



**DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held on Wednesday 21 January 2026, at the Reading Rooms, Great Brington**

**Present:** Cllrs K White (Chair), N Tompkins (Vice Chair), S Beeusaert, R Gardner, D Kennedy and M Roach

**Also Present:** Ward Cllr C Morton, Clerk and 2 members of public.

**Apologies:** Cllrs J James and R Welsford.

**Meeting:** Started at 7.45pm

<b>152/2026</b>	<b>Welcome and Announcements</b> Cllr Tompkins (Vice Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.	<b>Action</b>
<b>153/2026</b>	<b>To receive apologies for Absence</b> Apologies were received from Cllrs J James and R Welsford. These were agreed unanimously.	Clerk
<b>154/2026</b>	<b>To receive declarations for interest on items on the Agenda</b> Cllr Tompkins advised a pecuniary interest in the Finance item and the Draft Budget item as she was related to a payee. Cllr Kennedy advised pecuniary interest in the Budget item as he was a volunteer at DACT. Cllr Gardner advised pecuniary interest in Planning Application 025/5222/Cond as he was the applicant.	Clerk
<b>155/2026</b>	<b>Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 19 November and 10 December 2025</b> The Chair requested that corrections be made as notified and the Draft Minutes be brought to the February meeting.	Clerk
<b>156/2026</b>	<b>Public Participation</b> No members of the public spoke. Cllr Kennedy reported that several footpaths had been blocked of and Cllr White indicated he would investigate footpaths with the Footpaths Warden and report the What 3 Words locations to Althorp Estates.	Chair
<b>157/2026</b>	<b>To Note Reports</b> b) <b>The Chair</b> – Indicated that works at the Manse would complete by December 2026 and a resident had reported an issue with verges being damaged by vehicles and Cllr White had spoken to the property owner about this. The Chair also indicated that he had spoken to the Community Liaison Officer at WNC with reference to speed data for up to 2024 and she was very confident that these were correct, however it was noted that Sandy Lane was closed at that time. c) <b>The Clerk</b> – At Annex - The Clerk indicated that she had requested a plumbing quote for the flooding issue at the Cricket Pavilion however Cllr Gardner indicated that he would be able to cap the pipes off . d) <b>Ward Councillors-</b> WNC Budget Consultation end on 3 February 2026 and Council Tax was estimated to go up by 4.99% mainly due to the increasing Adult and Children’s Social Care costs. Parking charges may be introduced in some areas e) <b>Police</b> – No report Received	

158/2026	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>1.Planning Applications</b></p> <p>a. <a href="#">2025/5222/COND</a> at The Woodyard East Haddon Road Great Brington NN7 4UQ for Discharge of Conditions Variation of condition 2Deadline for Comments 05/02/2025. Cllr Gardner having declared an interest took no part in the item. Councillors noted the there would be swift and bat boxes and a hedgehog house. No objections were recorded.</p> <p>b. Cllr Gardner returned to the meeting  <a href="#">2025/5261/LBC</a> at 18 Main Street Little Brington NN7 4HS for listed building consent for installation of wood burning stove, chemical injection damp proof course in principal elevations (retrospective). Removal of existing first floor rear uPVC window and replacement with timber casement window Deadline for Comments 05/02/2025. No objections were recorded.</p> <p>c. <a href="#">2025/5267/S73</a> at Workshop And Premises East Haddon Road Great Brington NN7 4JF for Variation of condition This is a consultation on the above. Deadline for comments 30/01/2026.  Councillors noted that the site was becoming overdeveloped as the original application did not represent what had been built with the inclusion of a garden store and that a landscape plan was required to show screening for the proposed swimming pool to alleviate noise and sight for surrounding neighbours.  Cllr Kennedy proposed Parish Council object to the Planning Application as this development has grown incrementally since first approved and due to the size, location and materials used for the garden store.  The Parish Council can also evidence that building work has started before the Planning Application has been approved.  The Parish Council require a revised application to include a garden store due to its size, location near a road and use of unsympathetic materials and a detailed landscape plan for the proposed swimming pool with semi mature trees to alleviate sound and views from surrounding properties.  Seconded: Cllr White Agreed: All</p> <p>d. <a href="#">2026/0188/LDP</a> Proposed Lawful Development Certificate At The Green Nobottle Road Little Brington NN7 4HJ for Replacement of existing windows with new UPVC flush casement windows on the front and other elevations. No objections recorded.</p> <p>2. To Note: Previous Planning Application Decisions, available at <a href="https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Search/Results">https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/Search/Results</a></p> <p>3. To consider a response to the WNC Local Plan Consultation <a href="#">WNC planning-policy/new-local-plan-west-northamptonshire</a></p> <p>Cllr Kennedy proposed that support for a village boundary for Bringtons be included in the Plan to protect the open spaces in the Parish including Kimbells Field from development, Seconded by Cllr Gardner and agreed by all.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
159/2026	<p><b>To Approve the Appointment of the new Clerk/RFO</b></p> <p>The Chair introduced the new Clerk and she gave a brief resume of her experience to date, answered questions from Councillors and then left the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Kennedy proposed that the there was obligation to support the Clerk in a pension scheme such as the Local Government Pension Scheme and the NJC salary band quoted should be amended to be from 22 to 26. This was agreed by acclamation.</p> <p>Cllr White indicated he would amend the contract and letter of appointment accordingly.</p>	<p>Chair.</p>
160/2026	<p><b>Update from the Reading Room Sub Committee</b></p> <p>Cllr Roach commented that the outside entrance door to the Reading Rooms required repairs as it was sticking and parts were rotting and he would contact</p>	<p>Cllr Roach</p>

