WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE OASIS, HIGH STREET, WOLLASTON ON THURSDAY 16th APRIL 2026.

PRESENT: Cllr Alvis, Barber, Farman, Gay, Goldsmith, Jones, Mitchell, Savage, and Threadgold.

IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public attended.

WARD COUNCILLORS: Cllr Gordon Dunsmuir, Cllr Tom Partidge-Underwood and Cllr Jon-Paul Carr.

26/166 – OPEN MEETING
A resident of Wollaston attended the meeting to raise concerns regarding the high volume of HGVs/articulated lorries travelling through the village, particularly at the bend on Howard Road and South Street. These vehicles have been observed mounting the pavement, creating a significant safety risk—especially for children using this route to access the school. In addition, damage has been reported to pavements and hedges.
The resident requested that additional measures, such as improved signage or parking restrictions, be implemented to address the issue. The Parish Council responded that they agree with the resident's concerns and appropriate signage is already in place but is frequently ignored and noted that double yellow lines in the area are not enforceable.
The Council confirmed that a Highways meeting is scheduled for May, during which this matter will be raised. Councillor Carr further advised that a Speed Management Policy is currently awaiting approval at North Northamptonshire Council (NNC). This policy is expected to consider measures such as traffic calming, 20mph speed limits, and the use of mobile speed cameras. The Parish Council will review the policy once it becomes available.
It was also recommended that the resident gather photographic evidence and report any incidents of damage to the Police to help build a formal record of the traffic concerns.

26/167 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies received from Cllr Atkinson, Cllr Carter, Cllr Hodson and Cllr Seager.

26/168 – NORTH NORTHANTS COUNCIL REPORT
Cllr Carr re-iterated the Speed Management Policy as mentioned above in 26/166.
Cllr Carr spoke of the recent Minerals and Waste Planning Video which has been circulated to Councillors in relation to the proposed recycling facility (NN/24/00021/WASFUL) as an interesting read.

26/169 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
None relating to business on the agenda.

26/170 - MINUTES
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting from 19th March 2026 were agreed and signed as a true account. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

26/171 – NN/24/00021/WASFUL PLANNING APPLICATION 30-50 DODDINGTON ROAD
The initial consultation period has now closed. 650 objections were lodged together with a petition with approximately 200 signatures. All comments received up to 31 March are being collated by the Minerals and Waste Case Officer at NNC and will be forwarded to the applicant. The applicant is expected to respond to these representations, along with updated technical information. Following this, a further 21-day re-consultation will take place, during which residents will have the opportunity to comment on the new information. All previous comments remain valid and will be considered as part of the decision-making process. Further updates will be shared by NNC once the re-consultation begins. Wollaston Parish Council still believes that the breach of the Waste and Minerals Local Plan is our strongest tool against this application.

26/172 – TO REVIEW AND APPROVE THE FOLLOWING POLICIES
The Email and use of Internet policy, General Statement of Safety Policy and Grant Agreement policy.
It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to agree to approve the above policies. Clerk to publish on website.

26/173 - CLERK'S REPORT
It was **RESOLVED** to accept the continued appointment of the Internal Auditor Julia Tufnail for 2025/2026 and confirmed that the internal auditor meets the necessary independence requirements.
Proposed Electric Vehicle (EV) Car charging points in Wollaston – NNC have confirmed that a decision has been deferred on the High Street location and they will come back to us in due course ahead of resident engagement on a potential alternative site which could serve equivalent target premises in the area (homes without access to off-street parking). A decision will be taken thereafter. The other three sites in Wollaston have been approved to come forward in this first phase of the LEVI project. (Hinwick Road, Park Street and Irchester Road).
Annual Insurance (Zurich Municipal) quotation is £3,563.12 which is an increase of 7.16% from last year (£3,325.11). This will be split across the Parish Council, The Playing Fields, Cricket Club and Sports Association. Additional quotes have been requested from Clear Councils but they were unable to quote last year due to no Fire assessment at the Playing Fields Clubhouse. Norris & Fisher have also been contacted for a quotation. We also have an outstanding claim with Zurich. The Parish Council advised Clerk to remain with Zurich at the above cost.
Cllr Carter has confirmed his attendance to the Local Transport Plan Workshops (following the recent Strategic Town and Parish Forum) on April 22nd.

