



Clerk: Ms. Fiona Young, 32 Holdenby Road, Spratton, Northampton. NN6 8JD

Tel: 07729 608062 email: clerk@westhunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.westhunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting, Held on Thursday January 15th 2026.

at 7pm Parsons Meade Community Centre

Members Present: Councillors Linda Hook (Chairman), Carl Squires, Soosan Phillip, Kevin Reed, Kathryn Barker, Jacqueline Hughes, Stephen Godfrey and David Garrett.

Also present: WNC Cllrs Ron Firman and Pinder Chauhan

One member of the public.

Item no	
26/001	To receive and approve any apologies for absence. It was Resolved to accept and approve the apologies received from Cllr Chisholm.
26/002	To receive any pecuniary and non-pecuniary Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the agenda; None stated
26/003	To approve and sign the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on December 18th 2025 The minutes of the meeting on December 18th 2025 were circulated prior to the meeting, there followed a brief discussion about the accuracy of the minutes, it was agreed to alter min ref 25/201 LAP to LAF, however a further proposed amendment was not agreed. It was Resolved to approve the minutes and they were signed as a true record.
26/004	Public Forum A member of the public attended the meeting to speak about planning application 2025/5229/FULL 21 Whitegates. The resident explained that the application should be objected to on the grounds that it is too large for the plot and that the extension will have a detrimental effect on neighbouring properties and on the street scene. The resident also felt that as an extension of similar size was initially proposed and rejected, it should not be possible to apply again.
26/005	To Receive Reports from a) The Police. The Police report for December had been circulated to the councillors, Cllr Godfrey explained that over the Christmas break some large heavy gates had been stolen from the railway. Cllr Hughes also reported that there had been some tampering

	<p>with the perimeter gates at Hunsbury Park School. The Police had been notified of both events.</p> <p>b) Crime Prevention Event. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the council would try and combine a crime prevention event with the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting will take place in April or May, the Clerk will liaise with Cllr Chisholm to arrange it.</p> <p>c) West Northants Councillors. WNC Cllr Ron Firman explained that WNC was one of 4 local councils that did a public question and answer meeting for the forthcoming budget. It was held remotely and over 200 people logged in, the budget is still under consultation until early February. The ice rink was successful and saw a rise in town centre footfall. Cllr Firman asked if a councillor could join him in attending the next Kier/Highways drop in event so that traffic calming in the parish could be discussed. Cllr Firman also mentioned some community grants that were currently available but it was not established whether the grants were accessible by parish councils. The ongoing discussion about the trees on the bund that screens the Milton Ham site has now been escalated.</p> <p>WNC Cllr Pinder Chauhan reported that there will be a community planting event on Feb 5th in Ladybridge Park. WNC are planting a new orchard of heritage apple trees. It was explained that councillors felt it would have been useful to have been involved in earlier discussions about the new orchard. Cllr Chauhan has requested a new meeting regarding the Stagecoach number 13 bus service, the parish council will be involved. Cllr Chauhan is still receiving a lot of complaints about the bus service and its lack of reliability.</p> <p>Cllr Hook asked Cllr Chauhan if she had any further update about the fields in Hunsbury Meadows where a tarmac track has been laid and a fence erected amid fears that this may become an encampment. There were no updates on this at the moment but it is understood that WNC Planning enforcement visited the site, WNC Cllrs will keep us informed of any developments.</p>
26/006	<p>To receive Clerks report and brief reports from Councillors or Clerk attending outside meetings.</p> <p>None</p>
26/007	<p>Matters arising from previous minutes, items not covered on the agenda, for report only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk contacted Anglian Water regarding the replacement tree that was promised in the summer, Anglian Water have responded and said they will look into it.
26/008	<p>Planning</p> <p>1. New applications, to include any applications that arrive before the meeting date.</p> <p>2025/5229/FULL 21 Whitegates, West Hunsbury, NN4 9XA. First Floor 2 Storey Side Extension.</p> <p>Planning application: 2025/5229/FULL - Planning register Planning register West Northamptonshire Council</p>

The council discussed the above application, there is some recent history to this site as it has been the subject of previous planning applications. It was **Resolved** that the council would submit an Objection to this application on the following grounds –

- The proposed extension is too large for the site, the whole property will be very large and very close to the boundary line.
- The proposed extension will negatively impact upon the privacy and amenity of the neighbouring property.

2025/5327/FULL 17 Aviemore Gardens Northampton NN4 9XJ. Ground floor rear extension and front porch

<https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display/2025/5327/FULL>

It was **Resolved** to submit no comments.

