LILBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting

Held on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 19:00 hrs in Lilbourne Village Hall.

Attendees: Chairman Councillor Newhouse, Councillors Pope, Morley, Kempe, Alexander, Porter and Chow.
Clerk: Mrs C E Valentine, Minibus Administrator; Mrs F Howells-Palin.
Members of public: 2 plus Unitary Councillor Simpson(19.30hrs).

26/1044	**TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies received and approved for Councillor Hoult.
26/1045	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct and consider dispensation requests. None
26/1046	**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 26th November 2025 as a true and accurate record.
26/1047	**COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH** It was **RESOLVED** to participate in the community speed watch programme for 2026. Police offering one off payment of £150.00 to purchase equipment.
26/1048	**MINIBUS PROJECT** To discuss and receive updates regarding the community minibus service, specifically: a) **School and Town Services:** Review of routes, scheduling, and demand for transport to local schools and town centres. No further updates. Website layout – Clerk to share with CN. b) **Vehicle Status:** To receive updates on vehicle maintenance, safety inspections, and insurance. Vehicle is scheduled for its annual MOT and insurance will need reviewing. Action FHP/JP Pressure washer supplied by JP to keep vehicle rinsed/mud. Garage door service to be scheduled Feb/March and fobs changed. c) **Drivers:** To discuss driver recruitment, training requirements (MIDAS), and volunteer rotas. Thanks noted to drivers providing cover for rotas. Village Hall offered space on noticeboard to advertise service.
26/1049	**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** Members of the public are invited to address the Council. Representations are limited to 3 minutes per person with a maximum of 15 minutes total. Chairman of Village Hall Committee reported they have been contacted by an audio visual company along with the Clerk about their services but would not be taking it further. Concern was raised about the ongoing excess surface water drainage at the bottom of Station Road which has become frozen and hazardous in icy conditions. Fixmystreet ref 8625018**.**
26/1050	**WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT** Apologies received from Ward Cllr Humphreys – report circulated to councillors and updated by Cllr Simpson at the meeting to accompany the minutes on the website. In addition Cllrs Humphreys and Simoson met with Prologis regarding DiRFT 4 plans with a positive meeting to look to involve the community, cycle network, better lighting to reduce glare.
26/1051	**PLANNING APPLICATIONS** To consider any new planning applications and matters not otherwise on the agenda. 2026/0232/FULL – It was **RESOLVED** as no comment.

Reference No.▶	Location▶	Proposal / Description▶	Valid Date▲	Decision Issue Date▶	Decision▶
2026/0232/FULL	Lodge Farm, Yelvertoft Road, Lilbourne CV23 0SZ	Construction of agricultural steel-framed building	07/01/2026		Pending NEW
2025/5142/FULL	15 The Horsepool, Lilbourne, CV23 0SU	Single storey front extension and new canopy roof over the lounge window	02/12/2025		Pending

2025/4954/FULL	Land North of Lilbourne Road, Clay Coton, Northamptonshire NN6 6JX	Creation of a new vehicular access.	17/11/2025		Pending
2025/4967/FULL	4 Old Inn Court Lilbourne CV23 0TF	Single storey front extension.	17/11/2025		Pending
2025/2969/PIP	Land off Country View, Lilbourne CV23 0PG	Permission in principle for the erection of 2 no. self-build dwellings	19/08/2025	08/01/2026	Approval

To view or comment on a planning application go to: https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/planning-applications-and-enforcement/view-and-comment-planning-application

26/1052 **NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP) ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

a) Receive updates on the NDP Advisory Committee's work. Cllr Pope advised currently recruiting a Secretary. Information now obtained from committee members to take forward to Your Locale. Availability of members group has also slightly delayed the progress.
b) Review feedback from recent sub-group meetings or consultations. As above.
c) Resolve any required budget allocations for technical support or work. The Windfarm allocation for 2026 has been allocated in the budget for the NDP.

26/1053 **BURIAL GROUND**

a) Private burial arranged for 3rd February 2026 – Noted Cllr Kempe & the Clerk marked out the plots.
b) It was **RESOLVED** to pprove request for memorial stone
c) To consider next steps for maintenance and spend. Fencing to be looked at in the summer. Clerk is investigating the issue with the condition of the driveway. Thanks noted to Cllr Kempe for keeping the burial ground tidy.

