

LITCHBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

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

TUESDAY 13th January 2026

1. **Councillors present – Cllrs Aked-Walker - Chairman, Lugar-Mawson, Drinkwater, Barrett, Cox and Lowery, Cllr Charles Manners (WNC)**
2. **Apologies approved from: – Cllr Sykes, V Hartley - Clerk (present on phone)**
3. **Members of the public present – Cllr Manners reported from WNC:**
 - i) **Local Plan Consultation** – this has been published, setting out where houses will be built until 2043. Primary and secondary villages will be asked to have some. Confines will be altered slightly. Brackley and Towcester will also take a lot of building which could lead to transport issues. It is important that the plan is agreed by December 2026, otherwise the government could build where they liked in West Northants. WNC has to allow the building of 25% more housing than they have in the past 5 years.
 - ii) **Car Parking Charges** – may be introduced in Towcester and Brackley. Technically charges may only be set for traffic management purposes, not as a general income generation tool.
 - iii) **Potholes** – report potholes through Fix My Street. Encouraged Council to respond to the annual parish consultation survey.
4. **Public Forum** : Members of the public can raise any issue with prior notice to the Clerk - none
5. **Declarations of Interests** – none
6. **Minutes**: the minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2025 were confirmed. To be signed at the next meeting.
7. **Ongoing Issues**: To report progress on, and to decide on any appropriate action on the following items:
 - a. **Defibrillator** – to receive update - Cllr Aked – Walker reported that there were no issues
 - o **Website** - to receive update - the Clerk reported that the website was up to date and there were no issues.
 - o **Footpaths and ROW** - to receive update - Cllrs Drinkwater and Cox reported that there were no issues – the latest report is on website. Cllr Lowery stated that the Knightly Way footpath is impassable due to ploughing. Clerk to report to Fix My Street, Cllr Lowery will give Clerk the footpath number.
 - o **Snow and Tree Warden** – to receive update - Cllr Cox reported that there were no issues.
8. The following payments of accounts and direct debits since last meeting were approved **Total: £1365.32**
A Biodiversity grant of £708.00 had been received from WNC. Purchases had been made – bird boxes and hedgehog highway signs – see below

Signed-----

Date-----

Payee	Net	VAT	Total £	Ref No
Species Trust – hedgehog highway signs			490.00	20
RSPB – bird boxes			208.00	21
1PCS –hosting of domain name & email November	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
1PCS –hosting of domain name & email December	20.00	4.00	24.00	DD
Unity Bank charges Nov and Dec	12.00		12.00	DD
V Hartley – Salary for Dec + Jan	442.16		442.16	22
HMRC – Tax / NI for above	107.60		107.60	23
WNC _ Election costs	64.50		64.50	24
N Power Oct – Dec	366.72	18.34	385.06	25
D Aked -Walker – refund for Xmas tree	180.00		180.00	26
Rand G Landscapes	156.00		156.00	27

--- Added since agenda went out

9. The following budget and setting of the precept for year ending 31.3.27 was discussed.

Clerk previously circulated draft budget. (see below)

After discussion the Council agreed a budget figure of £13000. The Council then resolved to apply for a precept of £13000 to cover the budget. £2000 was added to cover the cost of maintaining the Playing Field

Financial matters to note:

- Bank balance at 31.12.25 – £23170.23
- Bank Balance after above payments made: £21804.91
- Council to consider paying N Power by Direct Debit and if agreed to complete form at next meeting

10. Planning Applications and updates – See Planning Register below – no items for consultation.

11. [Planning Register](#)

2025/4712/PND	Foxley Lodge Foxley Road Foxley NN12 8HP	Determination as to whether 18/11/2025 prior approval is required (under Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the above Order) for a general purpose agricultural building	16/12/2025	Prior Approval not required
2025/4714/PND	Foxley Lodge Foxley Road Foxley NN12 8HP	Determination as to whether 18/11/2025 prior approval is required (under Schedule 2, Part 6, Class A of the above Order) for an open fronted cattle shed	16/12/2025	Prior Approval not requ

Signed-----

Date-----

12. **To note and action correspondence where necessary.** Various updates circulated.
13. **Other matters for report only:** To discuss issues arising too late for the agenda. No decisions can be taken.
Cllr Cox reported on the Biodiversity Grant which had been received. A Tawny Owl box and 2 bird boxes had been purchased with the funds and the hedgehog signs had been received ready for installation by a Working Party planned in February. Northants Wildlife Trust will help with siting and they will also provide local biodiversity data.
14. **To receive any items for the next Parish Council agenda:**
Council to consider altering the arm length of 2 street lights in Towcester Road and Northampton Road at a cost of £650 altogether.
15. **Date next Full Council meeting Tuesday March 17th 2026 7.00pm**

Signed-----

Date-----