Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 9th November 2026, in the Methodist Chapel at 7pm.

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

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

Meeting start: 7pm

201/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies received for Cllrs Philips and Nnadozie. Cllr Gardner absent

It was asked if there would be a record of absences, clerk advised this could be added to annual meeting.

202/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

None to declare

203/26 REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Bignell advised that following the public meeting last week he has arranged a meeting with Enforcement manager at WNC and the parish council to discuss our concerns.

There are several consultations at the moment, and he urges the parish council to comment on one regarding freight.

Since 1st November new government legislation changes the way planning approvals take place, meaning more will be delegated to officers and less to committee.

Cllr Bignell Leaves

204/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public present.

205/26 COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 12th October 2026 and Extraordinary General Meeting of 19th October were approved and signed.

206/26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee of 26th October, Strategy, Finance and Policy Committee of 2nd November 2026 and Community Facilities Committee of 19th October were received.

207/26 QUESTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN RELATED TO RECEIVED MINUTES

It was asked if the payment had been made to the Old School Hall, clerk advised that the payment has been raised and is awaiting approval.

208/26 COMMITTEES RECOMENDATIONS

CIL working group had looked at the ONH report and was recommending that we needed to contact land owners and have a better idea of timings of expected community facilities before

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going back to ONH. There is a pot of S106 funding for off-site sports from Norwood Farm SUE and it was proposed that the clerk ask if ONH are able to help with this.

209/26 S106 FUNDING

West Northants Council had advised the council that there is £16,220 S106 funding that can be used on community facilities on Norwood Farm SUE from a development on St Crispins. It was proposed that there is an application for this to add a footpath to the park on Western Gate as it appears this has been missed on the plans. There may also be some upgrading of play equipment needed. **Approved**

210/26 CONSULTATIONS

Draft responses had been tabled for the following consultations:

a) Northampton Area Transport Strategy. Draft approved but to add that the council was disappointed that A4500 had been given low priority and there was no mention that S106 plans were appropriate to the needs of the communities. Also to ask if Sandy Lane crossing could be reviewed due to use for school travel.

b) Housing Strategy 2027-2032 – It was thought the deadline had passed.

c) Road Safety Strategy – Draft approved but to specify issue on Larkhall Lane and that acts of planning should be enforced. Also a request that on pavement parking is enforced.

d) Pre-submission Local Plan Regulation 19 – Draft approved but to highlight that monitoring and enforcement of development must be carried out.

211/26 FINANCE

It was proposed that £250 is donated to Northampton Fire and Rescue for attending the public meeting. **Approved**

212/26 POLICE

The police had asked if there were any projects that we could suggest for the Immediate Justice team. It was suggested that the footpath on A4500 from Panatonni Park to Upton Crossing could be cleared of vegetation to make it more accessible. **Approved**

213/26 WEBSITE

There was a proposal to change website host as the current supplier was not providing all the functionality the council would like. 3 alternatives had provided quotes. It was proposed that Cllr Hancy and the clerk be delegated authority to change supplier after checks had been made. **Approved**

214/26 DATES FOR MEETINGS 2027-28

One councillor had requested that the council consider another evening to make it easier for them to attend meetings. The only other evening the venue is available is Tuesday. It was noted that many would not be available if moved to Tuesday. It was proposed that the meetings for next year continue as per the current schedule. **Approved**

215/26 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

There were no items to add to the next agenda

Meeting closed 9pm

Next meeting Monday 11th January 2027.

Signed Date

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