	Althorp Estates to have this repaired. Cllr Kennedy confirmed a meeting of the sub committee had taken place in late November 2025.	
<b>161/2026</b>	<b>Update from Althorp Estates</b> Helen Burvill reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Althorp Estate had reported their comments about the Road Closures TTRO(25/26) W927 - Flore Road, Little Brington and Brington Road, Flore Road Closure and TTRO(25/26) W951 - Nobottle Road, Harpole and Little Brington, to WNC.</li> <li>The Literacy Festival was scheduled to take place 8-10 May and tickets would be on sale in March.</li> <li>Cllr White commented that the closed shop in Little Brington was falling into disrepair and asked that Althorp Estate plans were for maintaining this type of property.</li> <li>She would check the issues with the closed footpaths.</li> </ul>	Althorp
<b>162/2026</b>	<b>Play Area Working Group Update</b> Cllr Tompkins reported that she had circulated the Draft Play Policy and Play Area Risk Assessment to Councillors for comment and inclusion on the February agenda Cllr Tompkins also indicated that she would be meeting with Wicksteed Leisure on site to discuss the proposal and quote for the addition of a Zip Wire and all were welcome to attend and she would circulate details of the meeting. The Clerk indicated that a contingency amount was required to be included in the amount budgeted for this.	All/Clerk
<b>163/2026</b>	<b>To Note the Bank Reconciliation and Approve Payments made for January 2026</b> Subject to receiving clarification from the Clerk about a payment to Microsoft and not McAfee the Payments for January 2025 with the addition of the HMRC & NI and the outgoing Clerk's expenses were approved unanimously and the Bank reconciliation was noted.(At Annex). Cllr Roach asked to be added to the EON Electricity contact email and stated that the meter has not yet been de-commissioned.	Clerk
<b>164/2026</b>	<b>a. To approve the 2026-2027 Draft Budget</b> Following a discussion about the proposed Budget and noting that lines for Contribution to Reserves Property Maintenance and Provision for Clerk Necessary Additional hours had been added, it was agreed unanimously that the Budget requirements for 2026-27 be adopted (at Annex) <b>b. To approve and the Chair to sign the Parish Precept Request for 2026-2027.</b> It was proposed by the Chair that the Precept Contribution request to WNC for 2026-2027 be £25798.17, Seconded by Cllr Kennedy and Agreed by all. The Chair then signed the Precept Request form from WNC.	Clerk
<b>165/2026</b>	<b>To Review Public Speaking on the Standing Orders adopted July 2025 –</b> To review the decision to allow Members of the public to speak for 3 minutes at an item. The Council reviewed the decision and it was resolved to not change the Standing Orders.	
<b>166/2026</b>	<b>To Consider Adopting the Draft Complaints Procedure <a href="#">Draft-Complaints-Procedure.pdf</a></b> Following discussion, it was resolved to adopt the Complaints Procedure 2026	Clerk

**Meeting Closed 21.25**

1.	<b>Update from Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator – as below</b>
2.	<b>TTRO(25/26) W927 - Flore Road, Little Brington and Brington Road, Flore Road Closure and TTRO(25/26) W951 - Nobottle Road, Harpole and Little Brington Winter Gritting and Weak Bridge</b> The Ward Councillors have been asked to investigate the issue with the weak bridge in alternative route. The Response is below.
3.	<b>WNC Winter Gritting Routes</b> – Winter Gritting is carried out by West Northamptonshire Council and the Clerk has asked that the routes be amended to take into account the road closures in the parish. More information can be accessed on their website <a href="#">WNC winter gritting</a> and Motorways and trunk roads are gritted by <a href="#">National Highways</a> (formerly Highways England). <b>Response from WNC Below</b>
4.	<b>DM Payroll – New charges from April 2026</b> Payroll £132 plus Vat, Set Up £30 plus Vat, New Starters £10 plus VAT, PIID £10 plus VAT
5.	<b>Bleed Control Kits.</b> For information - Parish Councils are starting to install Bleed control kits adjacent to Parish Defibrillators which are registered and available for use by residents. Access is available via the Emergency Ambulance Service. The locations for the bleed control kits are chosen by the councillors. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE TRAINED TO USE THIS KIT – REMEMBER TO DIAL 999 or 112 FIRST The cost varies from £85 to £100 plus VAT per kit e.g. <a href="http://www.sja.org.uk/first-aid-supplies/first-aid-kits">www.sja.org.uk/first-aid-supplies/first-aid-kits</a>
6.	<b>Kimbell's Field Gym Equipment.</b> Sunshine Gym now Broxap – prices requested for items listed in Wicksteed Leisure Inspection Report. 1 x Sign - £150.00 Touch up Paint - £90.00 1 x Rower Cap – £13.50 Carriage for the above - £25.00 Total = £278.50 Plus VAT
7.	<b>Cricket Pavilion</b> A pipe leak and subsequent flooding has been reported by Cllr Roach and the Clerk is contacting plumbers for repair quotes.
8.	<b>Outdoor Gym Kimbell's Field – Broxap was Sunshine advised the cost of parts as:</b> The parts only prices are as follows- 1 x Sign - £150.00 Touch up Paint - £90.00 1 x Rower Cap – £13.50 Carriage for the above - £25.00 2 Items need more details repairs/replacement and these should be considered in the New Council year. a. £553 - 1 x BX/SG Repair – Call Out Charge for Inspection & Repair Work, Includes diagnosis of a reported fault and for the paint touch up of the sky stepper, to fit a new cap on the rower *Please note that on rare occasions when the spare part cannot be fitted in situ we may have to bring the piece of equipment back to our factory to complete the repair. This carries an additional cost will be agreed before taking any equipment from the site. A blank post will be left in place of the piece of equipment until Broxap re-deliver. b. £975.00 1 x BX/SG 3010-GG Double Squat Push - <a href="https://www.sunshinegym.co.uk/double-squat-push.html">https://www.sunshinegym.co.uk/double-squat-push.html</a> <b>2. Burst pipe,</b> The Clerk is in the process of getting a price to fix this.

Item 1 - 08/01/2026

Update from Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

Dear Watchers,

Below is a short summary about how our Neighbourhood Watch Group operates. This group was established by Brington Parish Council in 1990.

We now have about 130 registered members, "watchers", in our parish.

From time to time I send out security alerts / safety information messages by email. Usually about 5 to 10 messages a year.

I also put information about Neighbourhood Watch matters in the bi-monthly editions of the Brington and Nobottle News which is delivered to all households in the parish.

"Watchers" are asked to keep a wary eye out, report any concerns to the police and pass on any news alerts to immediate neighbours, particularly the more "vulnerable" ones.

Suspicious people and suspicious vehicles have been a problem for our parish. In the recent past vigilant "watchers" and residents have alerted the police about their concerns over "dubious" vehicles and people and the police have responded very quickly. They know they receive good intelligence from our Parish. So if you notice anything untoward and you feel something is not right with a person or vehicle then please telephone the police.

Should you have to telephone the Police about a new incident then 'phone 101 for non-emergencies and dial 999 if there is a crime in progress. Tell them you are from Brington Neighbourhood Watch. Ask the police for an incident reference number. After the event it helps if "watchers" could let me know the details of the incident.

Please see the note below about how General Data Protection Regulations are applied to your Neighbourhood Watch Group..

Many thanks

Andrew Shaw

Brington Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

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#### Item 2 Response from Ward Councillor Nobottle Road Closure

Keith and Shelagh

Further to the Nobottle Road closure, I have eventually had a reply, I know that this is not the answer we wanted so I will carry on looking in to the issue.

Regards Charles

**From:** Gary Thorp <[Gary.Thorp@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Gary.Thorp@westnorthants.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** 14 January 2026 14:31

**To:** Cllr Charles Morton <[Charles.Morton@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:Charles.Morton@westnorthants.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** [Gary.Payne@kier.co.uk](mailto:Gary.Payne@kier.co.uk)

**Subject:** FW: Urgent - TTRO's W927 and W951 in Great and Little Brington  
Morning Cllr Morton,

I have been asked to contact you with regards to Section 278 works on Nobottle Road Harpole (W951) and the 1-day closure of Flore Road, Little Brington and Brington Road, Flore which took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> December.

With regards to the major Section 278 works that T & W are undertaking, the duration and method was challenged by myself and the Section 278 team. A pre-start meeting was held between the contractors and the S278 officer, and I am assured that there is no safe way to undertake the works with any other means of traffic management than a road closure. With regards to method of working on the highway, there is a code of practice which dictates what can and cannot be used depending on several factors. Obviously, a closure is the final option but must be used where the available road width for passing traffic is below a specific width, which is the case here. With the development works that are being undertaken it is not possible to do the majority offline from the carriageway which sometimes can reduce the duration of the impact on the public and lower the traffic management to traffic signals or similar.

I understand that there have been complaints about signage issues which were raised at the beginning of the month, and these have now been addressed. The issue of rat running is sadly something we have little control over and can be caused by any kind of traffic management which affects a person's journey. As you will appreciate, a driver is able to choose whatever route they wish if they are not contravening weight, height or similar restrictions which are enforceable by the Police under a road traffic offence. The majority of traffic that would use Nobottle Road is likely to be local and aware of other routes to avoid the closure, potentially through Upper Harlestone as opposed to the Bringtons. A driver unfamiliar with West Northamptonshire is likely to use the A428 or A4500 when travelling the area.

Looking at W927 TTRO I must admit that I am confused about the comments relating to the 18t weight restriction as the bridge is not on the diversion route and therefore would not have a direct impact on it.

The Image below shows the closure in red and diversion in blue and to the north of Great Brington is the 18t restricted bridge.

The contents of the Clerk's email about requirements are correct, where possible the diversion route should match or be better than that of being closed, this also includes classification such as an A road should not be on a lower classification, unless there are exceptional circumstances. It should be noted that we wouldn't use that route generally as not only is there the 18t weight restriction there, but there is also the low bridge on the A428 near Althorp which has to be taken into account when looking at such things.

### **3. Response from WNC – Winter Gritting**

Good afternoon

Thank you for your enquiry regarding winter gritting routes.

We can confirm that our gritters continue to carry out precautionary salting along Roman Road up to the nearest location where the vehicle can safely turn around. At present, the safe turning point is via Steeple Lane into Little Brington. This ensures that the route can be treated effectively while maintaining the safety of both our operatives and other road users.

We fully appreciate the importance of keeping roads safe in winter conditions. Our gritting resources are finite, and because it is difficult to predict the length and severity of winter weather, we must allocate them in the most effective way possible. For this reason, our priority is to treat the busiest roads and those that link communities, ensuring that essential routes remain open and safe.

The roads we are responsible for gritting are split into two categories:

**Precautionary Network (P1):** Salting takes place whenever there is a potential hazard with forecast temperatures of +0.5°C or below.

- **Adverse Network (P2):** Pre-treated during daytime hours in advance of high confidence of forecasted snow, and when forecast temperatures are not expected to rise above zero for 48 hours.

Unfortunately, it is not possible to grit every road across the county. During this cold period, precautionary and adverse routes will be treated as required. You can view details of the roads included in our gritting programme using the following link: [WNC Map Cadcorp SIS WebMap 9.1](#).

If you become aware of an area that requires urgent attention, please contact us via our emergency line rather than reporting through FixMyStreet. We operate a dedicated 24-hour control room and aim to respond within two hours.