26/1054 **FINANCE**

a) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation and payments list for January 2026. Bank Balance at 21.01.26 £44,160.14 (income at end of agenda)
It was **RESOLVED** to payments made over the festive period December 2025. (See end of agenda)
b) **Resolution:** Formally approve the final Budget and Precept request for 2026/27.
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the budget and the precept was agreed at £29,500.00. Increase inline with inflation to cover costs and services provided for 2026/2027. PR1 form signed.

January 2026 payments					
Date	Who	Reason	Amount	Payment	Powers To Pay
28/01/2026	Staffing	December	*****	BACS	LGA (1972) s112)
28/01/2026	HMRC	PAYE	*****	BACS	LGA (1972) s111)
28/01/2026	Npower	Street lighting energy Oct – Dec 25	£351.75	BACS	Highways Act 1980
28/01/2026	Lilbourne Garage	inv 18916 Safety check, engine oil and lamp replacement	£245.87	BACS	LGA (1972) s111)
28/01/2026	Checked safe	monthly admin fee	£6.00	DD	LGA (1972) s111)

26/1055 **INTERNAL CONTROL/AUDIT/FINANCE**

a) To approve the effectiveness of the internal review – carried over to February meeting
b) To understand and comply with Assertion 10, IT Policy and compliance. – carried over to February meeting

26/1056 **VILLAGE PROJECTS AND MAINTENANCE**

a) **Play Area and Playing Field:** Review inspection reports and consider maintenance quotes. To discuss dog walking playing filed and goal post installation. Cllr Morley reported difficulty in finding contractors for the type of play area remedial works required. Clerk to contact WNC. JA mention in newsletter. Goalpost to be installed shortly by Councillors Hoult and Porter with thanks – weather permitting before the next meeting.
b) **Village Hall:** Consider maintenance updates or safety issues. Carpark lighting project and costs. CCTV annual maintenance check due. Cllr Morley met with a further contractor who was not able to improve

	on a quote already obtained. Next stage is to seek funding options. Cllr Pope kindly offered to assist with the outstanding signage required in the carpark. c) **Highways/Footpaths:** Review reported potholes or road surface repair correspondence. Footpath project. Reinstatement of Station Road (Wills Lane end) verges following motorway viaduct work. Complaint to be raised to broadband contractors for the state the verges have been left in following contractors work in the village. WNC to be progressed regarding the churning of the verge Hilmorton Lane and parking of commercial vehicles on grass. Cllr Pope met with the Highways representative from WNC to discuss the requests to extend the footpath bottom of Hilmorton Lane near Lilbourne Meadow – Prologis. The motorway viaduct work – WNC requested photos and fixmystreet case opening to evidence the verges – ongoing as already escalated. A member of public is kindly contacting the Highway Officer from the British Horse Society regarding the locked bridleway gate further along the route from Wills Lane. d) Lilbourne Meadows – Maintenance for decision – no updates e) Cherry Trees – Horsepool to consider quotes for pruning. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with AC Tree Care to attend to the three cherry trees in the Horsepool at a cost of £500.00 plus VAT. It is understood the PC originally planted the trees. f) To consider reviewing work required for next village maintenance contract tender. List to be drafted for review along with current tender.
26/1057	**NEWSLETTER – Items for next edition** Budget statement Highways/verge updates Defib volunteer thanks Local Plan Parking in Daventry - proposal
26/1058	**CORRESPONDENCE** Review correspondence received. Noted Open consultations can be found via link: **https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/** West Northants Consultation • Teams meeting with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner will take place on Wednesday 4th March at 6pm. She will be joined by the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer. Cllrs to advise clerk if they wish to join the meeting. • Annual parish consultation survey organised by Kier Transportation on behalf of West Northamptonshire Council Highways. Your feedback will assist us in understanding Parish perspectives, concerns, and priorities. To take part in the survey please click on the following link: Annual Parish Satisfaction Survey • Parish & Town Council Snapshot Survey – Satisfaction with your Local Planning Authority. Closes 31st January 2026. For Clerk, Chairman and Councillor to complete. • Free Defibrillator Training. St. John Ambulance is offering a FREE demonstration on how to do effective CPR and how to use a defibrillator – parish council offer. From The Rt. Hon Stuart Andrew MP: Potholes and road safety: local survey and engagement www.stuartandrew.org.uk/news/potholes 'Keep Daventry Parking Free' petition remains open. The more signatures it receives, the stronger the local voice when it is submitted to the Full Council meeting in February: www.stuartandrew.org.uk/webform/keep_parking_free_in_daventry Finally, I would encourage residents to take part in the current local authority budget consultations. North Northamptonshire Council's consultation closes at 23:59 on 23 January 2026: https://northnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/budget-2026-27/ West Northamptonshire Council's budget consultation closes at 23:59 on 3 February 2026: https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/cet/wnc-budget-2026-27/
26/1059	**ANY OTHER BUSINESS** (For information only; no formal resolutions may be passed). J18 Forum meeting (JP), Planning updates, Christmas tree feedback
26/1060	**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** Confirm the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting on **Wednesday 25th February 2026** at 19:00 hrs. Meeting closed 20:50hrs

