



DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 16 April 2025, Reading Room, Great Brington
www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

Present: Cllrs K White (Chair), J Milne (Vice Chair), R Gardner, M Roach and N Tompkins.

Also Present: The Clerk and Ward Cllrs Bignell and Morton and circa 9 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr S Beeusaert

Meeting Started at 7.45pm

18/2025	Welcome and Announcements	Action
	The Chair welcomed members of the public including the new Councillors who will join the Parish Council on the 6 May 2025.	
19/2025	To receive and approve apologies for absence Apologies had been received from Cllr S Beeusaert. These were agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
20/2025	Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda were received.	Clerk
21/2025	To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2025 The Minutes of the 19 March 2025 meeting were approved subject to amendments to be advised at Minute 07/2025 Reading Room Lease Update and Minute 14/2025 Play AreaX and would be signed at the next meeting; this was agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
22/2025	Public Participation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident advised that 2 pieces of Gym Equipment in Kimbells Field required repairing and she would forward the details to Cllr Tompkins and the Clerk. A resident asked if the Parish Council would be inviting local community groups to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting and the Chair responded that it was an Agenda item. A resident asked for clarification of the reason for a new Parish Council mobile phone and the Chair responded that it was an Agenda item. A resident asked why the Parish Council needed website support and the Clerk responded that it was part of the website contract to update and review the website content with the Clerk and to ensure the website security. 	
23/2025	To Note Reports The Councillors noted Reports from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Chair – reported that the site of the dog-bin in Hamilton Lane would be investigated by H Frampton of Althorp Estate as there was an issue about vehicles using the Lane. The Parish Clerk (at annex). West Northamptonshire Council Long Buckby Ward – It was reported that the road works at Gt Brington Road and the A428 towards East Haddon were not yet completed and the Ward Councillors had submitted a video to the contractors which identified the outstanding issues. Northamptonshire Police – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Tompkins advised that the Evergreens Club would contact Northamptonshire Police direct for a representative to give residents 1:1 basis to advice on on-line Fraud and general fraud issues. The Clerk advised that the Daventry & Rural AGM Police Report had been received and highlighted the main points. (At Annex) . 	Althorp Rep.

28/2025	Annual Parish Meeting Planning The Clerk circulated a draft agenda to Councillors with timings and stated that several local community organisations had been invited to speak and she was still awaiting responses from some of those contacted. The Church and Evergreens Group were suggested and Cllr Tomkins indicated she would provide contact details of the Evergreens.	Clerk
29/2025	To Consider Purchasing a New Parish Council Mobile Phone and Contract The Clerk advised that the current parish Council mobile phone no longer works and advised that she would investigate details of costs of a new one together with phone contracts details. This was agreed unanimously.	Clerk
30/2025	To Consider Making a Discretionary Grant to the Gardening Club. Discretionary Grant To consider granting a discretionary amount to Bringtons Open Gardens to support DACT Bus transport for elderly and infirm residents for an event. This would take the form of paying direct for the bus service. The Clerk referred to Minute 86/(16/10/2025) when it was agreed that a discretionary Grant to the Gardening Club was deferred until a specific item/s for the award were identified by the Gardening Club. Therefore it was agreed unanimously that the cost of £30 for the DACT bus be agreed for the Open Gardens Event.	Clerk
31/2026	To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Expenditure to Date and Approve Payments made in March 2025	
	i. The Payments and Receipts and Bank reconciliation for 31 March 2025 were approved unanimously. (At Annex) ii. The Vice Chair indicated that he had checked the Bank Account and confirmed the Bank Balances to 31 March 2025 (At Annex).	Clerk
32/2025	Play Area Equipment Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I was now completed and the specification for Phase II need to be worked up when the new Council was in place and in consultation with the school. Opening Event on 25 April – Earl Spencer had agreed to attend and the date was unanimously agreed by Councillors with a start time of 3.30pm. An email inviting residents had been sent and Awards for All publicity materials had been ordered and received. Consent forms for photographs for those under 18 years were supplied and the Chair confirmed that photographs would be shared with the school before any further publicity took place. The Clerk reported that the contract with Rhino Play specified that weekly and 3 monthly monitoring was required and it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Gardner would undertake this until the new Council roles and responsibilities were agreed. The Clerk was asked to contact Rhino Play and request any remaining materials from the installation be removed immediately. The Clerk advised that the second and final payment would not be paid until the credit notes for the Parish Council making good the site had been received. 	Clerk Clerk
33/2025	Volunteer Award The winner had not yet been notified. It was noted that when the winner had accepted, the result would be announced at the next meeting. It was unanimously agreed that the prize amount be £50 in nationally accepted vouchers.	Clerk

