



**DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 16 July 2025, at the Reading Room, Great Brington**

Present: Cllr K White, (Chair), Cllrs N Tompkins, R Gardner, J James, D Kennedy, M Roach and R Welsford.

Also Present: Clerk and 2 members of public.

Apologies: Cllr S Beeusaert and Ward Cllrs, D Lister and C Morton

Meeting: Started at 7.45pm

74/2025	Welcome and Announcements Cllr White (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.	Action
75/2025	To receive apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllr S Beeusaert and Ward Cllrs, D Lister and C Morton and were agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
76/2025	To receive declarations for interest on items on the Agenda Cllr Tompkins advised a pecuniary interest in Item 14 (Finance) as she had submitted an expenses sheet and also personal Interest in Item 14 as she was related to a person working for a company to be paid. Cllr Roach advised a pecuniary interest in Item 14 (Finance) as he had submitted an expenses sheet.	Clerk
77/2025	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18 June 2025 These were agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
78/2025	Public Participation Cllr Roach advised that a resident had been cutting the grass on the War Memorial but this should not be done without an special order, and requested that R & G Landscaping be asked to pick up the grass clippings.	Clerk
79/2025	To Note Reports a)The Chair i. Reported with reference to the proposed road closure in the village that National Grid had received a deputation from The Althorp Coaching Inn, the Post Office and Althorp about the negative effect this would have on local businesses. The road closure has subsequently been reviewed and changed to advise that there will be access to residential services, the Pub, Post Office and Church. ii. He had asked Ward Cllr Morton to investigate why the roads in the villages had not been swept since last year. b) The Clerk – at Annex. c) Police – Cllr Welsford reported that PCSO Tara Cooksammy was hoping to visit the Parish during the following week. He also advised that he had agreed to take over as the Parish Neighbourhood Watch lead. d) Ward Councillors – a report had not been received.	
80/2025	Planning a) Applications i. 2025/2296/TPO NOTIFICATION OF TREE WORK AT 2 HAMILTON LANE GREAT BRINGTON NN7 4JJ Application too include T5: Yew - reduce on the house side by approx 1.5-2 metres. not reducing the height. T6: Oak - remove epicormic growth from the trunk and clean out the crown by removing deadwood broken spurs and one of any air of crossing branches where damage occurring. Deadline for Comments 21 July 2025. No objections were received.	

	<p>ii. 2025/2749/S73 at HOMEFIELD, NOBOTTLE ROAD, LITTLE BRINGTON, NN7 4HL for variation of condition 2 (drawings) of 2023/6584/FULL [Remove existing conservatory and replace with extension to kitchen and new front entrance] to change design of the extension. Deadline for Comments 7 August 2025.No objections were received</p> <p>b) To Note Previous Planning Application Decisions.</p> <p>These can be found at https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Search/Results</p> <p>c) To note Planning related issues (if any) and additional Planning Issues presented after publication of the Agenda.</p> <p>Councillors noted that the Draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) for West Northamptonshire Council's Planning Service Consultation was open until 23.59pm on Monday 25th August 2025. Details at Have your say on how people are involved in local planning - West Northamptonshire Council - Citizen Space</p>	
81/2025	<p>To Note Consultations from West Northamptonshire Council at West Northamptonshire Consultation Hub</p> <p>The Consultations were noted.</p>	
82/2025	<p>Environment</p> <p>a) Althorp</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Roach had advised the Clerk that the Dog Bin in Carriage Drive had been knocked off its post with some force as substantial screws had been used to fix it. H Frampton (Althorp) had advised by email that all the Althorp farm machinery access Carriage Drive from the Estate. Cllr Roach has now repositioned it. <p>b) Parish Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Cricket Pavilion - Cllr Roach had repaired the rotten Cricket Pavilion panels and advised that the building was beyond its structural life; the interior was not fit to be used and the building should be demolished and replaced with a community hub or similar. He had details of companies that could provide a turnkey structure to the Parish Councils' requirements. Cllr Kennedy indicated that a community consultation was required to ascertain residents views and that there were many grants available to fund this type of building. Cllr White indicated that residents would be consulted about the type and use of a building and reminded Councillors of the Glassthorpe Solar Farm S75 Community Fund (Minute 66/2024 of September 2024 refers). This could be used to support a loan such as a Public Works Board (PWB) Loan. ii. Cllr Roach had submitted photos of a damaged piece of Outdoor Gym Equipment. The Clerk has raised this with R & G Landscaping as it could have been knocked by the grasscutters, and asked Sunshine Gym for the costs of either repairing or replacing it. The Clerk will order a "Do Not Use" sign. iii. Cllr Roach has repaired the other damaged exercise bike at the outdoor gym. 	Clerk
83/2025	<p>Reading Room Sub Committee</p> <p>Cllr Roach had tried unsuccessfully to arrange the first meeting of the sub-committee and consequently Cllr Tompkins volunteered to be a substitute Councillor if required, this was agreed unanimously .</p> <p>Cllr Roach to check the availability of the Reading Room on the 30 July 2025 from 7.45pm and confirm.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy indicated that 3 members of the public should be invited to stand on the sub-committee with sub-committee voting rights, this was agreed unanimously.</p> <p>The Reading Room Trustees confirmed that the recent Breakfast Club was well attended and that they now had a Facebook group.</p> <p>The Parish Council sought Residents comments on future Parish Council Projects</p>	Cllr Roach/Clerk

	and ideas at the event and this had been quite successful. The comments were being evaluated and a “You Said, We Did” article would be included in the next newsletter.	
84/2025	Play Area Equipment Working Group Cllr Tompkins stated that the Working Group had met and it was apparent that more input was required from the post primary school age children and young people in the village. Cllr Tompkins had visited other play areas and schools in the vicinity to see which equipment was popular. Several ideas had come forward for equipment that included a Zip Wire and Football/ Rugby goal posts. A shelter would not meet the requirement of the Grant. Other funding could be also be sought from organisations such as the Football Foundation and WNC and this should be investigated. The Clerk reminded that a contingency amount should be included in the budget.	Working Group
85/2025	Remembrance Day Working Group. Cllr Kennedy advised that an article would be included in the imminent Village Newsletter to inform residents. He was also planning to speak to the History Group and the Vicar for ideas and support.	Working Group
86/2025	Finance To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Expenditure to Date and Approve Payments to be made in July 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Payments and Receipts for July 2025 were approved unanimously.(At Annex) • The Bank Reconciliation was noted and the Bank Balances were agreed by the Chair (At Annex) 	Clerk
87/2025	To consider if Bringtons Parish Council met the criteria for eligibility at this particular point in time to Adopt the General Power of Competence The Councillors noted that the Council met the criteria to be eligible to adopt the General Power of Competence as noted in the Agenda report, this was that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least two thirds of its total number of councillors had been elected at a parish council election (all 8 had been elected at the May 2025 election); and • The Clerk held the CILCA qualification including Module 7 General Power of Competence. As the Parish Council met both of these conditions at this point in time, it was proposed and agreed by all that the Council adopted the General Power of Competence, to be reviewed annually.	Clerk
88/2025	To Adopt the Council’s Revised Standing Orders 2025 The Council agreed the changes that had been made at the working group meeting and unanimously decided to adopt the Revised Standing Orders 2025.	Clerk
89/2025	To Adopt the Council’s Revised Financial Regulations 2025 The Council agreed the changes that had been made at the working group meeting and unanimously decided to adopt the Revised Financial Regulations 2025.	Clerk
90/2025	To adopt the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme It was reported that this had been discussed at the working group meeting and no changes had been made it was therefore unanimously agreed to adopt the Freedom of Information Publication Scheme.	Clerk