INCOME

Date	Who	Amount
20/01/2026	WNC FINANCE Minibus	£32.00
16/01/2026	Access BGC Minibus	£735.60
15/01/2026	CAM RA RUGBY 30/01	£125.00
09/01/2026	Access BGC Minibus	£735.60
02/01/2026	Access BGC Minibus	£735.60
23/12/2025	NPOWER COMMERCIAL refund	£14.32
23/12/2025	WCC COUNTY FUND Minibus	£48.63

EXPENDITURE

DECEMBER 2025 PAYMENTS

Date	Name	Reason	Amount
01/01/2026	Mr C King	Defibrillator supplies	£282.00
01/01/2026	Oakberry Trees Ltd	Inv 1387 Christmas Tree	£321.20
01/01/2026	Church Farm Property Services	Village Maintenance December 25	£174.00
01/01/2026	JED Building	Inv 25/36 Driving Nov/Dec	£225.00
01/01/2026	J Alexander	Drivers allowance Dec 25	£15.00
01/01/2026	J Palmer	Private hire driver Dec 25	£30.00
01/01/2026	A C Old Tree Care Specialists Ltd	Inv 10504 Trees burial ground	£2,940.00
01/01/2026	DC Payroll Solutions Ltd	Inv 26471 Payroll fees	£67.80
01/01/2026	E.On Energy Solutions Limited	Inv 6018813200 Replace PL4	£372.00
01/01/2026	Peter Farrelly	Deposit return minibus hire	£100.00
01/01/2026	HMRC & STAFFING	DECEMBER	*********
01/01/2026	Society Of Local Council Clerks	Clerk Annual Membership 50% split	£126.50

WNC Councillors Report
Braunston & Crick Ward

To:	**Lilbourne Parish Council Meeting**
Date:	**28th January 2026**
From:	**Cllr Rosie Humphreys** **Cllr Andrew Simpson**

1. WNC Matters

a) WNC Draft Budget 2026/27

The Council has published its draft budget for 2026/27 for public consultation. The toplevel headlines are:

- Council Tax is proposed to increase by the maximum allowed of 4.99% (taking the Council's average charge for a band D equivalent property to £1,960.14 per year).
- Key areas requiring additional spend are Adult Social Care (£22.7m), Children's Services (£9m) and Central Services (£11m). The first two have been driven by increasing demand and costs whilst the third is to support the administrations capital spend and borrowing.
- Around £25m of savings have been identified to balance the budget.
- A number of fees and charges are being increased with proposals to introduce car parking charges in Daventry, Towcester and Brackley WNC car parks.
- Increase garden waste collection subscriptions by £20 per annum
- Total council expenditure is c£459m for 2026/27 (excludes ring fenced schools budget of £552m).
- It is worth noting that Adult Social Care and Children's Services takes up c58% of the council's expenditure.

• It is also worth noting that election promises made by Reform UK regarding council tax, DOGE style efficiencies and reducing borrowing appear not to have been realised.

Consultation closes on 3rd February. You can see more details and submit your responses online at Council Budget 2026/27 | West Northamptonshire Council

b) Local Development Plan

The council is due to go out to public consultation on the final version of its Local Development Plan at the end of January.

In terms of the impact on Lilbourne the draft plan has included a review of the village confines and categorised the village as an 'Other Village'.

There are a number of other changes from the previous draft plans and in particular there is now a 'Rural Area Housing Requirement' which sets out what growth is needed to provide an additional c3,800 homes in the rural area. This growth being provided from Primary or Secondary Service Villages within their boundaries.

The proposal is that this is led by the Neighbourhood Plan or a Development Plan Document for each of the villages impacted.