WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOLLASTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE OASIS, HIGH STREET, WOLLASTON ON THURSDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2026.

PRESENT: Cllr Alvis, Atkinson, Barber, Carter, Farman, Goldsmith, Hodson, Jones, Mitchell, Savage, Seager and Threadgold.

IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public attended.

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

26/138 – OPEN MEETING

Two members of the public addressed the Council regarding Planning Application NN/24/00021/WASFUL (proposed industrial recycling plant at 30–50 Doddington Road, Wollaston).

The first speaker stated that the site lies within a Ramsar site (a wetland area designated as internationally important under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands) and is also designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA). It was emphasised that the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on these protected designations and that these concerns should be formally highlighted and considered by the Planning Authority as objections.

The second speaker, who has 20 years' experience in the waste industry, referred to planning guidance which states that waste should be managed as close as possible to its point of origin, and expressed the view that this principle had not been met by the application. It was also noted that all activities within the recycling plant must, by law, be carried out indoors and restricted to specified operating hours.

Cllr Carr reported significant gaps within the updated Planning Statement, including queries regarding the proposed litter-picking offer. Concern was also raised that there is no safe walking or cycling route to the site, contrary to Neighbourhood Plan policy. Cllr Carr confirmed that the Mortuary adjacent to the site remains fully operational as an emergency facility and noted that no reference to the Mortuary is made within the submitted documentation. Issues relating to water availability and fire-risk bunding were also discussed. Wollaston Parish Council confirmed that it intends to seek advice from a Planning Lawyer to obtain a professional opinion.

26/139 – FOOTPATHS AND RIGHTS OF WAY – Cllr Gregory Wilcox
Cllr Wilcox (NNC Unitary Councillor and Wollaston resident) addressed the Council regarding ongoing issues with public footpaths at Poplars Farm, Shepherds Hill. Despite previous measures, including the installation of signage and barriers, members of the public continue to stray from the designated routes and roam across the land. This presents a significant health and safety risk, as the land is not monitored for public access while farm machinery is in operation.
Cllr Wilcox also reported incidents of physical violence, hare coursing and badger digging on the land. He expressed his wish that members of the public respect the designated public footpaths and comply with the installed signage.
Cllr Threadgold (Footpath Warden for WPC) agreed to arrange, via the Clerk, for a map of the recently agreed permissive footpath at Shepherds Hill to be sent to Cllr Wilcox. It was noted that signage for the permissive footpath has been ordered through Highways, and WPC agreed to consider whether additional signage is required to further address the issues raised.

26/140 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies received from Cllr Gay (holiday).

26/141 – NORTH NORTHANTS COUNCIL REPORT
Cllr Dunsmuir confirmed that the final budget for 2026-2027 was approved by North Northamptonshire Council today resulting in a 4.99% council tax increase.

26/142 - DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
None relating to business on the agenda.

26/143 - MINUTES
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting from 15th January 2026 were agreed and signed as a true account. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

26/144 – To review and approve the Wollaston Standing Orders 2026
It was unanimously agreed to approve the Wollaston Standing Orders. Clerk to publish on website.

26/145 - CLERK'S REPORT
A resident made contact during the recent water disruption due to a burst water main leaving many vulnerable residents without water for approximately 7 hours. Clerk contacted Anglian Water for details of how vulnerable residents can register on the Anglian Water priority service – this has been published via social media and the Wollaston Together magazine.
Requests have been received from residents of both Rotten Row and Irchester Road for double yellow lines due to access issues to their driveways. Details have been passed to Kier Highways and Cllr Savage will liaise with Ben Wright. The potential of a white line was also discussed.
Attendance to the Town & Parish Forum on Tuesday 10th March 7-9pm at Council Chamber, Swanspool House confirmed as Cllr Threadgold and Cllr Jones.

Scott Bader have offered their volunteering services to the village – Clerk to request litter picking and signage cleaning around the village. Cllr Dunsmuir to request availability of Fly Tipping signage for litter problem areas such as London Road.
Clerk Scribe Audit Training Thursday 26th February AM.

