

LODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2026

Sports Pavilion Harrington Road Loddington NN14 1JZ

Present: Cllr Alan Durn (Chair), Cllr Alice Ablett, Cllr Lora Lawman,

Cllr Kate Reneerkens, Cllr Mark Reneerkens, Cllr Joby Simson

Jane Mann (Clerk) 4 members of the public

	Decisions	Action									
25/70	Apologies for absence: Apologies were accepted from Cllr Lorraine Wensor, along with NNC Cllrs Brian Benneyworth and Jim Hakewill.										
25/71	Declaration of Interests: Cllr Durn declared a non-pecuniary interest in his Playing Field Manager, Village Hall and Poor's land roles.										
25/72	Public Session: Cllr Durn reminded members of the public that the public session would be in accordance with standing order 3(f), a member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed 15 minutes unless directed by the chair of the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident raised his continued concern regarding NNC's lack of enforcement action on work carried out in the conservation area without planning permission. The Parish Council were considering making a formal complaint regarding these issues. A review of tree protection orders was felt necessary as trees in the conservation area were not afforded the same protection as trees with protection orders. • A resident reported another nasty incident on Orton Road where a lady damaged two tyres in a deep pothole. He asked whether as a community this could be reported. Cllr Reneerkens reported that she was meeting with Highways four times a year and each week she was reporting defects. She also mentioned that there was an emergency number which was manned 24/7. The use of what 3 words was promoted. 	PC									
25/73	North Northants Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. North Northants Councillors were not present due to a conflicting NNC meeting. ii. The clerk provided an update on funding for bus shelter improvements from NNC Councillor's empowerment budget. She advised that NNC Councillors met last week to discuss applications received. At that point work had not yet been approved. The clerk would update them after the meeting. To be discussed at item 79.iii. iii. Cllr Lawman's response to the Community Governance Review was discussed and approved. She then went on to provide an update on liaison with NNC. 	JM LL									
25/74	Minutes: It was resolved to approve the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 15 January 2026.										
25/75	Accounts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The financial situation at 3 March 2026 was reported, with a balance of £6,958.39 in the precept account and £8,224.23 in the recreation account. Bank statements were available to view. ii. The Parish Council received confirmation that internal controls had been followed. iii. Payments made prior to the meeting in accordance with financial regulations which have been previously authorised and paid by BACS were reported and invoices were reviewed: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 40px; width: 100%;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">23 January 2026</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Clerk's salary</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">544.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23 January 2026</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td style="text-align: right;">175.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23 January 2026</td> <td>Clerk's expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20.58</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 	23 January 2026	Clerk's salary	544.26	23 January 2026	HMRC	175.49	23 January 2026	Clerk's expenses	20.58	
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	<p>iv. There were no outstanding payments.</p> <p>v. SLCC and Microsoft subscriptions were approved for the new financial year.</p>																																					
25/76	<p>Governance: Governance Policies and documents were reviewed and approved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Asset Register-small change to remove old speeding equipment. ii. Risk Assessment iii. Equality and Diversity Policy iv. Grant Awarding Policy v. Grievance and Disciplinary Procedure vi. Training and Development Policy 																																					
25/77	<p>Progress reports from previous meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. An update was received on NNC's proposal to reduce the frequency of verge mowing. The deadline for Section 136 agreement had now passed for 2026/27 year. It was noted that there had been no response from Aaron Parry to our letter and request for further information. ii. Fireworks quote had been received from the company who have taken on some of Tony's Fireworks' clients. The quote for £1500 plus VAT was thought to be reasonable and was approved. 	JM																																				
25/78	<p>Councillor roles and responsibilities</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cllr Wensor had attended another meeting as Climate & Nature Champion. She has written an article about Loddington Wetlands for the next edition of the Messenger. ii. Cllr Simson had been in contact with the school. He reported that the school was keen to be involved with a litter pick around the village. This would be followed up, iii. Cllr Kate Reneerkens provided an update on Highways issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She had attended the Highways Briefing Session at Corby Cube on 19 January and raised numerous concerns about lack of and unsatisfactory repairs as well as other Highway defects. She was disappointed with the apathy of many of the NNC elected members and Parish/Town Councillors present. • The loose finger-post sign opposite Three Chimneys was reported in August. A notification was received that it had been repaired in February, but it was still loose. A further report was raised, and the response was that it would be actioned "within 26 weeks". • According to NNC/Kier's work programme, drainage gullies should have been cleaned in February, but the gully near the pinch-point opposite the playing field is blocked. This has been reported. • Emailed Ben Wright on 1st and 15th February and 3rd March regarding numerous dangerous potholes between Loddington and Kettering via Thorpe Malsor. Repairs are in progress at last and we will continue to monitor them. Night working is scheduled for 5th March. • Failed repairs on A14 bridge near Gypsy Lane have also been brought to Ben Wright's attention. • Trees/bushes encroaching road near Cransley Reservoir have now been cut back. • Harrington Road is scheduled for pre-surface dressing patching at the end of March. This is one of a few locations listed on the highway maintenance programme, due to our perseverance with Kier. • Concerned that reports made on the Highways Online Reporting System (Fixmystreet) are not being investigated within the prescribed timescales. We would therefore like our NNC councillors to investigate as Kier appear to be failing to meet their contractual obligations. Cllr Mark Reneerkens 	<p>LW</p> <p>JS</p>																																				

