



DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
held on Wednesday 17 September 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 9 members of public.

Apologies: Cllr S Beeusaert and Ward Cllrs D Lister

Meeting: Started at 7.45pm

91/2025	Welcome and Announcements Cllr White (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.	Action
92/2025	To receive apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllr S Beeusaert and Ward Cllr D Lister and were agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
93/2025	To receive declarations for interest on items on the Agenda Cllr Tompkins advised a personal interest in Item 16 (Finance) as she was related to a person working for a company to be paid. Cllr Kennedy advised a personal interest in Item 16 (Finance) as he was a volunteer with a payee (DACT Transport).	Clerk
94/2025	Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 16 July 2025 These were agreed by acclamation.	Clerk
95/2025	Public Participation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A resident asked the Parish Council to consider installing Speed Warning Devices in both villages as there was a considerable increase in traffic volumes and speeds. They stated percentage evidence from the Police monitoring carried out did not give a true picture of the issue. Following a discussion Cllr Welsford commented that although the Council needed empirical evidence that there was a problem, it could investigate 20mph advisory signs although a consultation would need to take place to canvass opinion of where these should be sited to be most effective. 2. A resident raised that several footpaths from Little Brington were unusable as the fields had been reseeded but the footpaths had not be reinstated not and asked that Althorp Estates reinstate them. A list was handed to the Clerk. 3. The Chantry Chair advised that following the vacancy in Wardles Court that was circulated earlier in the year, a new tenant who was moving back to the village, had been approved by the Housing Association. 4. A resident raised that it wasn't clear that the decision process and procedure for purchase of the Parish Council Mobile Phone had been followed. In response to this, the Parish Council had investigated several models from £183 to £599 but the Council was satisfied that the cheapest model had been purchased and complied with Para 5. of the Councils adopted Financial Regulations. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
96/2025	To Note Reports a) The Chair The Chair stated that he nothing to report.	

	<p>b) The Clerk – In addition to the report at the Annex, the Clerk advised that she would be relocating to Cornwall in early 2026 and would forward a revised copy of the Clerk & RFO Job Description to the Chair and Vice Chair to comment.</p> <p>c) Police – A report had not been received</p> <p>d) Ward Councillors – Ward Cllr Morton indicated that he would forward a copy of the WNC Ward Councillors to the Clerk for circulation.</p>	Clerk
97/2025	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Planning Applications</p> <p>i. Planning Applications 2025/3212/FULL and 2025/3019/NMA at The Green Nobottle Road Little Brington NN7 4HJ For Demolition of existing outbuildings to the rear, construction of a single-storey rear extension, replacement of all windows to the main house, and rebuilding of the existing garage, and Amendment to external materials to incorporate stone slips and timber cladding, along with minor alterations to window openings. Extension to Comments Deadline Requested to 22 September 2025. Councillors stated that the changes were out of sight and mostly concerned the internal layout although the changes to the front were fine. No objections were recorded.</p> <p>ii. Planning Application 2025/3432/TCA at Birchfield Farmhouse Hamilton Lane Great Brington NN7 4HZ for Works to Various Trees Deadline for Comments 22 September 2025</p> <p>iii. Planning Application 2024/0672/MAO Land North West Of, Upper High Street, Harpole for Hybrid planning application comprising: Full planning application for the demolition of existing buildings, erection of 100 dwellings including vehicular and pedestrian connection points, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, drainage, diversion of bridleway KP1 and other associated infrastructure. Outline planning application (all matters reserved except for internal access) for the erection of 350 dwellings, public open space, pedestrian and cycle links, play area, drainage, landscaping and all other associated works.</p> <p>It was proposed and unanimously agreed to object and the following comments to be submitted to WNC Planning “Bringtons Parish Council agreed at its meeting on 17 September 2025 to object on the grounds that there is no Traffic Management Plan or Traffic Modelling as requested by the Parish Council in the previous consultation on this Planning Application. There will clearly be a massive impact of increased traffic on Roman Road, Nobottle Little Brington and Great Brington whilst the development is built out and traffic is diverted through our villages to the A428 and the A5. It is well known that drivers take the quickest, shortest route and not the one that Planners imagine they will take. There needs to more roundabouts added to the suggested roads to control traffic and the speeds. The roads in the villages are narrow and congested with on street parking; increased volumes of traffic and traffic speeds are already the most important issue of concern to our residents and this will add to the problems. None of the issues that the Parish Council have raised in previous consultations on this application appear to have been addressed e.g. lack of information about support for Health and Education infrastructure”</p> <p>b. Previous Planning Application Decisions. The previous planning application decisions at https://wnc.planningregister.co.uk/Search/Results were noted</p> <p>c. Planning related issues (if any). Application Reference: 184/AT/PB/25 Oak Tree NN7 4JL - Caravan and Motorhome Club (CMC), to operate a small low impact 5 berth site for exclusive use of the Caravan and Motorhome Club at a site on the Long Buckby Road from East Haddon Road Consultation extended to 17</p>	Clerk