Meeting closed: 21.15pm

CLERKS REPORT

1.	Gardening Club Grant – In response to a question from a resident about a discretionary grant to the Gardening Club, this was reported at Minute 86/2024 of 16 October 2024.
2.	Parish Council Minutes – In response to a question from a resident about the style of the Council Minutes, members of the public do not have a right to force items onto the council agenda nor to insist on how matters are recorded in the minutes. Guidance about the Parish Council meetings is on the Council's website at Dec-2024-Public-Participation-at-Parish-Council-Meetings-Copy.pdf
3.	Website – The Clerk is meeting with the website contractor to develop some blog pages and other pages on the website, in early May.
3.	Damage to Brington Road – due to the Murphy Landslip project, Gt Brington Road and the A428 towards East Haddon requires repairs. Ward Cllr Bignell indicated that the February meeting that he was due to meet the contractors the next day and has now confirmed that the repairs have been carried out.
4.	Hamilton Lane Dog Bin – A resident has complained that the collection contractor was driving down Hamilton Lane and churning up the surface. The Contractor advised their vehicles have tracking devices and they had checked the data and there was no evidence of this. Althorp Estates advised that driving down the lane is not permitted. The Chair is conversation with Althorp Estates to resolve this.
6.	Annual Leave - The Clerk will be on Annual Leave from 22 April – 29 April 22 September – 26 September and 8 December - 22 December 2025 Inclusive,
7.	Time Sheets – The Clerk's Timesheet for year 2024-25 has been submitted to the Chair and Vice Chair for review and had been approved.
8.	New Council Year – This starts on 6 May 2025.
9.	Planning Application TPO at Althorp Coaching Inn -The Clerk contacted the applicant requesting clarification of the need to fell 14 mixed species trees when they could be cut back or pollarded ; they responded that: “ This application was submitted on advice from our arboricultural consultant and feedback from our neighbours at the premises. We will discuss your questions with our advisers. In the meantime, it might be worth making clear that we expect to manage the remaining hedgerow to provide enhanced habitat, biodiversity, and local amenity value in replacement of the trees”.
10.	Possible Memorial Cross Works - Project Viability & Project Development Grants are available from the Architectural Heritage Fund (From Rural Services Network Funding News April 2025 as below).

Item 10 - Project Viability & Project Development Grants – the Architectural Heritage Fund (From Rural Services Network Funding News April 2025)

The Fund is offering grants of up to £15,000 to help assess the viability of historic building projects, and up to £20,000 towards development work to progress plans for historic buildings.

- **Project Viability Grants:** These grants should help you to establish whether a project is viable. Work will probably focus on understanding the condition of the building, how it might be used, and whether that intended use is appropriate for the building and likely to be sustainable.
- **Project Development Grants:** Project Development Grants can cover some of the costs of developing and co-ordinating your project and taking it towards the start of work on site.
- To qualify, an organisation must have established that the end use of the project is likely to

- be viable and have decided to take the project forward.
- Applications are assessed at monthly grant decision meetings. This grant programme is supported by funding from Historic England.
England | The Architectural Heritage Fund (ahfund.org.uk)

Daventry & Rural AGM Police Report 2025

Daventry Town and surrounding area

PS Greg HARRISON continues to manage the team responsible for Daventry Town and its largest surrounding villages including Long Buckby, West Haddon and Crick. We are based at Daventry Police station and supported by the 24/7 response policing team also based at Daventry providing emergency response to the district.

Operation fragment

PS Josh ELLARD works on The Grange Estate as part of a partnership operation to tackle specific issues within the area.