	<p>submitted a formal complaint regarding a pothole reported on 19 December that had still not been investigated over 9 weeks later. The complaint was upheld.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defects and failings have continued to be reported on Fixmystreet despite the above concerns we have about unsatisfactory response times. <p>iv. Cllr Kate Reneerkens reported that there were no further updates on Safeguarding issues.</p> <p>v. Cllr Mark Reneerkens provided an update on his Police Liaison role. He had attended an online PLR meeting on 4 March when the PFCC provided details of the budget increase for 2026-27. Cllr Wensor had reported sighting of offroad motorcycle being ridden in the playing field to the police on 8 February, not aware of any further incursion.</p> <p>vi. Cllr Lawman had provided an update on NNC Liaison at agenda item no 73 iii.</p>	
25/79	<p>Village matters:</p> <p>i. An update was received that day on the unauthorised traveller's site. NNC are still waiting on responses from two Council departments before they draft their wider report and a further update is expected in April. The ongoing drainage issue resulting in water running off on to Cransley Road has been investigated, however it was agreed to challenge their findings.</p> <p>ii. It was agreed that the annual village litter pick would take place on Sunday 12 April.</p> <p>iii. Options for improving the bus shelter were discussed. It was suggested that the woodwork on the bus shelter should be treated and the guttering repaired. Costs would be obtained for doors and solar panels on the roof. Lighting would be required inside and the history of Loddington could be displayed on boards along with a list of Loddington's soldiers who had died in the two wars.</p> <p>iv. An update was received on the Poor's Land, which is a piece of land, approximately 5 acres in Mawsley Lane. There are three trustees, two Parish Councillors, Alan Durn and Mark Reneerkens, along with one Church member, Bea Martin. The Trust was set up to support the poor and needy during hard times. The current account balance is £4,349, which is supported by a local farmer renting the land.</p>	<p>MR</p> <p>AD</p>
25/80	<p>Planning applications:</p> <p>i. Cllr Ablett provided an update on existing applications.</p> <p>ii. There had been two new planning applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hare-no concerns or objections received. • 32 Main Street-LBC received that day, to be reviewed by Councillors. </p> <p>iii. Rothwell Truck Stop had also made a new planning application and LPC had raised their concerns that this was not in accordance with conditions raised in original planning appeal. Cllr Lawman suggested that LPC look at a 7.5-ton limit on the Orton Road, which was currently a 'Quiet Lane'.</p> <p>iv. An update was received following Cllr Lawman's discussion with Graeme Kane.</p>	<p>JM/LL</p>
25/81	<p>Playing Field Report:</p> <p>i. Cllr Durn provided an update on maintenance, improvements and usage of the playing field and pavilion. He provided detail on the work carried out by the Cricket Club following their successful £15,000 grant application. Doors and windows had been replaced along with composite decking on the veranda. Shower replacement and flash back boards with new tiling installed in both home and away changing rooms. The size of the loft entrance has been increased and a new loft ladder installed. New composite picnic tables are in place. Benches around the ground have been renovated. In addition, general maintenance work has been undertaken by the Cricket Club, grass has been cut and work has started on the square. Work will start on the overhanging trees in the ground shortly. NCC have provided 20 new trees. Fencing around the perimeter has already been removed and will be replaced shortly. It was approved that the fencing costs will be shared by the Cricket Club and the Parish Council. It was approved that the rental fees would remain unchanged for two years to compensate for some of the work done on the grounds and pavilion.</p> <p>ii. The Parish Council discussed options regarding taking on the maintenance of the playground with effect from April 2027. This however would have insurance implications from April 2026 when the asset is transferred. It was decided to obtain alternative quotes rather than enter into a service level agreement with NNC. It was also suggested that we explore grants for new equipment, In the meantime it was important to ensure that the existing equipment was bought up to standard and any repairs carried out by NNC.</p>	<p>JM</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. Due to further vandalism and misuse of the playing field and playground a quote had been obtained to extend security facilities from the current provider, Incognito. This was £1,043.80. A second quote would be obtained for comparison. iv. It was reported that a water sub-meter has been installed to enable water usage on the field to be monitored. v. An update was received on the tree work in Mawsley Lane. Open Reach have carried out some work but not in the area expected. 	LL
25/82	Training: There were no further training requirements.	
25/83	Date of next meeting: It was decided to hold the Annual Parish meeting on the same night as the Annual and Parish Council meeting on 7 May, start time 7pm. The meeting ended at 8.55pm.	

Signed Chairman: **Date**.....