Norton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

held on Tuesday 20th October 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall

20.10.001	Introductions: **Present**: David Birtles, Steph Goulden, Mark Griffiths, Kim Russell (Chair), Chris Thomas, Jacqui Williams, Clerk /RFO - Sue Porter, and 1 member of the public
20.10.002	To approve apologies for absence – Jeff Paybody
20.10.003	To consider dispensation requests from members of the Council – Nil
20.10.004	To receive Councillor declarations of interest for items on the agenda - Nil
20.10.005	**Public Open Forum -** Nil
20.10.006	To approve the minutes of the PC Meeting held on **Tuesday 15th September 2026 –** It was approved by all that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and these will be signed and dated by the Chairman.
20.10.007	West Northants Councillor – Monthly Report – No report received.
20.10.008	**Finance** It was approved by all that the following accounts be paid. • To review and approve the payments made: Sam Saeed – Jack's Patch (September) - £50.00 S Hartwell – Grass Mowing (September) - £198.00 Sue Porter – September Salary £617.32 Sue Porter – September Expenses - £26.00 PKF Littlejohn – External Audit - £252.00 Excelec – Village Hall Maintenance - £180.00 • To note the bank balances in each account as at 13/10/2026 Current Account £ 33,243.55 Reserves Account £ 15,944.17 **TOTAL £ 49,187.72** • Update on Unity Trust Bank Mandate – There is no record of any changes being submitted by the previous Clerk. The mandate form will be completed by the Chaiman and Clerk at the end of the meeting.
20.10.009	**To receive an update on the Village Hall, to include:** • Village Hall Lease Agreement Update – Both parties have Solicitors ready for the paperwork to be signed. The Chairman has a few queries to answer on the agreement before this can proceed. • Anglian Water Update – A site visit has been arranged for Tuesday 3rd November (AM) to investigate the shared water meter.
20.10.010	To receive an update on Jack's Patch • Hedge Maintenance – S Hartwell will be instructed to undertake the works.

	• Goulden's View – A letter has been received at the shared ownership properties regarding the ground's maintenance annual charge. M Griffiths will investigate what works have been carried out over the previous three years and by whom.
20.10.011	Highways – Update regarding installation of bollard – The Clerk will contact D Lister for an update.
20.10.012	To replace the posts and chains around War Memorial/Green – An updated quote has been received from Yates for the installation of 38 square oak posts, painted on the bottom with blackjack paint. The old posts will be disposed of by the pub, saving the PC £60. The cost quoted is £3,474.74 (including VAT). All voted in favour to proceed. The Clerk will place the order.
20.10.013	To replace Parish Noticeboard – Quotes to be circulated by the Clerk, for both wooden and composite alternatives.
20.10.014	To approve purchase of Poppy Wreath – 2 wreaths will be ordered, one for the PC and one for RBL at a cost of £23 each. 19 wooden crosses will also be requested. All voted in favour to proceed.
20.10.015	**PLANNING** **PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED** The Parish Council noted the following planning permission granted: **2026/3480/TCA** - Works to 1x Willow, 1x Robinia and 1x Prune Hawthorn tree **– The Old Toll House, Norton Junction, Long Buckby Wharf** • NCALC - To consider making a response to WNC Reg 19 Local Plan Consultation – There is nothing listed to affect Norton Parish. Exception sites remain outside the confines of the village. The Chairman gave an update on the SUE. Outline planning permission is due to be granted by the end of 2026, Reserved Matters by the end of 2027 and building to commence in 2028. The first homes are expected to be occupied by the end of 2028, with 500 homes completed by 2030, and 3.400 by 2041. As there will be an impact on traffic when these works start, a traffic calming scheme is urgently required, and D Lister will be asked to assist with an approach to Highways for a proposed solution. The traffic is already bad enough when either the A5 or A45 are closed, and this will only get worse once the Long Buckby road is closed for the development works to begin. * Local Plan Briefing – Wednesday 21st October 10-11:30am (Online) – Noted
15.09.016	**Correspondence** • WNC Parish Conference - Thursday 26th November 10am-1pm – The Forum, Towcester – Noted.
	Date Of Next Meeting Tuesday 17th November 2026 – 7pm

Meeting Closed: 7:45pm