26/146 – FINANCES

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

DATE	RECEIVED FROM	DESCRIPTION	NET AMOUNT	VAT ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
09/01/2026	Lloyds Bank *823	Interest	£23.93	£0.00	£23.93
31/01/2026	Nationwide Interest *607	Interest	£122.94	£0.00	£122.94
31/01/2026	Nationwide Interest *581	Interest	£280.55	£0.00	£280.55
13/01/2026	HMRC	VAT return	£0.00	£2,769.93	£2,769.93
		TOTAL:	£427.42	£2,769.93	£3,197.35

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

PAYMENT	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NETT OF VAT	VAT ELEMENT	TOTAL
DD235	Tesco Mobile	Monthly mobile Phone Contract	£15.99	£0.00	£15.99
DD236	HP Instant Ink	Monthly subscription for printer ink	£84.16	£16.83	£100.99
DD237	NPS Shoes	Office Hire & Internet January 2026	£318.75	£63.75	£382.50
DD238	WhiteStar Ltd	Monthly Website hosting fee	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
DD239	Yu Energy	Street Lighting 01.12.25 - 31.12.25	£97.74	£4.89	£102.63
DD240	LV Pension (NMPTL)	LV Pension S Grant WPC Contribution	£73.42	£0.00	£73.42
DD241	Lloyds Bank	Lloyds Community Account monthly charge ref 449342778	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25
DD242	Starboards Systems Ltd	Monthly subscription for Scribe accounts package	£51.00	£10.20	£61.20
DD243	Hayeswood Landscapes	December Grass Cutting	£2,006.10	£401.22	£2,407.32
BACS1113	Mrs Suzanne Grant	January 2026 salary	£1,352.12	£0.00	£1,352.12
BACS1114	HMRC	Employer NI employee NI Tax payment	£276.17	£0.00	£276.17
BACS1115	Amazon	A4 paper	£17.91	£3.58	£21.49
BACS1116	Yu Energy	PF Tennis Court Floodlight charges 21/11/25-31/12/025	£14.42	£0.72	£15.14
BACS1117	E-On	Street Lighting maintenance for 1/4 ending December 2025	£77.50	£15.50	£93.00
BACS1118	Renutec Europe Ltd (Damian Scott)	New email configuration (Clerk/JM/MG)	£180.00	£36.00	£216.00
			£4,604.53	£552.69	£5,157.22

Bank Reconciliation as of 31.01.26 was circulated. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the January Bank Reconciliation. Unanimously agreed, motion carried.

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Bank Reconciliation as at 31/01/2026

Lloyds Current account - daily banking *832		
balance as at 31/01/2026		£9,991.04
Lloyds Instant access - General Reserves *823		
balance as at 31/01/2026		£39,585.98
Nationwide Business 95 day Saver *607		£43,901.90
Nationwide Business 95 day Saver *581		£100,182.49
Nationwide Building Society - S106 Monies *513		£71,437.42
Earmarked Reserves, Pyghtles, Neale Close		
In Accounts 31/01/2026		**£265,098.83**
Figures incl VAT	From 2024/2025	£224,179.04
	Receipts	£230,698.88
	Payments	£189,779.09
		£265,098.83
	Difference	£0.00

26/147 – REMEBRANCE DAY 2026 LAMP POST POPPIES (AT)

Cllr Threadgold presented a protocol poppy and proposed that the names of the fallen from WW1 and WW2 are handwritten onto the lamppost poppies (two names per poppy). It was unanimously agreed to purchase an additional 40 poppies at a cost of £3 each. (£120).

26/148 – UPDATE ON BLEED KITS (NF)

Cllr Farman confirmed that she had been in discussions with EMAS (East Midlands Ambulance Service) who have confirmed that it is fine for Bleed Kits to be based in their de-fib cabinets, (Off the Streets have already put bleed kits in some of their cabinets so are aware of their work). The library at this present time, are not keen at place the Bleed Kit within the current De-fib cabinet (additional cost for a Bleed Kit cabinet is £540). Therefore, Cllr Farman will arrange for Clerk to purchase one Bleed Kit as previously resolved (Wilby PC via Cllr Dunsmuir have kindly donated a second kit) and these will be placed in the de-fib cabinets at the Hill Social Club and the Playing Fields with free training in the Summer to be held at the Playing Fields.