Operation Fragment was originally established in response to the increase in youth related ASB, Criminal Damage and violence occurring on the Southbrook estate in Daventry. Following a successful year of working in the Southbrook area, focus shifted to The Grange Estate, also in Daventry. The geographical area of The Grange is similar to the Southbrook.

A similar model has and will be used within The Grange to try and improve the lives of the residents living in the area.

From the start of Operation Fragment, one of the key elements of success was always trying to get the community to talk to the police and engage more regularly. We have a number of mechanisms to communicate, including via the Northamptonshire Talking Application, a dedicated email inbox and face-to-face as we patrol on foot around the estate.

The key element to Operation Fragment is the partnership working. Representatives from the following agencies and groups meet monthly to monitor progress:

- West Northants Council
- Daventry Town Council
- YOS
- Fire (arson reduction)
- Housing (Futures / Bromford/ Southern)
- Community Safety Partnership (WNC)
- ASB officer (WNC)
- Community Development Team (WNC)
- Police (including local PCSOs)

Issues regularly discussed include Anti-social Behaviour, drug dealing, fly tipping and associated environmental issues, upcoming events in the communities and school inputs. Understandably, the police focus on all of the crime reports from the community, but we are often the eyes and ears who are out and about in the area the most. Therefore, we can report back to our partners on areas where they can come in and improve things.

Daventry Rural – North and West

PS Lewis JUDD oversees the wider rural areas, including Woodford Halse and Weedon, as well as the northern rural district covering Brixworth, Moulton, and the surrounding parishes. The team operates from both Daventry police station and our Brixworth office, ensuring a strong presence across the area. We are well-supported by the force's rural crime team, which has now expanded to six police officers and a police sergeant, who are dedicated to targeting the offences that have the greatest impact on our rural communities and farming sector.

Key Achievements and Initiatives:

- **Enhanced Patrols and Community Reassurance:**

This year has seen an increase in reported crimes, particularly thefts of and from motor vehicles in Moulton, Overstone, and Boughton. Officers have been conducting high-visibility patrols in these areas to prevent offences and reassure the community that we are addressing their concerns. Numerous arrests have been made, and stolen vehicles have been recovered and returned to their owners. The vast majority of these offences are committed by offenders from surrounding counties and more metropolitan areas. Increased efforts are being made to liaise with these forces and adopt a joint approach to prevent further victimization. We encourage anyone with a keyless entry or high-powered vehicle to research simple theft prevention devices, such as faraday bags, which block the key's signal and make the car harder to steal.

- **Intelligence-Driven Actions:**

Officers continue to act on intelligence provided by the community to disrupt offending and act where possible. Notable examples include a series of burglaries in Brixworth, resulting in the arrest of three suspects, one of whom has been sentenced to prison, while the other two are awaiting court appearances. We have also had success in disrupting organized crime groups active in the area. Successful drug warrants executed at Justin Park and Boughton resulted in the recovery and destruction of more than 500 cannabis plants and the remand of two individuals to prison.

- **Ongoing Crime Management:**

Officers on the team continually manage a crime workload allocated from the response teams, who may not have the same amount of time to devote to investigations. We see many offences involving dogs being dangerously out of control and encourage dog owners to consider obedience training and using a lead when walking around other people due to the unpredictable actions of dogs.

- **Community Engagement:**

Our community support officers are a key visible presence in the villages, keeping updated with the thoughts and feelings of the community. We strive to attend events that provide opportunities to engage with the public and understand what matters most to them. The PCSOs also maintain close working relationships with schools, care homes, and colleges in the area, addressing safeguarding concerns and building lasting relationships from a young age. Please take the opportunity to speak with any member of the team if you see them, they will be more than happy to address and concerns you have or offer crime prevention advice. We will be continuing to utilize the Beat Bus and plan in police surgeries across the area throughout the year.

- **Road Safety:**

Road safety remains a paramount priority for our team, with increased efforts dedicated to the detection of offences and the education of the public regarding road risks. Unfortunately, we have once again witnessed a number of fatal road traffic collisions across the district. A key contributing factor in most of these incidents has been one of the "Fatal Four" road traffic offences: speeding, driving under the influence of substances (alcohol or drugs), not wearing a seatbelt, and mobile device use.