26/009

Finance

1. Resolution to approve the payments listed below for January plus any that are received prior to the meeting.

Payable to	Details	Amount £	Power to Pay
Clerk	Salary	953.91	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
HMRC	Tax and NI	358.27	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
Cuttlefish Multimedia	Annual licence, domain and support until 31 st Jan	87.24* Paid	LGA 1972 s142
DCK Payroll	Payroll services	54.00	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
Ncalc	Training invoice 5067	84.00	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112

*This invoice replaces the one issued last month that was not paid.

It was **Resolved** to approve the payments and Cllr Hook will do the online banking.

2. Approval of the bank reconciliation statements for December 31st 2025

Bank Balance at 1st April 2025 £13,747.52 + £31,270.01 = £45017.053

Plus Receipts £29,519.13

Less Payments £20,497.20

Total **£54,039.46**

Bank Balance at 31st December 2025 = £22,469.58 + £31,569.88 = **£54,039.46**

Noted.

3. Confirmation that the internal controls checks have been completed by Cllr Phillip

Cllr Philips confirmed that the internal controls checks had been completed and there were no concerns.

26/010	<p>Defibrillator - Resolution to agree the purchase of a new defibrillator following the discontinuation of the pads and electrodes for the Lifepak defib at St Benedicts.</p> <p>The Clerk explained that the defibrillator at St Benedicts Church is now obsolete as it is no longer possible to buy new pads and electrodes for it. It was Resolved that the council would purchase a new defibrillator as soon as possible from South Northants First Responders plus a bleed kit assuming it would fit in the existing cabinet.</p> <p>The cost would be £850 for the defib and £105 for the bleed kit. The new defib can be slotted into the existing cabinet.</p> <p>The Clerk explained that at the moment the old defib had been taken off the Circuit and so could not be used.</p>
26/011	<p>Goal post – Resolution to purchase a goal post for the childrens play area in Ladybridge Park.</p> <p>It was agreed to defer this item to February.</p>
26/012	<p>New benches in the parish</p> <p>1. Resolution to agree the purchase of a new bench for Hunslett Lane and to agree its design and location. It was Resolved to purchase a new bench from David Ogilvie Engineering, the council chose the Butterflies and Bees design. The new bench would be installed on the grass area at the junction of St Dunstans Rise off Hunslett Lane. A maximum budget of £2000 was agreed and the Clerk will place the order.</p> <p>2. Resolution to agree the location of the new bench in Ladybridge Park. It was Resolved to purchase one of the WNC approved park benches which will be installed in Ladybridge park by the bottom left play area. Cllr Hook will supply the #what3words location.</p>
26/013	<p>Resolution to install a new noticeboard at Hill Fort Close – to agree design and location.</p> <p>Council agreed that it would be beneficial to install a new noticeboard in the area at the front of Hunsbury Primary School but the exact area and the design of the noticeboard still needs to be confirmed. This will be discussed at the February meeting.</p>
26/014	<p>Resolution to install a new bin near Hunsbury Park School and to confirm additional collection charge.</p> <p>After some discussion it was proposed that a new double litter bin is installed on Hill Fort Close, just outside Hunsbury Park School near the opening to the lane that leads into the park. It was Resolved to install a double bin with 7 votes for and 1 against. The bin will be the standard double Derby design and will have the council name on. It will be added to the bin collection rota. The Clerk will place the order.</p>
26/015	<p>Heritage signs – Resolution to complete the application form and pay the non refundable deposit of £110 to proceed with the application if the initial assessment is successful.</p> <p>It was Resolved to complete the application for a Heritage sign for the country park. Cllrs Squires and Godfrey will help the Clerk complete the initial application form. It was also recommended that the council contact David Stone from the Friends of West Hunsbury Parks.</p>

26/016	<p>Consultations, to agree councils response (if any) to the following consultations –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Northamptonshire Draft Budget 2026-2027 Consultation, Closes Feb 3rd 2026 <p>West Northamptonshire Council Draft Budget 2026 to 2027 Consultation - West Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Active Travel Strategy, Mobility Hub and Rail Action Plan, closes 27th Jan 2026 <p>Help Shape: Draft Active Travel Strategy, Mobility Hub and Rail Action Plans - West Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have your say on new unified taxi and private hire licensing fees
26/017	<p>Correspondence, to include actions when needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Chauhan updating about the pedestrian crossing at the Hill Shop and the continuing issues with the Milton Ham site. • WNC Budget Question time poster for January 13th event – Clerk put on website and social media and circulated. • WNC Parish & Town Council briefing • WNC Simon Bowers- Site meeting request, now resolved. • Resident email regarding planting on the bund at Milton Ham • WNC Inspirational Woman award 2026, nominations requested. • Ice Danger – safety poster, clerk put on social media. • Peter Hackett (WNC) response to a query about the marking of a gas line. • Draft Local Plan fresh consultation to be launched in February. • BHF – notice of discontinuation of pads and battery packs for the defib Lifepak CR Plus (at St Benedicts Church)
26/018	<p>Next meeting February 19th 2026</p>