



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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E-mail: clerk@harpole-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on Monday 8th June 2026, in the Methodist Chapel at 7pm.

Present – Cllrs F Smethers (Chair), N Bess (part), J Gibbins, B Hancy, C Nnadozie, S Philips, S Roberts,

Also present – Clerk, Parish Administrator, WNC Cllr Bignell (part) PCSO Emma Teagle (part)

Meeting start: 7pm

37/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies approved for Cllrs Starmer, Haynes, Taylor, Wallace and Gardner.
Cllr Madle was not present. Cllr Bess was not present at the beginning of the meeting.

38/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

None to declare

39/26 REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Highways had been due to close Sandy Lane but this would have left 1 entrance and exit to the village due to other road closures. After pointing this out the roadworks have been delayed until September. They are aware of Scarecrow weekend.

The Bridge to Bugbrooke has been closed for a long time and there has been a petition with over 600 signatures to get this reopened. Bugbrooke PC are putting in an application to the Dept of Transport who have funding.

Bin collections will move to the 123 system that Daventry is currently using next year.

Cllr Bignell Leaves

40/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present

41/26 COUNCIL MINUTES

Under 11/26 Old School Hall was called Old School House. This was amended.
Minutes of Annual Council Meeting of 11th May 2026 were approved and signed.

42/26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee of 26th May 2026 and Strategy, Finance and Policy of 5th May were received.

43/26 QUESTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN RELATED TO RECEIVED MINUTES

There were no questions
Cllr Bess joined the meeting

44/26 FINANCE

- a) Section 1 – Governance Statement – of external audit was read and it was proposed council could say yes to all comments except number 10 as per the internal audit report.

- b) Section 2 – Financial Statement – of External Audit was received and it was proposed to accept.
- c) Internal Audit report was received. There was one note that the GDPR policy had not been approved in the 2025-6 year period as amendments had been proposed. This was approved in the April meeting but meant that the council had to say no to assertion 10 on the governance statement. Otherwise, there were no further comments from the internal auditor.
- d) Payments for June were approved.

Supplier	Description	Amount	VAT
Staff Costs	Wages / PAYE / Pension	5,352.45	0
Northants Police	PCSO April – Sept	8,020.84	0
Northants CALC	Training	223.20	37.20
R&G	Grass cutting	2,352.94	392.16
South Northants Community Responders	Defibs / Cabinets / Bleed kits	6,305	0
Nickolls Landscaping	Flagpole Green	105	0
Saraco	Numbers for allotments	236.53	39.42
West Northants Council	Installation of post for VAS	1,727.65	287.94
Vistaprint	Newsletter printing	179.99	30
British Gas	Office Electric	47.08	2.24
Big Art and Banners	Village maps and bin stickers	114.50	19.08
Wave	Water allotments	835	0
Viking	Stationery	62.50	10.42
Bowls Club	Room Hire	120	0
Harpole Primary School	Grant for Defib	980	0
Shield Maintenance	Bin emptying	252.20	42.03
R&G	Grass Cutting	1,249.20	208.20
ID Mobile	Mobile Phones	12.00	2.00
Gigaclear	Broadband	36.00	6.00
Benn Security	Allotment keys	322.45	53.74

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Current Account	564,315.62
CCLA Savings	1,025,759.06
Metrobank savers	2,053.90
Credit card	-13.91
Outstanding payments	19324.73
Unpresented receipts	13.91
Total	1,572,803.85

Opening Balance	1,260,370.70
Expenditure to date	50,913.84
Income to Date	363,346.99
Cashbook balance	1,572,803.85

45/26 CIL RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) A brief for new play equipment on the playing field was tabled. It was thought that there needed to be some amendments regarding equipment to be kept (due to being memorial),

and to include the BMX track. The brief was approved with these amendments and the project was delegated to Community facilities Committee once the land has been transferred.

PCSO Joins the meeting.

b) A quote had been received from Highways for surveys and drawings for new footpath and crossing near the school. Clerk to query the cost. There needs to be consultation to see if this is something that the parish wants or needs.

Before continuing with the meeting, the Chairman invited the PCSO to speak. There were no specific updates from her, but she was willing to hear questions. She was thanked for moving the caravan in the layby so quickly. She advised she has regular interactions with a group of young teens who ask lots of questions. There have been reports of nuisance quadbikes, but she needs more information and evidence.

PCSO Leaves the meeting.

46/26 COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT

A neighbouring parish council had a stall at their local fete and it was well attended. It was proposed that the council should consider doing the same. It was proposed that costs for gazebo, banners, storage etc be investigated and brought back for consideration.

47/26 PLANNING

- a) Clerk advised she had spoken to Bloor regarding handover of open space. They believe that they are ready for inspection and will contact WNC to arrange a date. The parish council will be invited. In the meantime clerk to forward map and details so councillors can take a look in their own time. A calculation of sqm being transferred is needed for budgeting of S106 contributions.
- b) Vistry are still saying that they will not build the new pavilion as doing so will breach the price cap in the s106. Vistry are offering the amount in the S106 to the parish council to take the obligation. WNC are looking at options to move the project on. Council agreed that enforcement by WNC is what is needed. It was proposed that a meeting is arranged with the leader of WNC and relevant portfolio holders to take this issue further.

48/26 TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC AND PRESS

To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Approved

49/26 CLAIMS AND LITIGATION

An update on a litigation claim was given by the clerk. A letter of response was approved.

50/26 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

No further items to add at this time.

Meeting closed 9pm

Signed

Date

DRAFT