**Emergency contact numbers:** Monday to Friday (9am–5pm): **0300 126 7000** Outside these hours: **01604 651074** I hope this assists with your enquiry.

1. (a) Payments 21 January 2026

Supplier	code	Detail	Invoice No	Invoice Total	VAT
S Muir	BT	Salary January 2026	0	510.46	0
S Muir	BT	Expenses January 2026	0	131.99	0
Third Avenue	BT	Website Support (1 Month)	2485	62.40	52.00
Tesco	DD	Mobile Phone Subscription	31/12/25	10.50	
EON	DD	Cricket Pavilion Electricity	KI-EA4D0588-005KI-EA4D0588-005	32.55	1.55
Compete 366	BT	Azure NCE Plan	26547	5.96	0.99
Althorp Estates	BT	Althorp Reading Room Rent Q4	4871	270.00	45.00
DM Payroll	BT	Payroll Services	INV 4749	72.00	12.00
S Muir	BT	Holiday Pay & Extra Hours	0	1074.06	0
HMRC	BT	PAYE and NI	0	536.67	0

(b) Receipts

	DD			
	Date	Detail		Bank Credit Total
Barclays Bank	08/12/2025	Bank Interest		73.76

(c) Bank Reconciliation at 31 December 2025

Bringtons Parish Council Bank Reconciliation at 31/12/2025 <b>Bank Balance</b>					<b>Cash Book</b>	
			Opening Balance			33,197.88
Value of payments yet to clear		1137.56	Expenditure to date Inc Accrual			-40081.12
Reserve Account Bank Balance YTD		24485.60	Income to date			30506.50
Total £		<b>25623.26</b>	Total £			<b>23623.26</b>

MINUTE 164/2026BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL AT 21 Jan 2026					BUDGET 2026/27		
					2025/26	Draft Budget 2026-27	Draft Budget 2026-27
					Anticipated to	Precept as	Precept with 4.99% increase
					31/03/2026 £	£	As Principal Authorities
RECEIPTS							
				b/f		2629.43	2629.43
	Precept				23791.00	23791.00	24978.17
	Grants/Donations	Play Area			15000.00	15000.00	15000.00
	Bank interest				230.00	250.00	250.00
	VAT claims				5451.19	5500.00	5500.00
	Kimbles Field Hire				0.00	0.00	0.00
	Refunds				1035.00		
	Total receipts				45,507.19	47,170.43	48,357.60
PAYMENTS							
	Audit Fees (int & ext)				252.00	300.00	300.00
	Subscriptions (NALC/CPRE/SLCC)				783.72	800.00	800.00
	Bank Charges				-	-	-
	Election Fees WNC	No Elections Expected			80.50	0.00	0.00
	Insurance				596.00	650.00	650.00
	Clerk Salary Inc PAYE				10000.00	10000.00	10000.00
	Provision for Clerks necessary additional hours				0.00	1000.00	1000.00
	Clerk & Cllr Expenses				580.00	600.00	600.00
	Phone / Office (incl cllr training & IT)				750.00	500.00	500.00
	Electricity				4200.00	3000.00	3000.00
	Grass Cutting Dog Waste Bin Emptying				4295.77	4500.00	4500.00
	Newsletter				390.00	400.00	400.00
	LB Field	Rent			100.00	100.00	100.00
	Kimbells Field	Rent			600.00	1000.00	1000.00
	Village events / groups e.g DACT bus				158.40	600.00	600.00
	Parish Improvements	Kimbells Field H&S Inspection			300.00	350.00	350.00
	LBPf Improvements (Play Area) Zip Wire & H&S Inspection				16807.00	15500.00	15500.00
	IT and Website				802.00	850.00	850.00
	Reading Room Rent				2700.00	1000.00	1000.00
	Property Maintenance Contribution to Reserves				515.50	1000.00	1000.00
	Future Project Evaluations					500.00	500.00
	VAT				3851.08	4000.00	4000.00
	Total Payments				47,761.97	46,650.00	46,650.00
	Payments less Receipts				-2254.78	520.43	1707.60
Other Income					2025/26	Budget 2026-27	Budget 2026-27
Contribution to Reserves						500.00	1650.00
Property Maintenance Contribution to Reserves						1000.00	1000.00
Section 106 Ringfenced							
S172 Ref WND/2023/0062					4543.71	4543.71	4543.71