Meeting Closed 21.10

1.	Play Area Costs – In response to a question from Cllr James, subject to a small Expenses Claim being received, the cost to date of Phase I of the project £28,142.04 Net. The decisions with reference to the award of the contract were minuted at: Minute 88/2024 of 16 October 2024 / Minute 121/2024 dated 15 January 2025 / Minute 14/2025 of 19 March 2025. Cllr James has also been advised by email.
2.	Mowing of Back Lane Verges - Back Lane Verges reported to WNC on Ref 7752396 23/06/2025.
3.	Bark Chippings from West Northamptonshire Council, have been offered to the adjacent school however they do not have a need for them.
4.	Mobile Phone has been purchased from Amazon together with a charging adaptor.
5.	<p>Mediaeval Village Cross –</p> <p>a. The Clerk has emailed Historic England advising the that the Cross is in need of repair. The response was: Thank you for your email which has been passed onto the Midlands Region. I passed your query onto our Inspector of Historic Buildings and Areas for Northamptonshire, and he advises that the Local Planning Authority is the best point of contact, as they have powers to request repairs be carried out by or at the expense of the property owner (s.215 of the Town and Country Planning Act.). I will also pass this email onto our Heritage at Risk team to see if the memorial may be deemed 'at risk'. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any other questions.</p> <p>b. Those who have quoted have been contacted advising them that the project is on hold.</p> <p>c. A copy of the Land Registry documents has been circulated to Councillors and Village Greens registration document NHLE 1018840 from WNC is the same one used on the Land Registration document</p>
6.	Councillor Training The NCALC training newsletter including access to the Training Video Library had been circulated to Councillors
7.	<p>Outdoor gym equipment, in Kimbells Field The replacement parts from Sunshine Gym have been ordered for delivery to Cllr Roach to fit. 1 x BX/SG BSP-SUN Foot pedal and arm for Arm & Pedal Bike = £75.00 ex VAT Carriage = £10.00 Total (ex VAT) = £85.00</p>
8.	Eon / Cricket Pavilion Electricity Copies of the Meter reading have been emailed to EON.
9.	<p>Cricket Pavilion – Cllr Roach had supplied photos of the rotten wall of the Pavilion and this is an item on the agenda. Cllr Roach has carried out an emergency temporary repair. The DO NOT CLIMB signs have been put up on the Pavilion by Cllr Roach.</p>
10.	West Northamptonshire Council - Assistant Chief Executive Rebecca Purnell, to leave the Authority and the end of July.
11.	HGV Signs – the Request for 3 at locations advised by Cllr Roach has been forwarded to Keir (on behalf of WNC) – see attached.
12.	Churchyard Mowing – Brian Warren has confirmed that it has been carried out by R & G.
13.	Annual Audit – PKF Littlejohn (External Auditor) asked for clarification of the Variances from the 2023-25 Audit, This had not been raised by the Internal Auditor. The Clerk has confirmed that these were the Grant Finding from Awards for All (£15000) and the amounts spent replacement / refurbishment of Parish Assets of the Play Area, Dog bins, Notice Board and Benches.

FINANCE REPORT

MINUTE 86/2025 REFERS

(a) Payments for Noting and Approval 16 July 2025

Supplier	code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
S Muir	BT	Salary July & Approved Additional Hours April -June 2025	0	1043.42	0
S Muir	BT	S Muir HMRC to 5 August	0	143.40	0
S Muir	BT	Clerk Expenses (July 2025) inc Mobile Phone	16/07/25	182.14	0
Third Avenue	BT	Website Support (1 Month)	2396	62.40	10.40
Althorp Estates	BT	Rich Faulkner Repairs as agreed - Minute 129/2024 of 19/02/2025 refers	0178	996.00	166.00
R & G Invoice Date 30/06/25	BT	Gang Mow, triple Mow Village Greens	121866	391.20	65.20
Reading Room Trustees	BT	Room Hire – Policy Working Group 24 Jun 2025 - 2.5 hrs	250605	20.00	0
ICO	DD	Data Protection Fee	Z2328707	52.00	
SLCC	BT	Annual Subscription	MEM254858	160.00	0
EON Electricity	DD	Cricket Pavilion Electricity Supply	KI-EA4D0588-0044	31.62	1.51
Cllr M Roach	BT	Expenses Cricket Pavilion Materials for repair	Expenses Voucher	103.44	17.24
Cllr N Tompkins	BT	Expenses for Play Area Event & APM Refreshments	Expenses Voucher	122.09	
D M Payroll	BT	Payroll Admin	INV-4463	72.00	12.00

(b) Receipts to Note 16 July 2025

	DD			
	Date	Detail		Bank Credit Total
Barclays Bank	02/06/2025	Bank Interest March – June 2025		74.76
HMRC VAT Refund	23/06/2025	VAT Refund 2024-25		5451.19

(c) Bank Reconciliation at 30 June 2025

Nett balances as at 30/06/2025				
Bank Reconciliation				
Bank Balance		Cash Book		
Balance in Current Account YTD	£27,608.45	Opening Balance	33,197.88	
Value of payments yet to clear	0	Expenditure to date	-23984.54	
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD	£3,570.05	Income to date	21,965.16	
		Total		
Total	£ 31,178.50		31,178.50	