	<p>September 2025</p> <p>The Councillors heard from residents who indicated that there would be noise and light pollution, the site had a history of flooding, it was not believed that there would be safe access from Long Buckby Road which had grass verges and few passing places, the site would be smaller than 0.5 acres advised so could not accommodate 5 caravans, there were covenants on the proposed site that restricted the use, there would be increased traffic on Long Buckby Road and there was insufficient waste and water provision and facilities on the site.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Cllr Kennedy for his research on the licence application. Following a discussion, It was proposed and unanimously agreed Bringtons Parish Council objected to the granting of a licence at this site for the following reasons:</p> <p>Land Covenants The Parish Council was aware that there are Covenants on the land of the proposed site that restrict the use. Shared Access It was not clear if the access was a shared access then the consent of anyone sharing that access will be required and of course the person establishing the CL must have the legal ownership rights to do so. Size of Site The site would appear to be significantly smaller than 0.5 acres with only about a third of an acre of flat land suitable for siting caravans and would suggest maximum of 3 vans on the site. Noise and Light Pollution issues have not been considered. The site is in a rural area and there is little shielding from noise and light pollution from the caravans using the site. The residents of Whilton Road rightly have concerns about visual amenity and noise transmission from the site and the absence of any information on how that would be mitigated and controlled is a major concern. Flooding: The site has a history of flooding during heavy rain, both on Long Buckby Road and the surrounding fields. The road is above the level of the site so rain runs off the road onto the site as there are no ditches.</p> <p>Safe Vehicle Access The Long Buckby Road was single track and had no designated passing spaces near the site, the verges are quite soft and the potential for larger non-agricultural vehicles to get stuck if forced to use the verge was significant. It was not believed that there was safe access from the site to Long Buckby Road with good visibility in both directions on exit. The entrance and exit from the site using the existing track required a very tight turn onto or off the road if entering from or exiting to the East, with increased potential to get stuck The increase in traffic movement on Long Buckby Road would add to the poor condition of the road surface. Facilities It was not believed that the site currently had sufficient facilities and that the provision of drinking water etc required major works yet to be commissioned. The Parish Council was not aware that authorisation had been obtained to use a septic tank. It was not clear what, if any, consultation had taken place with water and waste providers or what the plans were for chemical waste. The Parish Council were are not aware of any application to install a sealed tank. Waste and recycling bins also needed to be provided, and the Parish Council needed clarification that this was not considered as trade waste.</p>	Clerk
98/2025	<p>To Note Consultations from West Northamptonshire Council at West Northamptonshire Consultation Hub</p> <p>The Consultations were noted.</p>	
99/2025	<p>Environment</p> <p>a) Althorp</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Clerk reported that the Althorp Rep. had advised that the War Memorial Railings would be painted and the Clerk advised she would ask if it would be done before Remembrance Day and that they also be cleaned. 	Clerk/Althorp