26/174 – FINANCES

Receipts circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to approve receipts for March 2026. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

DATE	RECEIVED FROM	DESCRIPTION	NET AMOUNT	VAT ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/03/2026	Lloyds Bank *823	Interest	£11.97	£0.00	£11.97
31/03/2026	Nationwide Interest *607	Interest	£119.61	£0.00	£119.61
31/03/2026	Nationwide Interest *581	Interest	£272.94	£0.00	£272.94
31/03/2026	Nationwide Interest *513	Interest	£2,491.28	£0.00	£2,491.28
		TOTAL:	**£2,895.80**	**£0.00**	**£2,895.80**

Payments Circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments for March 2026. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

PAYMENT	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NETT OF VAT	VAT ELEMENT	TOTAL
DD254	Tesco Mobile	Monthly mobile Phone Contract	£15.99	£0.00	£15.99
DD255	HP Instant Ink	Monthly subscription for printer ink	£39.16	£7.83	£46.99
DD256	NPS Shoes	Office Hire & Internet March 2026	£318.75	£63.75	£382.50
DD257	WhiteStar Ltd	Monthly Website hosting fee	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
DD258	Yu Energy	Street Lighting 01.02.26 - 28.02.26	£75.94	£3.80	£79.74
DD259	LV Pension (NMPTL)	LV Pension S Grant WPC Contribution	£73.42	£0.00	£73.42
DD260	Starboards Systems Ltd	Monthly subscription for Scribe accounts package	£51.00	£10.20	£61.20
DD261	Hayeswood Landscapes	February Grass Cutting	£2,006.10	£401.22	£2,407.32
DD262	Yu Energy	PF Tennis Court Floodlight charges 1-28 Feb 26	£6.72	£0.34	£7.06
DD250	Lloyds Bank	Lloyds Community Account monthly charge ref 449342778	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25
DD263	Lloyds Bank	Lloyds Community Account monthly charge ref 449342779	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25
BACS1133	HMRC	Employer NI employee NI Tax payment	£359.88	£0.00	£359.88
BACS1134	Mrs Suzanne Grant	March 2026 salary	£1,491.92	£0.00	£1,491.92
BACS1135	Timotay Landscapes	Audit works for London Road & St Mary's Play areas	£2,597.85	£519.57	£3,117.42
BACS1136	The RBL Poppy Appeal	40 x lamp post poppies	£120.00	£0.00	£120.00
BACS1137	Starboards Systems Ltd	Year End Health Check 2026	£79.00	£15.80	£94.80
BACS1138	The Post Office	Next day special delivery for Barrister letter to NNC	£9.25	£0.00	£9.25
		GRAND TOTAL:	**£7,288.48**	**£1,022.51**	**£8,310.99**

Year End Budget figures to 31st March 2026 were circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the year end budget. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

2025 / 2026 Budget

	Budget	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Actual 25/ 26
RECEIPTS						
Precept	£107,756.00	£107,756.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£107,756.00
Grants	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

S106 / A509 Grass Cutting	£995.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,255.50	£0.00	£1,255.50
Bank Interest	£3,000.00	£1,385.54	£1,396.32	£1,302.38	£3,695.98	£7,780.22
S106 Hookhams Path	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Sundry Income	£300.00	£313.00	£522.00	£20.42	£0.00	£855.42
Community Centre	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
S106 Pyghtles / Neale Close	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total Income	**£112,051.00**	**£109,454.54**	**£1,918.32**	**£2,578.30**	**£3,695.98**	**£117,647.14**
Earmark 22 / 23 CCTV / PF	2300					
PAYMENTS	**Budget**	**Quarter 1**	**Quarter 2**	**Quarter 3**	**Quarter 4**	**Actual 25/ 26**
Salary	£19,478.92	£4,644.75	£5,152.01	£5,108.38	£5,186.12	£20,091.26
LGCC Pension Provision	£870.00	£207.24	£207.24	£220.26	£220.26	£855.00
Office / General Costs	£9,978.88	£5,484.11	£2,127.70	£1,899.75	£6,985.27	£16,496.83
S137 Grants	£8,600.00	£30.00	£40.00	£7,334.41	£120.00	£7,524.41
Street Lighting	£1,750.00	£230.57	£290.11	£308.34	£345.71	£1,174.73
Grass Cutting	£22,073.28	£5,266.47	£5,416.47	£3,917.08	£5,416.47	£20,016.49
Playing Field & Parks	£12,200.00	£2,467.84	£888.97	£8,226.78	£2,770.94	£14,354.53
Election Cost Provision	£3,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£25.00	£25.00
Maintenance / Purchases	£3,100.00	£196.56	£573.49	£925.40	£111.99	£1,807.44
VH Redevelopment	£25,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Parks Wet pour project	£3,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,597.85	£2,597.85
Neighbourhood Plan update	£3,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£330.00	£0.00	£330.00
S106 Projects (£2k transferred)	£0.00	£585.17	£806.83	£2,032.35	£200.61	n/a
Total Costs	**£112,051.08**	**£19,112.71**	**£15,502.82**	**£30,302.75**	**£23,980.22**	**£85,273.54**

