



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

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Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting, Held on Thursday April 16th, 2026.

at 7pm Parsons Meade Community Centre

Members Present: Councillors Linda Hook (Chairman), Carl Squires, Kathryn Barker, Soosan Philip, David Garrett, Ros Chisholm, Stephen Godfrey and Kevin Read

WNC Cllrs Ron Firman and Pinder Chauhan

One member of the public

Absent – Cllr Jacqueline Hughes

Item no	
26/062	To receive and approve any apologies for absence. No apologies were received.
26/063	To receive any pecuniary and non-pecuniary Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the agenda None stated
26/064	To approve and sign the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on March 19th 2026 The minutes of the meeting on March 19th 2026 were circulated prior to the meeting. It was Resolved to approve the minutes, and they were signed as a true record.
26/065	Public Forum. The member of the public present reported to council that a vehicle bollard has been removed from the lane by the side of school that leads into the country park. This has been reported on Fix my Street and WNC are aware.
26/066	To Receive Reports from a) The Police. The Police report for March was distributed prior to the meeting, there were a total of 13 crimes recorded. 1 x theft of from vehicle, 1 x interfering with car, 1 x criminal damage, 1 x vehicle damage, 1 x assault, 1 x assault without injury, 1 x malicious comms. The Clerk explained that the local officers were invited to the meeting tonight, they are also invited to the Annual Parish Meeting.

	<p>b) West Northants Councillors. Cllr Ron Firman reported that he has circulated information regarding grants for community groups. He also explained that he is now involved with s.106 and Cil amounts due to the parishes and towns. Cllr Hook asked if there is any progress with the boundary line between Ladybridge Park and the industrial estate. Cllr Firman said that he will chase this up with Simon Bowers at WNC, Cllr Barker asked that he also chase up the promise of a drop kerb at the main car park entrance to Ladybridge Park.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to contact Helen Howard and Peter Hackett and chase up the drop kerb. Cllr Hook asked both WNC Cllrs to please investigate why the white lines have not been finished for the parking bays at the Hill Shop.</p> <p>The potholes in the car park for Ladybridge Park have been filled but there is concern that the repairs may not last very long.</p> <p>Cllr Chauhan reported that a lot of residents have contacted her with concerns about the loss of the Ability Bus. She also reported that there is a protest about the inclusion of the Collingtree golf course in the new WNC Local Plan, this will take place at 3pm on Saturday April 25th at the Guildhall.</p>
26/067	<p>To receive Clerks report and brief reports from Councillors or Clerk attending outside meetings.</p> <p>Cllr Garrett attended an event at Nacre about the launch of the Good Food Plan.</p>
26/068	<p>Matters arising from previous minutes, items not covered on the agenda, for report only.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal post – Installation date confirmed of April 27th. • New benches in the parish - both benches are at JS Potters awaiting installation • Installation of a new noticeboard at Hill Fort Close – Clerk has chased, no delivery date yet. • Installation of a new bin near Hunsbury Park School– Clerk has chased, no delivery date yet. • Heritage signs application – application submitted, chased and no update yet. • Signs from WNC for the parks car parking – the Chairman explained that these are now ready to be installed and will hopefully be in place soon, the Chairman met with the park ranger to discuss where they would be installed.
26/069	<p>Planning</p> <p>1. New applications, to include any applications that arrive before the meeting date.</p> <p>The Clerk explained that there has been a further amendment to the planning application for 21 Whitegates, however, it was unclear what has been changed from the previous revision in January. The Council submitted an Objection to the application which will still stand, the application has been called into the WNC Planning Committee.</p> <p>Cllr Squires made the council aware of a major planning application for Plot 150 at Swan Valley Business Park, there are concerns because the parish council is not on the consultation list and comments have to be submitted to planning before the next PC meeting date. The Clerk was asked to contact the planning department and request an extension and also to contact neighbouring parish councils and ask what their councils response to this application is. The Clerk was also asked to arrange a meeting with the developers.</p>

26/070

Finance

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

Payable to	Details	Amount £	Power to Pay
Clerk	Salary April	954.11	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
HMRC	Tax and NI	358.07	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
ICO	Data protection registration	47.00	LGA 1972 ss101
NCALC	Annual membership, data officer, internal audit service	1933.62	LGA 1972 s143
DCK Payroll	Payroll services	36.00	LGA 1972 ss101, 111 & 112
Ncalc	Training courses	105.60	Local Government Act 1972

It was **Resolved** to approve all the payments listed above. The Chairman will authorise the payments online.

2. Approval of the bank reconciliation statements for **March 31st 2026**

Bank Balance at 1st April 2025 £13,747.52 + £31,270.01 = £45017.53

Plus Receipts £29,599.05

Less Payments £36,845.31

Total **£37,771.27**

Bank Balance at 31st March 2026 = £6,121.47 + £31,649.80

Total **£37,771.27**

The bank reconciliation statement was noted.

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

Cllr Philip confirmed that she had completed the internal controls checks and that there were no concerns.

4. To receive a budget report for March 31st 2026.

The Clerk circulated a budget report for the end of the 2025 / 2026 financial year and it was approved by council.

5. To arrange a comprehensive audit of the asset register. It was agreed to arrange a review of the asset register for later in the summer.

26/071	<p>Community Bus Service – requested by Cllr Squires.</p> <p>Cllr Squires explained that many residents in the parish have been affected by the closure of the Ability Bus Service, it was Resolved that the Clerk would contact the neighbouring parish councils and find out how their parish has responded to the closure of the service and what plans they may have to introduce a replacement bus.</p>
26/072	<p>Community Magazine – resolution to submit an article</p> <p>The Chairman proposed that the council submit an article for the local magazine called ‘In and Around St Crispin, Upton and West Hunsbury’ It is a great opportunity to let our community know about any events that we have on and also let them know about the work that the parish council does. A single page article will cost £80, it was agreed that the council will submit an article for the next edition of the magazine which will be published in early June. Cllr Garrett offered to help with the article.</p>
26/073	<p>Parking at St Benedicts – To discuss parking concerns outside St Benedicts Church and to agree action as required, to include a possible application for double yellow lines.</p> <p>It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.</p>
26/074	<p>Annual Parish Meeting – to confirm arrangements</p> <p>The annual parish meeting will take place on Thursday May 14th, starting at 7pm at Parsons Meade Community Centre.</p> <p>WNC Cllrs Charlie Hastie and James Petter have both confirmed that they will be able to attend. It was agreed that local groups will be approached for a poster showing a round - up of their last 12 months activities, the posters will be displayed at the APM and included in the report of the meeting. It was also agreed that the Police would be asked to attend and that NIRT would give a summary of their activities too. Some limited refreshments will be available. Cllr Squires and Cllr Reed have given their apologies.</p>
26/075	<p>St Benedicts Church Spring Fayre</p> <p>Cllr Garrett reported that the St Benedicts Spring Fayre is taking place on Saturday May 9th, it was agreed that the parish council will have a stand that will be managed by Cllr Garrett and will have seeds and plants to swap.</p>
26/076	<p>Correspondence, to include actions when needed</p> <p>WNC - Community Transport email, circulated to councillors</p> <p>Resident complaint about parking outside their property – referred to WNC</p> <p>WNC Community Resilience Project – clerk has registered interest.</p>
26/077	<p>Next meeting - May 14th 2026 Annual Parish Meeting (not a parish council meeting)</p> <p>May 21st 2026 – Annual Parish Council Meeting</p>