	<p>2. It was suggested that Earl Spencer and a WNC Deputy Lieutenant be invited to the event..</p> <p>b) Parish Council</p> <p>i. Kimbells Field Outdoor Gym</p> <p>It was noted that the annual H&S Inspection had been arranged for September with Wicksteed Leisure.</p>	<p>Clerk/Althorp</p> <p>Clerk</p>
100/2025	<p>Reading Room Sub Committee Update</p> <p>Cllr Roach had arranged the first meeting for 28 August 2025 however it was adjourned as the meeting was not quorate. Cllr Roach advised that he had invited the Reading Room Trustees through the acting Chair to attend but no representatives were present.</p> <p>Following a discussion it was noted the Cllr Roach would arrange a further 2 or 3 dates for the end of October and contact the trustees individually for their availability.</p> <p>It was also noted that the a list of topics and division of responsibilities from both the Trustees and Parish Council would be included on the agenda as it was felt there was currently a disconnect between the two organisations.</p> <p>Cllr White (Chair) commented that that the Parish Council wished to engage with the Reading Room Trustees and ensure that the Parish Council's responsibilities as leaseholder were met and to ensure the future of the Reading Room as a community facility.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy stated that a management agreement was required to set out the responsibilities of each and to ensure due diligence on the part of the Parish Council to protect public money and the asset as the Parish Council had spent £2240 so far in the current financial year and £2145 in the previous financial year in rent and back rent to Althorp Estates and electrical maintenance work; all concerned wanted a good working relationship and for the Reading Room to be a successful community asset.</p>	<p>Cllr Roach</p> <p>Reading Room Sub Comm./ Clerk</p>
101/2025	<p>Play Area Equipment Working Group Update</p> <p>Cllr Tompkins stated that the Working Group were consulting with Wicksteed Leisure and others to talk thought H&S concerns would it be decided to proceed with having a zip wire. It was noted that there would be public liability issues and that the funding from Awards for All was required to be spent by Autumn 2026.</p> <p>The Clerk indicated that she would contact the Parks Trust in Milton Keynes who had many similar installations.</p>	<p>Working Group/Clerk</p>
102/2025	<p>Remembrance Day Working Group.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy reported that the Church was willing to work with the Parish Council in organising the Remembrance Day event.</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to contact Althorp Estates to invite Earl Spencer to attend.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy indicated that the Parish Council involvement in Remembrance this year and in future years be limited to organising a gathering for anyone who wants to attend a silence at the Memorial at 11am on the 11th, and the laying a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council on Remembrance Sunday, as part of the Church organised Act of Remembrance at the Memorial that day.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy proposed that the Parish Council order 2 x 17 inch wreathes, one on behalf of the Parish Council and one on behalf of the History Society at a cost of from the Legion is £20 plus delivery from the British Legion and this was unanimously agreed.</p> <p>It was note that Orders after the 23rd October cannot be guaranteed to arrive in time for Remembrance Sunday.</p> <p>The Clerk suggested that a WNC Deputy Lieutenant also be invited.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
103/2025	<p>To Note New Pay Scales for Parish Clerks</p> <p>It was noted that the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) had reached an agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. They encouraged employers to implement the pay award as</p>	

	<p>soon as possible.</p> <p>It was also note that the new hourly rate for the BPC Clerk & RFO at Grade SCP 24 had been increased from £18.26 at 1 April 2024 to £18.85 at 1 April 2025 backdated to 1 April 2025.</p>	
104/2025	Finance	
	<p>To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Approve Payments made for September 2025</p> <p>The Payments for February 2025 were approved unanimously and the Bank reconciliation was noted.(At Annex)</p> <p>The Bank Balances at 17 September 2025 were noted as Business Premium Account £1989.44 and the Community Account as £4764.30.</p> <p>Cllr Roach queried the EON Electricity Invoice for the Cricket Pavilion as he felt this was incorrect based on the meter readings he had taken.</p> <p>Following a discussion about the necessity of electricity at the Pavilion, Cllr Roach indicated he would contact EON and investigate the costs for discontinuing the supply.</p> <p>The Clerk indicated that she had been in correspondence with Utility Solutions on behalf of NCALC who had negotiated the street lighting contact with the Tomato Electricity as she was not satisfied with the amount that was being charged.</p> <p>It was proposed and agreed unanimously to pay a contribution to the hire of DACT bus for the Open Gardens 2026 for up to £200.00.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Roach</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
105/2025	<p>i To note the proposal of an Anonymous donation from villager of circa £30,000 for a standalone project and</p> <p>ii To consider ideas for the best use of this donation.</p> <p>The Parish Councillors discussed the generous proposal of the donation and raised concerns about the legal requirements and red tape that it would have to satisfy in order to accept it, as it was not as straight forward as first appreciated.</p> <p>It was felt that the easiest and quickest option would be for the resident to choose the best option that they felt would benefit the parish and arrange for it to be achieved bearing in mind that the Parish Council did not own any land in the village and permission from Althorp Estates would be required.</p> <p>Cllr Tompkins indicated that she would discuss this further with the resident and explain the Parish Council's position to them.</p>	Cllr Tompkins
106/2025	<p>i To Note the Draft Budget 2025-2026 to date</p> <p>ii To consider items or projects to be included in the budget.</p> <p>The Clerk indicated that she would re-draft the budget on a spread sheet supplied by Cllr James and bring the item back to Council for further discussion.</p> <p>It was noted that the budget informed the amount of Parish Precept that was required to be requested for 2026-27 from WNC at the January 2026 meeting of the Council.</p>	Clerk
107/2025	<p>To Note the NALC Briefing Note L02-23 - Removal of legal restriction on expenditure on church buildings etc</p> <p>The NALC Briefing Note L02-23 - Removal of legal restriction on expenditure on church buildings etc was noted.</p>	

