



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 13th April 2026, in the Methodist Chapel at 7pm.

Present – Cllrs F Smethers (Chair), N Bess, J Gibbins, B Hancy, I Haynes, C Nnadozie, S Phillips,
D Starmer, G Taylor,

Also present – Clerk, WNC Cllr Bignell (part), 2 members of the public

Meeting start: 7pm

322/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies approved for Cllrs Roberts and Wallace.
Cllrs Gardner and Madle not present

323/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Cllrs Starmer, Smethers and Haynes advised they are trustees of Playing fields

324/25 REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Bignell advised he has been chasing on the country park and playing fields linked to Norwood Farm SUE. Playing Fields should be complete but the developer is saying they are having issues getting access to the land from WNC. The country park is to be completed by 900 occupations so there is not much that can be done at the moment. It was asked if we had to wait until this was overdue before pushing. The issue is that the legal argument will ask what the harm is if it is late.

It was suggested that if this continues much longer then the MP and Newspapers could be contacted.

There was a question about the potholes on A4500 and how dangerous it is. This is on Highways list but will require the road being closed.

Cllr Bignell Leaves

325/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2 members of the public present interested in item 332/25

326/25 COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 9th March and Extraordinary Meeting of 16th March were approved and signed.

327/25 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee of 30th March 2026 were received.

328/25 QUESTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN RELATED TO RECEIVED MINUTES

There were no questions

329/25 RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) Planning, Highways and Infrastructure proposed replacing all benches in the village (except memorial benches and on flagpole green) with new metal benches. Cost to be covered by CIL funding. This was approved
- b) Planning, Highways and Infrastructure were asking for a budget from CIL to purchase litterbins as needed throughout the parish. £1000 budget was approved.

330/25 POLICY

- a) Terms of Reference for CIL working group were approved
- b) New Data Protection Policy was approved

331/25 FINANCE

- a) Payments for April were approved (see appendix)
- b) Budget to year end

Current Account	238,887.37
CCLA Savings	1,019,358.84
Metrobank savers	2,050.99
Credit card	-217.52
Outstanding payments	2,724.22
Unpresented receipts	284.52
Total	1,257,639.98

Opening Balance	1,030,434.22
Expenditure to date	133,674.70
Income to Date	360,880.46
Cashbook balance	1,257,639.98

332/25 PLAYING FIELDS

Resolution for transfer of the Playing fields to Harpole Parish Council was discussed and all voted in favour.

It was agreed that protection of the field for recreational use would continue and will be written into the land registry title. The council would be bound by the original constitution of the playing fields.

333/25 DEFIBRILLATOR

Potential locations for new defibrillators had been tabled. There are now new insulated boxes which can be used rather than having to wire into the electric which allows more scope for locations. It was proposed that £5000 is set aside from CIL for this project.

334/25 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

There was a discussion about the state of the footpath on Garners Way, which led to a fall from a resident. This needs to be logged on fix my street.

Residents in housing association homes off Larkhall Lane pay a maintenance fee but there has been no grounds maintenance. This needs to be followed up with the housing association.

Clerk to ask administrator about ID badges

Are Vistry still on track to transfer land this year? A meeting is taking place with Vistry later this week and chairman will update following that.

Meeting closed 8pm

Signed

Date

DRAFT