26/149 – REPORTS OF THE WORKING PARTIES/REPRESENTATIVES

(a) New Community Centre/preschool update (MG/JM/GC) – the Developer Contributions Board meeting on Thursday 12th February 2026 endorsed the use of the S106 funding requested by Wollaston Parish Council towards delivery of the Wollaston Village Hall project subject to several further approval stages and to include more detailed works programme, which will be informed by the outcome of the planning application and preferred tender submission. The next stage is to arrange a Community Consultation, including a storyboard and funding proposals, which will need to be included in the full planning application. This will be held at the Village Hall at date to be confirmed, but ideally before Easter.

(b) Playing fields & Parks Management Committee (TS) – (draft minutes attached). (TS) - no issues. The MUGA is being well used, and the basket swing has been repaired at St Mary's play area. Cllr Savage attended the Highways Briefing in Corby last month which highlighted the timescales and priorities for pothole/road repairs. Cllr Dunsmuir confirmed that an additional 13.1m had been allocated for road repairs in the new financial year. *Street Doctor* –many potholes have been added to the report awaiting repair. *Street Lighting* – St Mary's Church lights are now working.

(c) Footpaths Update (AT) –Permissive footpath signage for Shepherds Hill will be put into place shortly 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. Repairs have been carried out on the roof and a quote awaiting approval for the uneven slabs will be presented at the next Village Hall meeting.

(e) Crime and Community Safety Update – figures provided by Northants Police confirmed that 11 crimes were reported in February. PCSO Fenner will be available for a walkabout in the Summer to address any concerns.

(f) Summers Grange Update (JB). Cllr Barber advised that a meeting had been held with the Bloor Roads and Estates Adoption Manager. Various issues were discussed including the safety entrance bollards will not have chains, tree planting will be carried out in late February/early March. Additional lighting confirmed as not being required as determined for driveways and not footpaths. Cllr Barber to request the report. The heavy rain has caused the footpath to deteriorate, Bloor have stated that the footpath is designed as a country path, not a footpath. Inadequate play area – nothing has been resolved and Bloor Homes has not accepted responsibility to provide a fully equipped LEAP of a minimum of 200 sqm. Cllr Dunsmuir to follow up with the S106 Planning Enforcement Officer. Cllr Barber reported that residents enquired as to why the Estate could not fall under the Parish Council once adopted for the maintenance contract – this was declined by Bloor due to financial reasons.

(g) Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group Update – The next meeting is due to be held on Monday March 9th to discuss and review the existing policies. Councillors and the Clerk will be attending a TEAM webinar on March 2nd for the Local Plan update.

26/150 – 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.

25/02065/AOC – 23 Hickmire Wollaston – Approval of details reserved by condition pursuant to condition 3 (windows and rooflights) of listed building consent reference NW/22/00492/LBC. WPC – no objection. Awaiting decision.

25/01522/HFUL – 89 Hinwick Road Wollaston – Single storey rear/side extension. WPC – No objection. Application permitted 18/02/26.

25/02066/LBC – 23 Hickmire Wollaston - proposed alterations/enclosure of car port to form garage and log burner/flue. 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. Awaiting decision.

25/00138/TPO – Scott Bader Wollaston Hall High Street/Irchester Road Wollaston – Various tree work to reduce and remove deadwood. WPC – no objection. Awaiting decision.

NN/24/00021/WASFUL – Land between and rear 30 to 50 Doddington Road, Wollaston – proposed development of an industrial/commercial building including office space for purpose of plastic, paper and metal recycling.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to allocate up to the sum of £15,000 from Parish Council reserves, if required, for external legal professional help. A quotation has been sought for legal advice for the cost of £5,000 + VAT from a planning lawyer.

26/151 - NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wollaston Parish Council to take place on Thursday March 19th, 2026, 7pm, Oasis Building, High Street, Wollaston.

The Chair thanked Councillors for their attendance. The meeting was closed at 8.30pm.

Chair…….. Date: ……