108/2025	To consider adopting the Draft Retention of Documents Policy 2025 Cllr Kennedy indicated that all Parish Council documents such as leases and agreements should be held ad infinitum in hard copy in addition to electronic copy and this be made clear in the policy.	
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Meeting Closed 21.45

CLERKS REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE LIST

Minute 96/2025b refers

1.	Additional HGV Signage No response has been received from Keir to the Clerk's email and this has been chased.
2.	Outdoor gym equipment, in Kimbells Field a quote for replacement for the damaged item has been requested from Sunshine Gym
3.	For Information - Memorial Cross BRAMM (British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons) reported a fatal accident at a memorial cross in Lancashire.
4.	Footpath at Vicarage - Cllr Welsford reported that Rev. Andrea asked who has responsibility for maintaining this public footpath down the side of her vicarage? She's sure it's not her and wants to stop mowing it. This is not on the R&G Grounds Maintenance and will be reported to WNC when the <i>what3words</i> location is advised – it was noted that this was Polka.Auro.Steeped
5.	Defibrillator Batteries. An order for the replacement batteries has been submitted to the supplier (Payments List refers)
6..	Uncontested Election Fees – The WNC Election Manager has advised that we will be invoiced for £149.52 which covers Admin Fees for Legal Notices, Poll Cards and Checking nomination papers.
7.	Reading Room Sub Committee – The meeting had been arranged for 27 August 2025 however it was inquorate and did not proceed.
8.	The Clerk will be on annual leave from 22/09/2025 to 26/09/2025 inclusive.

PAYMENTS LIST at 17 September 2025

Minute 104/2025 refers

1. Payments for Noting 17 Sept 2025

Supplier	code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
S Muir	BT	Salary August	0	494.47	0
S Muir	BT	S Muir HMRC to 5 September	0	123.80	0
S Muir	BT	Expenses		91.07	6.23
Third Avenue	BT	Website Support (1 Month)	2410	62.40	10.40
Rich Faulkner	BT	Additional Electric Repairs Reading Room	INV-0204	941.00	156.83
R & G Invoice Date 30/06/25	BT	Kimbells Field , gang mow, triple Mow Village Greens	121866	249.60	41.60
EON	DD	Cricket Pavilion	KCR- EA4D0588- 0009	53.82	
TOMATO Electricity	DD	Street Lamps Electricity Supply unmetered	NAPEXWY- NAPEXWY	7.74	1.55
TOMATO Electricity	DD	1100039910750 Meter Serial Number UNMETERED SUPPLY	10940398723	329.61	15.70
Rhino Play Ltd	BT	Balance Outstanding	202110	192.00	38.40
Intermedical UK Ltd	BT	Defibrillator Batteries	199505	208.80	34.80
Althorp Estates	BT	Reading Room Rent Q3	4390	270.00	45.00.

(b) Receipts to Note Total

	DD			
	Date	Detail		Bank Credit Total
				No Receipts

BANK RECONCILIATION

Nett balances as at 31/08/2025				
Bank Reconciliation				
Bank Balance		Cash Book		
Balance in Current Account YTD	£5,518.05	Opening Balance	33,197.88	
Value of payments yet to clear	0	Expenditure to date	-30,036.54	
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD	£19,608.45	Income to date	21,965.16	
		Total		
Total	£ 25,126.50		25,126.50	