

LITCHBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at 7 pm in the Village Hall

TUESDAY 11th November 2025

1. **Councillors present – Cllrs Sykes, Aked-Walker, Lugar-Mawson, Drinkwater, Barrett and Cox, Cllr Charles Manners (WNC)**
2. **Cllr Barrett Signed Acceptance of Office**
3. **Apologies approved from: – Cllr Lowery**
4. **Members of the public present – 0**
5. **Public Forum** : Members of the public can raise any issue with prior notice to the Clerk - None
Cllr Manners reported from WNC:
 - i) DHL land at Towcester has been sold
 - ii) Shacks Barn land has been rejected, will probably appeal
 - iii) Local Plan – Housing Needs have not changed. The allocations to go to Cabinet. Plan to be completed by December 2026. WNC has a 5.5 year housing supply resulting in the need for about 10000 more homes in the whole area.
 - iv) Budget is tight – 70% is statutorily allocated already to Social costs.
 - v) The Northampton Museum currently has an interesting exhibition on the History of Northampton. The Ice rink planned for the town centre at Christmas will hopefully attract shoppers to the town.
 - Cllr Sykes thanked Cllr Manners for his input in getting Farthingstone Road repaired (improved!)
 - The Council also reported that that the refuse lorry collecting the bins in Litchborough at 11am on Tuesday 11th November disturbed the annual Remembrance service at the War Memorial. This was inconsiderate and disrespectful. Cllr Manners was asked to report this to the correct person in the Recycling teams so that such a disturbance is not repeated.
6. **Declarations of Interests – None**
7. **Minutes:** the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2025 were confirmed and signed.
8. **Ongoing Issues:** To report progress on, and to decide on any appropriate action on the following items:
 - **Defibrillator** – to receive update - Cllr Aked – Walker reported that the external light was out and he would arrange a repair.
 - **Website** - to receive update - the Clerk reported that the website was up to date and there were no issues. It was agreed the Cllr Barrett will liaise with the Clerk and be the Councillor involved with the Website. Cllr Barrett also agreed to liaise with the person who puts items on Facebook so the Council can add items if necessary.
 - **Footpaths and ROW** - to receive update - Cllrs Drinkwater and Cox reported that there were no issues – the latest report is on website.

Signed-----

Date-----

- **Snow and Tree Warden** – to receive update - Cllr Cox reported no issues.

9. Finance:

The following payment of accounts below were approved: (total of £1611.06)

Payee	Net	VAT	Total £	Ref No
1PCS – hosting of domain name & email July	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
1PCS – hosting of domain name & email – August	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
Bank Service chgs Sept, Oct	12.00	-	12.00	DD
R and G – Maintenance of play area – Sept, Oct	811.80	135.30	676.50	DDs
Information Commissioner – GDPR			52.00	DD
V Hartley – Salary for Oct and Nov	-	-	327.76	16
HMRC – Tax for Aug, Sept, Oct and Nov	-	-	107.60	17
N Power – electricity supplies, inv	231.62	11.58	243.20	18
B Osborne – payroll x6 April – Sept			144.00	19

Financial matters to note:

- Bank balance at 4.11.25 – £24089.79
- Report on Internal Control from Cllr Lowery – no issues raised. Books in order.
- It was agreed N Power payments for electricity supplies would be paid as invoices came in to avoid late payment charges which could arise between meetings
- The Council approved the purchase of Christmas tree for £150 by Cllr Aked Walker for the Green.

10. Playing Field grass cutting – Council to consider extending grass cutting into November.

It was agreed that one more cut should take place in November. Clerk to arrange payment and ensure Churchyard was not included.

11. Planning Applications and updates – One item on Planning Register:

Application No. Proposal Location 2025/4112/FULL Replace existing non original bay window with French doors flush to the existing house walls. Replacement of all existing white UPVC windows. Forge Cottage 35 Banbury Road Litchborough NN12 8JF

The Council had no objections to this application. Clerk to respond.

12. To note and action correspondence where necessary. Various updates circulated.

13. Council to Consider costs of Electric Charging for cars at the Village Hall. This was discussed – the Village Hall committee is not keen. It feels its use would be restricted and not sure who would do the administration. It was felt the 'catchment' would not be big enough. This item to be put on hold at present.

Signed-----

Date-----

14. Council to consider electricity provision – Cllr Lowery has been in correspondence with N Power. Council to consider to commit to a 3year agreement with N Power if they confirm a modest reduction in costs (probably only from £1071 to £995 per year). It was agreed that Cllr Lowery should commit the Council to this agreement.

15. Other matters for report only: To discuss issues arising too late for the agenda. No decisions can be taken.

- Cllr Cox was pleased to report that she had received a grant of £708 (to be paid to the Parish Council) from the Biodiversity Grant Project (through WNC) for her application for the Litchborough Hedgehog Highway and Nest Box Project
- It was agreed that quotes could be obtained for an extra length arm for one of the street lights in Towcester Road as it currently shines on the hedge not the path.
- Clerk to check and liaise with Cllrs Cox and Lugar-Mawson about course bookings (previously approved by Parish Council) with NCALC.

16. To receive any items for the next Parish Council agenda – Parish Council Budget will be discussed. Newsletter request for grant received.

17. Date next Full Council meeting - Tuesday January 20th 7.00pm