Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

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Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 12th October 2026, in the Methodist Chapel at 7pm.

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

Also present – Clerk, WNC Cllr Bignell (part), 5 Members of the Public

Meeting start: 7pm

154/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies received for Cllrs Gardner, Hancy, Madle and Philips

155/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

None to declare

156/26 REPORTS FROM UNITARY COUNCILLORS

Local Plan Regulation 19 is now open for Consultation.
Kier has been chased about works on Kislingbury roundabout to prevent flooding. There is a planned reprofile, just no timescale.
On 29th October there is a flooding exhibition van in Bugbrooke giving help and advice.
He has been to Nobottle Road and spoken to the land owners about their queries on the boundaries.
Winterfest is due in Northampton Market Square late November
Parish Councillors expressed their disappointment with the planning department and the Vistry situation and asked if he could chase on our behalf.

Cllr Bignell Leaves

157/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1 member of the public from Old School Hall. Following on from the item last month, the Charities have denied the request for funding so they are asking if the PC can reconsider their offer. This will be discussed in an EGM next week.
Another member of public was from Western Gate. Despite there being many dog bins there are still people who do not pick up after their dogs. Can the council put something in the newsletter to remind people?
Verges around the new bench near Kislingbury Roundabout is unkempt. Can this be tidied up? This is highways and clerk will contact. There was also comments about signage in the ditches. Clerk to follow up with maintenance contractor.

158/26 COUNCIL MINUTES

Minutes of Full Council Meeting of 14th September 2026 were approved and signed.

159/26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee of 28th September 2026, Strategy, Finance and Policy Committee of 7th September 2026 and Community Facilities Committee of 21st September were received.

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160/26 QUESTIONS FOR CHAIRMAN RELATED TO RECEIVED MINUTES

Full Council meeting questions: It was asked if The Old School Hall query could be considered here as it was on last months agenda. Clerk advised that as the decision is different to the original it does need to be on another agenda with the appropriate timings.

CIL Working Party was due to meet to discuss Visioning Report. A date was agreed with those present.

There were no questions on the Committee minutes.

161/26 COMMITTEES RECOMENDATIONS

a) There was a discussion about whether the council should continue to collect data and information to make an application for 20mph zones in the parish. There was concern about the lack of response to the survey, and whether this would change driver behaviour if they are not abiding to 30mph. With Road Hill closed there are less cars in the village so more data needs to be collected when this is reopened. It was proposed that work will continue to get required information to make an application to Highways. **Approved.** Cllr Smethers requested his against vote was recorded.

2 members of the public

b) We are still awaiting definitive plans and pricing for a crossing by the school. It was proposed that the clerk chase for this information. **Approved**
Clerk to ask PCSO to be present at a school drop off / collection as there is some questionable parking.

Member of the public leaves

162/26 TECNOLOGY

It had been suggested that the clerk investigate technologies to allow recording or live-streaming of meetings. It was queried if this would encourage more public engagement. It was proposed that this is something to consider in the future when the council has its own room for meetings and fixed equipment can be purchased and installed.

163/26 NEWSLETTER

Currently the chair provides a council update in the newsletter and was asking for input from more councillors, such as a rota. No councillor was willing to produce a report but suggestions for other content was given. Clerk to remind all councillors when contributions are needed so items can be raised at the correct time. Other parishes have parish newsletters prepared by volunteers rather than the PC, though this brings other risks.

164/26 FINANCE

a) Accounts for October approved.

Supplier	Description	Amount
Staff	Wages & HMRC	5,547.95
Shield Maintenance	Dog bins	210.17
R&G Groundworks	Grass Cutting	169.96
Nickolls Landscaping	Maintenance	105.00
SLCC	Training	117.00
SLCC	Training	135.00
SLCC	Training	85.00

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West Northants Council	Bin emptying	260.00
ID Mobile	Phone	5.00
Allotment plot holders	Key refunds	24.00
SLCC	Training	117.00
British Gas	Office Electric	55.49
Paul Thomas	Maintenance	346.60
Paul Thomas	Maintenance	346.60
Paul Thomas	Maintenance	492.59
Shield Maintenance	Bin emptying	210.17
Valda Energy	Street lighting	286.50
Unity Bank	Bank fees	10.75
PKF Littlejohn	Audit fees	840.00
Scribe	IT software	99.00
Northants CALC	Training	46.00

b) Budget for end of September was received.

Current Account	339,519.08
CCLA Savings	1,289,384.98
Metrobank savers	2,059.73
Credit card	-1,628.41
Unpresented payments	2,898.89
Unpresented receipts	1,628.41
Total	1,628,064.90

Opening Balance	1,260,370.70
Expenditure to date	113,046.63
Income to Date	480,740.83
Cashbook balance	1,628,064.90

165/26 AUDIT

External Audit had been received and circulated. There was a comment about incorrectly completing the form with regards to councils that are involved with charities. Clerk explained what had happened and that this had caught out other clerks who do not have responsibility for charities. Extra care will be taken next year.

166/26 PLANNING

Despite being advised that a legal pack would be sent to legal on 7th August this has still not happened. Planning are in conversations with Vistry.

It was proposed that WNC are asked for information by the end of the month or the council will consider our options. **Approved.**

It was proposed that the council reject Vistry's offer for the pavilion. **Approved.**

It was proposed that the clerk, chair and vice chair have the authority to seek further professional advice on possible next steps. Any costings related to this will be brought to the next meeting. **Approved**.

167/26 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Update on Norwood SUE and costings.

Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation

Suggestion from a member of public that the council purchase the Turnpike for use as a community centre will be added to SFPC agenda.

Meeting closed 9pm

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Next meeting Monday 9th November.

Signed Date

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