In collaboration with the force's Safer Roads Team, which is responsible for the mobile speed camera van, our enforcement officers are equipped with handheld speed detection devices. Additionally, we utilize the extensive Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) network to proactively stop uninsured vehicles and remove them from the road.

If you would like to be kept up to date with crimes and police activity taking place on the local area we would encourage you to sign up for our community messaging service - <https://www.northamptonshiretalking.co.uk>

Should you wish to discuss a particular issue that is of concern to you or meet a member of your Neighbourhood policing team then please contact us using our team inbox: NeighbourhoodTeamDaventry@northants.pnn.police.uk

PLEASE DO NOT REPORT CRIMES VIA THIS EMAIL ADDRESS

Reporting an issue or crime to the Police can be made in a number of ways.

This includes ringing 101 or online at Northants.police.uk

Northants Police's new website offers a reporting system for:

- A road traffic incident
- Missing person – no immediate harm
- Terrorist activity
- Fingerprints appointments – this could be asked for when travelling abroad
- Hate Crime/ Incidents

So that your report can be managed as quickly as possible, it's important to consider the following information and have it ready to provide:

- the date and time the crime happened
- the location, such as address or road name along with the town or village
- a description of any people involved
- the details of any witnesses or suspects
- if you think there's any other evidence such as forensic evidence or mobile phone footage
- if there is clear CCTV footage of the offence being committed

The above reporting tool can be reached via: <https://www.northants.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

USEFUL LINKS

- Northamptonshire Police Website: <http://www.northants.police.uk/>
- Check if a vehicle is taxed or untaxed and report if necessary: <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax>
- Useful link for all matters related to driving: <http://think.direct.gov.uk/>
- This link will provide you with useful information to help protect yourself from scams: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/>
- Trading Standards – Advice and help for consumers: West Northants Trading Standards Contact Crime Stoppers anonymously about crime: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>
- Fearless - a site where young people can access non-judgmental information and advice about crime: <https://www.fearless.org/>
- Northamptonshire Neighbourhood Watch: <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk>
- Report to West Northants Council - Fly tipping, dog fouling, Litter, noise pollution and other issues: [West Northamptonshire Council](http://WestNorthamptonshireCouncil.org.uk)
- West Northants Council Advice on boundary disputes with neighbours: <https://www.ricsfirms.com/residential/legal-issues/boundaries/rics-consumer-guide-boundary-disputes/>

Thank you from Daventry & Rural Neighbourhood Teams

FINANCE REPORT

MINUTE 31/2025 REFERS

(a) Payments for Approval 16 April 2025

Supplier	code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
S Muir	BT	Salary April		741.76	0
S Muir	BT	HMRC April		261.69	0
NCalc	BT	Lunchtime APM Boosting Attendance	4399	12.00	2.00
NCalc	BT	Northants CALC Membership: YE 31 March 2026	4310	642.32	48.60
Compete 366	DD	365 data backed up via Microsoft Syntex	23822	3.98	0.66
Third Avenue	BT	Website Support (1 Month)	2333	62.40	10.40
R & G 121583 Invoice Date 31/03/2025	BT	Gang Mow, Triple Mow and Village Greens	121583	249.60	41.60
Rhino Play	BT	Second & Final Payment of 50% for Play Equipment & Installatoin	202110	14,212.20	2368.70
EON Energy	DD	Kimbles Pavilion Electricity Invoice	KI-EA4D0588-0039	9.93	0.47
Althorp Estates	BT	Rent at Playing Fields at Little Brington from 06/04/2025 to 05/04/2026	3603	120.00	20.00
Rhino Play(SW) Ltd	BT	Final 50% Invoice – waiting credit note so should be less	202110	14212.20	2368.70

(b) Receipts to Note Total

	Date	Detail		Invoice Total	
		Nil			Nil

(c) Bank Reconciliation at 31 March 2025

Nett balances as at 31/03/2025 (Year End) Bank Reconciliation					
Bank Balance		Cash Book			
Balance in Current Account YTD	16554.39	Opening Balance		35,837.59	
Value of payments yet to clear	0	Expenditure to date		-42,812.59	
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD	16643.29	Income to date		40,172.68	
		Total			
Total	£33,197.68			£33,197.68	