to any new planning consultations received: none	
25/179.2	To receive an update on the BESS proposals An update was received on the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) proposals. Plans are expected to be submitted by Aura Power next month. The Council has requested that North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) Planning consider the proposals as a collective package rather than as individual applications, to ensure a comprehensive assessment. It was AGREED to add an item to the next agenda to discuss how the Council can proactively plan to secure community benefit funds should the proposals be approved. The Council will also consider what outcomes and benefits would best serve the parish if the applications proceed.	
25/179.3	To receive and note the Planning Report for April – noted	
25/180	HIGHWAYS/TREES/FOOTPATHS/TRAFFIC/SIGNAGE/STREET LIGHTING/FLOODING	
25/180.1	To receive an update and consider any action regarding the recent flooding issues a - Urgent drain clearance reported to NNC Highways Clerk to chase the response that was due from NNC by 11/04/25 - MEM3055	Clerk

Chairman's signature:

Date:

	b - Proposal and quotes for the purchase of any essential flood emergency equipment Update received c - Update on the actions to improve the road drainage on and around the bridge to alleviate the flooding Ongoing d - 'Call for action' letter sent to North Northants Council Ongoing, the letter was also sent to our MP	
25/180.2	To receive an update on trees on the village green The Council AGREED to replace the trees on the village green, clerk to contact NNC to request the appropriate specimens are provided obtained	
25/180.3	To receive an update on the repair of several streetlights in the parish Covered under item as above 25/176 a however an additional streetlight was noted, What3Words: clockwork sour converter	
25/180.4	To consider the purchase of reflective posts to help protect the sloped embankments that support the raised pathway on School Street Highways agreed to provide some official reflective posts	
25/180.5	To receive an update on the new access to the travellers site Clerk to follow up with NNC Highways regarding the new access to the travellers site, following the initial email sent on 11 March 2025. It was also agreed that a follow-up letter should be prepared for the Head of Council, requesting that the potholes in the area be properly repaired rather than subject to temporary fixes. The letter will be sent once it is confirmed whether the individual has been re-elected.	Clerk Clerk
25/181	TO CONFIRM THE DATE, TIME, AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday, 20th May at 7:30pm. Apologies were received in advance from Steve Linham and Lisa Templeton.	
25/182	Meeting Closed: 20.58 pm	

Chairman's signature:

Date:

Appendix A

FINANCE REPORT - 28th April 2025

Accounts for Payment:

Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment	Statutory Power Local Government Act
£241.99	Clerk	Expenses (ink cartridges and 12 reflective posts)	s.111 LGA 1972

VAT recorded for this month's payments:

Invoice Date	VAT Reg No	VAT Paid	Reason
4/4/25	305682311	£6.50	Printer Inks
13/4/25	345010837	£33.84	12 reflective posts

Bank Statement & Bank Reconciliation to 31st March 2025

£87.99 interest received into savings account that wasn't shown on the previous statement

			Current Acc		Savings Acc	
<u>Bank Account</u>	Current	Savings	<u>Bank Rec</u>	31-Mar-25	<u>Bank Rec</u>	31-Mar-25
Balance 1 Apr 24	£1,300.80	£11,265.51	As statement	£1,879.83	As statement	£22,656.94
per statement						
Outstanding Receipt						
Reconciled balance 1 Apr 24	£1,300.80	£11,265.51				
Receipts	£34,198.54	£50,583.43				
Payments	-£72,811.51	£0.00				
Transfer Current to Reserve	-£27,600.00	£27,600.00				
Transfer Reserve to Current	£66,792.00	-£66,792.00				
Closing Balance	£1,879.83	£22,656.94				
			Reconciled Bala	£1,879.83	Reconciled Bala	£22,656.94

Chairman's signature:

Date: