BRINGTONS
Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE BRINGTONS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2026, 7.45PM, AT THE READING ROOM, GREAT BRINGTON

PRESENT: Cllrs, David Kennedy (Chair), Jan James, Rob Welsford, Rupert Gardner, Andrew Milne, George Welsford
IN ATTENDANCE: Allison Greaves (Interim Clerk), 6 members of the public
ABSENT: Cllr Yasmin Draper

Meeting started at 19.58 and concluded at 22.11

95/26 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were received from Cllr Draper, due to a prior commitment. It was RESOLVED that the apologies be accepted

96/26 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION
None declared

97/26 MINUTES
It proposed by Cllr James, and seconded by Cllr Welsford and RESOLVED with 5 votes for and 1 abstention that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2026 are a true and accurate record of the meeting and as such were signed by the Chair

98/26 DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
Four members of the public addressed the Council. The following matters were raised:

98.1 The Gardening Club will be planting spring bulbs on 11th November. Non-members are welcome to join them
98.2 2026/3547/FULL – Requesting that the Council refuse the application or, alternatively, impose strict conditions prohibiting commercial use, given that Blacksmiths Lane is a narrow rural lane already serving approximately 16 equestrian facilities, with several operating commercially
98.3 WNC should be contacted to follow up on outstanding street cleaning issues
98.4 Althorp Estate should be contacted to follow up the outstanding hedge cutting
98.5 The Reading Room Lease
98.6 Provision of an electric vehicle charging point within the village
98.7 Replacement or repair of rotten posts on the village green

99/26 POLICE, WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL AND OUTSIDE BODIES
No representatives present.
Cllr Welsford advised that the Brington Watch WhatsApp group is now up and running. An article promoting the group has also been published in the Brington and Nobottle News

100/26 REPORTS AND UPDATES

100.1 Members considered and noted the Chair's report
100.2 The Clerk provided a verbal update on the matters arising from the previous meeting
100.3 Cllr G Welford to arrange a meeting with Davison's and TW Civils to discuss the roadworks disruption on Nobottle Road
100.4 Cllrs, Milne and Gardner volunteered to assist with traffic marshaling at the Remembrance Service on Sunday 8th November
100.5 It was RESOLVED to grant permission to The Coaching Inn to use Kimbell's Field for car parking on 22nd December, subject to a rental fee of £100. Cllr James will oversee opening and closing the field
100.6 Under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to arrange the renewal of the Council's Domain name
100.7 Matters arising from 88/26 – Cllr James to co-ordinate with the Gardening Club, the daffodil project

100.8 Matters arising from 89/26 – Cllr Welford has requested to keep the two advisory 20-mph signs in both villages and request an extra five Matrix signs

100.9 Matters arising from item 79.2 – Regarding the overnight parking in the Churchyard car park, Althorp are aware and haven't received any complaints

100.10 Cllr Gardner, is awaiting delivery of parts for equipment at Kimbell's Field

101/26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

101.1 2026/3547/FULL Strawberry Fields, Blacksmiths Lane, Little Brington
Proposal: Erection of an additional stable block with two stables, central feed room and additional hay store
RESOLVED**:** That the Parish Council raises no objection to the proposed development, subject to the imposition of a planning condition prohibiting any future commercial use, in order to prevent increased traffic movements, avoid exacerbating existing pressures on the rural lane, and protect the rural character and amenity of the area

101.2 2025/4146/MAO Land to south of Benbow Farm, Brington Road, Long Buckby
Proposal: 69 dwellings and associated green space and biodiversity enhancements.
It was RESOLVED that the Parish Council have no objections

102/26 CO-OPTION OF A NEW COUNCILLOR

It was proposed by Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Welsford and unanimously RESOLVED that Sarah Bothwell be duly co-opted as a Councillor and must sign her Declaration of Acceptance of Office before or at the next meeting of the full Council

103/26 BUDGET 2027-28

It was RESOLVED to defer approval of the budget until the November meeting, pending receipt of further information and supporting figures

104/26 NOTIFICATION OF THE CONCLUSION OF THE AUDIT 2025-2026

104.1 Members noted PKF Littlejohn LLP findings:

- AGAR Section 2 not signed by the Chair
- Non-compliance with Governance Assertions 1, 2, 5 and 8, including the need for an adequate explanation and action plan for Assertion 8
- Inadequate explanations for Internal Audit "No" responses relating to control objectives B, C, D and J, and the need to obtain appropriate assurance
- Inadequate explanations for the year-on-year variances in Section 2, Boxes 3 and 4

It was RESOLVED:

104.2 The Council to set up an Internal Audit Scrutiny Panel to address the issues raised and to ensure future AGARs are correctly completed and to provide the required explanations and evidence

104.3 The Clerk to prepare protocols for the Council's Systems of Internal Control and Financial Management Risk Register

104.4 The Clerk to investigate suitable accounting software to ensure that all accounting entries are accurately and appropriately recorded

105/26 FINANCE AND RELATED MATTERS

It was RESOLVED:
To note the Finance Report and approve the payments from Unity Trust Account 2

Payee	Gross	VAT	Net	Description	Legal Power
Third Avenue	62.40	10.40	52.00	Website	LGA 1972, Section 142
Compete 366	6.06	1.01	5.05	IT	LGA 1972, Section 111
Valda Electricity	156.36	7.45	148.91	Electricity	Parish Councils Act 1957, Section 3
R&G	327.34	54.56	272.78	Mowing	Highways Act 1980, Section 96
A Greaves	556.32		`	Clerk Services	LGA 1972, Section 111/112

R Ball	108.09			Backpay	LGA 1972, Section 112
HMRC	21.62			Tax & NI	LGA 1972, Section 112
RBL - Cllr Welsford	23.00			Poppy Wreath	LGA 1972, Section 137 (1)
PKF	378.00	63.00	315.00	External Audit Fees	Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, section 5(5)(c)(i)
TOTAL	**1639.19**	**136.42**	**793.74**		

106/26 COUNCILLOR ROLES

It was RESOLVED to defer for a future meeting

107/26 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

None

108/26 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was RESOLVED that the public could remain in the room during the next item of business

109/26 APPOINTMENT OF THE PARISH CLERK/RFO

It was RESOLVED that the Council agreed to recruit a Clerk/ RFO on an initial basis of 6 hours per week, with a salary of SCP 23–26 (£35,570–£38,510 per annum, pro-rata). The closing date for applications will be 30 November 2026. The vacancy will be advertised through NCALC, the Council's website and the Brington News. Cllr Kennedy is authorised to amend the Job Description

Signed: **Date:**
Chair: