LODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
79 Harrington Road, Loddington, NN14 1JZ
T: 01536 710525
Email: clerk@loddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk Website: https://loddingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2026
Sports Pavilion Harrington Road Loddington NN14 1JZ

Present: Cllr Alan Durn (Chair), Cllr Lora Lawman,
, Cllr Mark Reneerkens, Cllr Lorraine Wensor,
Jane Mann (Clerk), 6 members of the public

	Decisions	Action
26/47	**Apologies for absence:** Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Kate Reneerkens and Joby Simson.	
26/48	**Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Durn declared a non-pecuniary interest in his Playing Field Manager, Village Hall and Poor's land roles. Cllr Lawman declared a personal interest in agenda item 26/57, advising that she would withdraw from discussion on this item.	
26/49	**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. The tree warden advised that he had received two enquiries about proposed tree work, within and outside the conservation area. He had also reported tree work carried out at Glebe Lodge to the Parish Council. Whilst not in the conservation area it was noted on the planning application that no trees were being removed. It was also commented that although it was good to see NNC representatives at the last meeting, it was disappointing that no points had been followed up on enforcement issues reported.	
26/50	**North Northants Council:** No NNC councillors were present at the meeting.	
26/51	**Minutes:** It was resolved to approve the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 3 September 2026.	
26/52	**Accounts:** i. The financial situation at 31 October 2026 was reported, with a balance of £14,839.30 in the precept account and £5,168.82 in the recreation account. This included a payment of £1,270.52 from the Cricket Club for water used. Bank statements were available to view. ii. The Parish Council received confirmation from Cllr Wensor 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:	

9 September 2026	Valda Energy	130.58
19 September 2026	Clerk's salary and pay arrears	652.32
19 September 2026	HMRC	222.75
19 September 2026	Clerk's expenses	20.58
30 September 2026	HFE Signs Ltd	60.00
12 October 2026	Valda Energy	103.30
19 October 2026	Jonathan's fireworks	1,200.00
20 October 2026	Clerk's salary	562.17
20 October 2026	HMRC	183.46
20 October 2026	Clerk's expenses	29.78
21 October 2026	Alan Durn- firework products	87.23
22 October 2026	PKF Littlejohn	252.00
30 October 2026	Anglian Water	1,156.81

iv. Outstanding payments for Incognito £1,192.80, NCALC training £240, CPRE subscription £36 and electricity £82.13 were approved.

	v. Information Commissioner's subscription of £47.00 was approved. vi. Electricity options were reviewed and it was agreed to accept the quote from Clear Utility Solutions, using Valda Energy on a 36-month contract. vii. Payments were reviewed against the 7-month budget position and explanations provided. viii. In preparation for the 2027-28-year budget the clerk asked what projects were being considered for the 2027-28 year. The following projects were identified and approved: Play area inspections and maintenance, £3,000. Verge mowing increase in cuts from 3 to 6, if necessary, £1,000. Main Street shrubs and trees. Walnut tree near the pavilion required maintenance but possibly undertake this in current year. Jubilee Walk maintenance, purchase of a leaf blower was approved in current year. ix. The clerk presented her draft budget outlining the various options available. She explained that she had tried to limit the increase from extra expenditure required on the play area and verge mowing. She was open to further suggestions from councillors prior to the budget being finalised at January meeting.	**ALL**
26/53	**Governance:** i. The clerk advised that the annual audit had now been completed and audit documents had been published. ii. The clerk advised that the HSBC Safeguard Review had been completed.	
26/54	**Progress reports from previous meetings:** i. Councillor Mark Reneerkens reported that definitive maps showing highway verges have been received at last. A third and final cut of the season has been completed by Kier in October, later than expected. The amenity grass areas outside 9-33 Harrington Road and 11-25 Main Street have also been cut after Cllr Kate Reneerkens complained to NNC. ii. Cllr Durn reported that to alleviate traffic problems around the school the gates to the recreation ground were opened at 7.00am, for the teachers to park their cars. The use of the pavilion car park was not just restricted to teachers but is also for the use of parents dropping off and collecting their children. Unfortunately, this was unsuccessful as was only used by the Headteacher. iii. Three villagers have offered to participate in a Community Speedwatch initiative. At least three members of the parish council and the clerk would also be prepared to take part. Contact would be made with the Police to register our interest. Expenditure of £150 was approved. iv. The clerk reported that following the last meeting she had looked into whether a historic neighbourhood plan was in existence. NNC and Parish Council records did not support this. Considerable work had been undertaken on a 2012 Local Plan, which then mentions an earlier version dated 1980.	**MR**
26/55	**Councillor roles and responsibilities:** i. An update was received from the Climate & Nature Champion. Cllr Wensor reported that a Channel 5 documentary entitled 'Charles and William-saving the world' (Saturday 7 November 8.15 pm} featured primary school pupils enjoying the wetlands habitat. This was being broadcast to coincide with the Earthshot prize to find solutions for the world's greatest environmental challenges by 2030. Also, Loddington Wetlands have reached the final of the Scoffel Countryside Awards in the Wetland and Watercourse category. Good luck to George and all the volunteers involved. The winners will be announced on Monday 9 November. ii. No updates had been received from Cllr Simson. iii. An update on Highways issues was received. Cllrs Durn and Mark Reneerkens attended a Highways Engagement Walkabout with representatives from NNC and Kier on 19th October, highlighting concerns about potholes, general road condition and repairs outstanding. These on-site meetings with parish councils replace the former Highways Drop-in sessions held at local libraries. Cllrs Durn and Mark Reeerkens also had a quarterly site meeting on 5th November with Richard Woodhouse (NNC Highways contracts manager) and Ben Wright from Kier. Numerous issues were raised, including: • Unsatisfactory repairs to granite setts in Richardsons Lane • Poor condition of road between Loddington and Kettering – this is scheduled for surface dressing in 2027 • Poor condition of roundabouts at junctions 3 and 7 of the A14 • Unsatisfactory repairs at Foxhall	

