



**Chairman** – Mr F Smethers

**Clerk** – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025, in the Methodist Chapel, School Lane at 7.00pm.

Present – Cllrs F Smethers (chair), N Bess, M Callaghan, K Gardner (Part), J Gibbins (part), S Philips, G Taylor

Also present – Clerk, 6 Members of the public

Meeting Start: 7pm

As chair and vice chair were not present, councillors voted for Cllr Smethers to chair this meeting.

**21/25 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR 2025/26**

Cllr Gardner was elected Chairman in her absence.

**22/25 TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2025/26**

Cllr Bess was elected Vice Chairman.

**23/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Cllr Gardner had sent apologies and they were approved.

**24/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

There were no declarations of interest

**25/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1 member of public wanting to input into item 31/25 as resident near barriers. He doesn't feel it is safe to remove them and a more permanent solution is needed. He advised of a Road Safety community fund that is available.

Another member of public is interested in item 37/25. She thought a big problem with the bridge was the Heygates lorries and wondered if there was an alternative for them. Another member of the public wanted communication on the football pitches and Country park that will become part of the parish as part of the new development. She asked if there had been a consultation. There are some things that are set in planning but other things will be communicated as we know more.

Cllr Gibbins Joins the meeting.

There have been plans at public meetings and minutes are published on the website. There was a discussion about the definition and location of the country park. There has been much discussion in the village about an all weather pitch, a lot of this is hearsay and the parish council have not made any agreements with anyone about this. Cllr Gardner joins the meeting.

There will be ample opportunity for feedback on any plans.



2 members of the public leave.

**26/25 MINUTES**

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of Planning, Highways & Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

**27/25 CO-OPTION OF NON-COUNCILLOR MEMBER**

Clement Nnadozie had expressed an interest in joining the committee. Although he was not present it was resolved to co-opt him as an advisory member of the committee.

**28/25 PLANNING**

Committee considered planning application 2025/1713/FULL – Dormer to rear and single storey rear extension, solar panels and roof lights to front elevation together with minor internal changes – 33 South View. There were no objections to the application.

**29/25 EMERGENCY PLANNING**

There is no update on the outlet points on the river mentioned at the last meeting. Clerk to chase West Northants emergency planning officer for a meeting. Another meeting of the group is needed. Clerk to arrange. There was a discussion about the blocked drain on the playing fields. It was thought that this had been fixed but Cllr Smethers will check with trustees at next meeting.

**30/25 STREET LIGHTING**

Clerk to obtain quotes for another post at dark spot on Northampton Road. Light on A4500 that had been knocked down has been replaced. It was thought the light on School Lane was no longer leaning. Clerk to check. There has been no complaints about the dark spot near The Bull and location is difficult due to land ownership. The contractor that had installed the new lighting in the village and there was a warranty with has gone into administration. Another contractor will need to be found for any further works. It was noted that it is dark at the entrance to Western Gate on Sandy Lane. It is thought that there will be lighting added as part of the S278 works here.

Member of the public leaves.

**31/25 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

- a) A walkability survey had been drafted and was discussed. It was thought that is needed to be amended to give more information that could be used. Street name or postcode to be added and scale of agreement rather than yes / no. The survey needs to show why we are seeking the views of the public. Cllr Gardner to redesign the form.
- b) Plastic barriers on Upper High Street and Garners Way were a temporary solution to a problem that was caused by extra cars in the village when Sandy Lane was closed. They have been there for 2 years and need a more permanent solution. This may be barriers like outside the school or bollards. Whilst this is an area that has issues there are similar issues throughout the village where the road has been resurfaced meaning there is not much of a kerb.



Clerk to Contact Highways to see options available but to also investigate a transportation survey.

There was also the suggestion of Speedwatch. Clerk to investigate.

- c) Clerk to update new unitary councillors on concerns on Larkhall Lane.  
Clerk to chase updated speed signs on Sandy Lane.

Member of the public leaves.

### **32/25 ALLOTMENTS**

- a) Tenants are concerned that non plotholders are accessing the allotments down the side of the gates. Clerk to contact contractor for a quote to have fencing into the hedges.
- b) Clerk had asked the contractor to cut back the brambles as residents on Carrs Lane had complained they were growing over their fences. Clerk had been waiting for a quotation for the work and had not given the go ahead for a full cut back. This was discussed in the meeting and it was thought that a full cut back was not a bad thing. Clerk to pay for the works but to remind the contractor that all extra works will need a Purchase order in future.
- c) Clerk advised of a tenant that has just taken on a plot that has a shed full of car parts. It was agreed this has been there for years. If tenant can move rubbish to location near entrance a skip will be arranged.

It was now past 9pm. It was agreed to continue the meeting.

### **33/25 STREET FURNITURE**

- a) 2 Quotes had been received for a new flagpole. One was based in Northamptonshire and the other not. Committee was reminded that the Scarecrow group wanted to make a donation to a refurbished flagpole. It was resolved to accept quote of Northamptonshire company with full price pole rather than reduced price seconds pole offered.
- b) No further updates.

### **34/25 CHURCH**

- a) No updates on burial ground.
- b) 2 quotations had been received for cleaning of the war memorial. It was resolved to accept the cheaper quote. Clerk to obtain insurance details before work starts.
- c) It was resolved to pay half the price for scaffolding and security costs related to works on the clock and tower.

Cllr Philips Leaves

### **35/25 CHRISTMAS TREE**

It was agreed to move this to the next agenda for discussion.

### **36/25 CLIMATE CHANGE**

It was agreed to move this to the next agenda for discussion.



**37/25 CORRESPONDENCE**

Communication received about safety of Kislingbury Bridge and space for passing cars. It was proposed that the clerk ask Highways for options and for a discussion to be opened with Kislingbury PC.

**38/25 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

No further items to add above those moved from this agenda.

Meeting closed 9.25pm

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm

Signed