Bank Reconciliation as of 31.03.26 was circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the March Bank Reconciliation. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Bank Reconciliation as at 31/03/2026

Lloyds Current account - daily banking *832	
balance as at 31/03/2026	£7,157.16
Lloyds Instant access - General Reserves *823	
balance as at 31/03/2026	£44,617.01
Nationwide Business 95 day Saver *607	£44,129.28
Nationwide Business 95 day Saver *581	£100,701.36
Nationwide Building Society - S106 Monies *513	£48,928.70
Earmarked Reserves, Pyghtles, Neale Close	

In Accounts 31/03/2026		**£245,533.51**
Figures incl VAT	From 2024/2025	£224,179.04
	Receipts	£233,967.44
	Payments	£212,612.97
		£245,533.51
	Difference	£0.00

26/175 – REPORTS OF THE WORKING PARTIES/REPRESENTATIVES

(a) New Community Centre/preschool update (MG/JM/GC) – No further update has been received from NNC regarding the next steps and legal documents. Cllr Carter to chase before the May meeting. PHP Architects have re-confirmed their costs to get us to the planning approval stage. PHP originally quoted approx. £14k in in 2024 and there is no change in the 2026 requote. Cllr Carter is chasing the lead architect for visuals for the community consultation sessions, dates of when he can support said sessions in person and a review of the pre-application planning report to understand the next steps for the project. Cllr Mitchell is seeking to arrange a meeting with the Duchy to see if any support for the development can be obtained in consideration of the fact that they did not have to gift the land as originally required.

(b) Playing fields & Parks Management Committee (TS) – (draft minutes attached) no issues. S*treetlights* – no issues. *Environmental* – Highways meeting arranged for May 18th for a walk round the village. *Street Doctor* – - report is slightly longer due to 14 new reports being made and only 10 reports fixed during the month.

(c) Footpaths Update - Permissive footpath signage for Shepherds Hill have been put in place and a map together with an explanation will be issued onto social media and the Summer Edition of the Wollaston Together magazine.

(d) Village Hall management Committee Update (MG) – no issues. Busy Bees preschool will be closing their doors on April 29th due to financially being unable to continue due to the reduced hours available at the village hall. The Village Hall committee are to advertise for new tenants. Maintenance work on the roof and flooring has been carried out. Further maintenance for the guttering and uneven paving slabs is imminent.

(e) Crime and Community Safety Update (NF) – figures provided by Northants Police confirmed that 8 crimes were reported in March.

(f) Summers Grange Update (JB) A meeting with Bloor Homes was held on 20 March to discuss concerns about the inadequate play area. John Wilberham is currently developing proposed improvements, and initial enquiries have now been completed. As a result, Bloor Homes is in the process of finalising their proposal, which is expected to include additional combination play equipment. Once finalised, the proposal will be shared. Dogs off lead continue to be an issue and the “dogs on lead” signs put in place have been ripped down. Chair thanked Cllr Barber for her commitment and

hard work over the last year as Cllr Barber confirmed that she will be stepping down as a Councillor due to poor health.

(g) Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group Update (GC) – no update.

26/176 – PLANNING

(h) Applications

Schedule was circulated with Agenda

NW/24/00448/EXT – Green Hill Solar Farm - Consultation on draft statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Awaiting decision.

NW/25/00195/FUL – 24 York Road, Wollaston – Change of use of pastureland to residential garden, including erection of wall, gates and boundary fencing. WPC – no objection. Awaiting decision.

25/01709/FUL – Wollaston House, 51 High Street – full planning permission for new building for storage use only located behind existing garage block. WPC – no objection. Awaiting decision.

25/02159/HFUL – 6-8 Rotten Row Wollaston – Single storey glazed link extension from dwelling to existing outbuilding with alterations to fenestration. WPC – no objection. Application permitted 09.04.2026.

26/00326/HFUL – 4 Fellows Close Wollaston – Proposed two storey side and first floor rear extension, single storey extension with additional car parking space at front of property. WPC – no objection. Awaiting decision.

26/177 - NEXT MEETING

Meeting of Wollaston Parish Council ANNUAL meeting to take place on Thursday May 21st, 2026, 7pm, Oasis Building, High Street, Wollaston.

The Chair thanked Councillors for their attendance. The meeting was closed at 8.10pm.

Chair…….. Date: ……