	• Harrington Road (Long Lane) potholes at edge of road still awaiting repair (should have been done prior to surface dressing in June). Other defects continue to be reported via the Highways Online Reporting Tool (HORT). iv. There were no updates on Safeguarding issues. v. Cllr Mark Reneerkens provided an update on his Police Liaison role. There were no known incidents or concerns since the last meeting. vi. Cllr Lawman provided an update on NNC Liaison: • She had attended Standards Training • She had attended the Democracy & Standards committee meeting. Updates were given by the Monitoring Officer on 15 standards NNC, Town and Parish council complaints. • She provided details of Loddington's response to the Community Governance Review and gave an update on the review. As a coopted representative of the democracy & standards committee she will attend the meeting on12 November to hear the discussions on the community governance review and will provide an update afterwards. • The NNC Planning committees have been amalgamated to one and following on from a meeting where planning policy was discussed, it seems that most applications will be handled by officers only with none if any input to the old procedure for a call in. • It was reported that the 7.5t maximum load limit signs on Harrington Road and into Richardsons Lane, were missing and replacements had been requested.	
26/56	**Village matters:** i. Cllr Mark Reneerkens provided an update on the unauthorised traveller site. A meeting between NNC Councillors and Officers and the Loddington Working Party took place on 7th October. NNC summarised the results of the equalities impact assessment / harms review carried out on the occupants of the site and advised that their legal counsel had considered the needs of the occupants weighed against the harm being caused by them remaining there. Based on current information, they estimate that the Council has a 30-50 per cent chance of successfully gaining an injunction to remove them from the site. As it stands, the Council will continue to hold the matter under review. We feel let down badly by the inaction of NNC and the former KBC since the travellers moved on to the site 7 years ago. Not only has enforcement action been slow and inadequate, but the Council still does not meet its own 5-year supply requirements for traveller sites. Members of the Working Party have objected strongly to the Council's position and are in discussion with NNC to obtain a full copy of the report, as well as requesting a further review be carried out independently rather than by NNC's own officers. They have also asked for NNC to consider reimbursement of the funds raised through local donations to enable the parish council to be represented as a Rule 6 party at the planning appeal in 2021/22 in support of KBC/NNC, resulting in the appeal being dismissed. NNC Councillors and Officers have also been asked to attend a village meeting to give them the opportunity to explain the Council's position first-hand to donors of the fighting fund. ii. Fireworks evening had been a great success, with the replacement fireworks company providing a great display. The takings were £2.673. Cllr Durn wished to thank the following: Dave Tanner for allowing us to use a field which provided parking for 51 cars. Friends of Loddington School for providing the catering. The Fireworks display team, All the helpers: Christopher Cutting, Robert Durn, Catherine Clooney, Iris Somerville, Graham Lawman, Lorraine Wensor, Tilly Culshaw, Jane Mann and Pixie Wilson. Mark for the tasks carried out on the day and Andrew Stephen for First Aid duties. Cllr Durn also thanked Alison Clarke for her lovely Remembrance display. iii. NNC had asked for the Parish Council to consider sites for EV charging point. Two options were considered the old bus stop or outside recreation ground, if these meet their conditions.	
26/57	**Councillor Vacancy** An expression of interest had been made by Graham Lawman and was considered by Councillors. Co-option was proposed by Cllr Durn and seconded by Cllr Mark Reneerkens. Cllr Wensor approved the process. Graham Lawman completed a declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed to the Parish Council.	
26/58	**Planning applications:** Cllr Lora Lawman advised that she had received a handover from the previous planning chair, with many files relating to the enforcement of a noise nuisance created by an air source heat pump, installed by the school. At present she was awaiting the response and updates on overdue Enforcement matters. She asked that any matters relating to trees and overgrown hedges are notified to LPC immediately, so we stand a fair chance of working with residents on these matters.	

	i. An update was received on existing applications. ii. There were no new planning applications received since last meeting. Planning application at Nunnery Farm, reference NK/2024/0717 was mentioned and Cllr Lawman raised her concerns regarding the effect of increased traffic on the village and surrounding areas. iii. There were no updates on other planning enforcement issues.	
26/59	**Playing Field Report**: i. An update was provided by the Playing Field Manager on maintenance, improvements and usage of the playing field and pavilion. The cricket season has ended, and Football season has started. Two pitches have been marked out - Under 7's Fundamental and Under 16's for the Fundamental and Mawsley who play on different days. The pitch for the older team had increased slightly due to FA regulations. Due to the dry summer the ground has needed substantial work before matches could be played. Fundamental have purchased new mobile football goals, Access for the footballers is now through the back of the pavilion. The boiler Service will take place on 1 December, hopefully the heating system will be mended. Incognitos are due on the 12 November to install the security upgrade. ii. The service level agreement for playground maintenance was discussed. It was agreed that following NCALC training undertaken that Cllrs Durn and Mark Reneerkens would carry out weekly checks and quarterly and annual checks would be undertaken by a specialised playground company. It was hoped that NNC would repair the playground flooring before responsibility is transferred over. iii. The clerk reported that the cricket club had reimbursed the Parish Council for their water usage.	
26/60	**Training:** Internet problems in the village resulted in Cllr Wensor not attending her training course.	
26/61	**Date of next meeting: 7 January 2027** Cllr Lora Lawman gave her apologies and reminded vulnerable residents of the importance of notifying utility companies of their situation. The meeting ended at 9.05pm.	

Signed Chairman: …… Date……