

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

Parish Clerk: Alison McDaid.

Email: clerk@broughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Phone: 07379 132 788.

Website: www.broughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Broughton Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Broughton Chapel Room, 7pm, Thursday 16th October 2025

Councillors Present:

Cllr P. Scouse (Chair)

Cllr R. Shrive

Cllr C. Taylor

Cllr M. Rose

Cllr M. Gray

Cllr. H. Bull

Cllr B Davies

Ward Councillors present:

No ward councillors were present

97/25. Apologies.

Cllr Andrew Tempest

Cllr Brian Benneyworth - NNC Health Executive member duties

Cllr Jim Hakewill – personal

98/25. Declarations of Interest.

No declarations were declared

99/25. Minutes to be resolved.

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 18th September 2025 and copies were circulated. The minutes were approved by members and were authorised for signature by the chair. **RESOLVED.**

BPC - Broughton Parish Council.

NNC - North Northamptonshire Council.

NCALC - Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils

100/25. Public right to speak.

3 members of the public were present

101/25. Reports from NNC ward councillors

No reports were received

102/25. Report from clerk & correspondence

Clerk Report

After correspondence, the clerk has closed the following outstanding issues:

- Oak Close - tree overhanging the footpath – **Closed. The resident of the property in Oak Close is elderly and disabled. Her friend will cut back the tree**
- Oak Close – Estate car parked entirely on the path.
Closed. The resident of the property in Oak Close is elderly and disabled. Her friend will help her apply for a disabled space outside her property.

Fix my street

The clerk passed on a query from a resident to Liam Faulkner regarding the alleyway just off Thoday Close as it has been regularly forgotten for maintenance over the last 5 years.

Emailed Highways.nnc@northnorthants.gov.uk Ref 8187811

Cllr Scouse emailed Cllr Benneyworth to ask why the NNC website directs problems with grass cutting, trees & hedges to the relevant Parish Council as being the responsible authority in villages and small towns. Cllr Benneyworth has raised a member's enquiry regarding customer service email bouncing back REF: MEM1563

Cllr Scouse reported fly tipping in Northampton Road. Ref: FLY757682942.

Cllr Shrive contacted the Land Registry and obtained the boundaries for 58 Glebe Avenue which was shared. A resident contacted the clerk and sent some additional information including a chronology of the felling of the trees and erection of the fence which was discussed. **Action: Clerk to send on latest correspondence to ward councillors**

October correspondence

- New Customer Initiatives - Go Live
- North Northamptonshire Council Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2029 consultation
- PLR September update
- Save the date – CPRE's second Town Hall forum on 6 November 2025
- Parish Introduction to the North Northamptonshire BIG50 Vision
- Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Newsletter - October 2025
- Members Planning Training session from the Highways Team
- Local Link newsletter - From Cllr Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council

103/25. Report from external meetings

Strategic Town and Parish Forum - Kettering & Corby - Corby Council Chamber - 14th October 2025 - 7pm – Cllr's Bull, Shrive and Rose

Report by Cllr Bull

Sgts Mark Walsh (Kettering) & Keely Cox (Corby) presented an overview, primarily urban in context and minimal rural interest apart from the fact that they now issue Ring doorbells and security lights for relevant cases where security is an issue.

Guy Holloway presented an overview of the Big50 Corporate Plan/Strategy. He advised that the newly elected membership had agreed to continue with the project and this is being built into their KPI reporting through their cyclical reports/budgets and personal performance plans. Governance of the plan will be structured through specific outcomes to be achieved. He advised that they had just completed a Peer Review where it was found that there had been areas of progress from last year with other areas still in need of improvement. Some of their successes involve their tackling of rough sleeping, seeing a saving of over £1m and their Adult Social Care Team winning a National Award. They had completed a resident's satisfaction survey over 2 bases – a 500 person telephone survey and a manual survey with

3351 responses – slides will be circulated but to note that Highway matters scored lowest satisfaction level and well below the national level so pretty dire. The current NNC overspend is £9m which is similar to last year which eventually came out with an overspend of £400,000. They are believing it will be a similar picture again this year – they have confirmed that they are not looking to sell any assets.

Graeme Kane, Head of NNC Highways gave an update on the devolvement of services for verge maintenance. It was clarified that Green Spaces are not part of the discussion at this time. The background to this is that across the region, they have both an inconsistent delivery and service level with some S136 arrangements in place and it is an unhelpful situation. He is happy for it to be an open discussion i.e. those with existing S136 arrangements can opt back in to services being provided and there is no pressure to choose one way or another however the service levels will be aligned which for us means that we will go from an existing 6 cuts to 3 which aligns with other places – they cannot afford to up everyone to 6 so it has to go down. Loddington and Geddington agreed that they don't think they currently see 6 cuts as did I – we are thinking more like 4. The S136 financial contribution will be decided on each parish individually and letters are to be issued towards end of October for the new arrangements to be in place ahead of the next financial year. I asked for a mapping to be provided for evidence base so that we know exactly which areas are to be in consideration as in villages, it isn't always clear what constitutes a verge as against a green space.

Other information provided is that there is a Highways open briefing session on the 19th January which will be publicised. Highways has seen its largest resurfacing programme this year for decades after receiving funding from Government and NNC c. £7.7m and there is a similar commitment for the next 3 years.

NB Jonathan Pierce is Head of Highways Delivery and they work with NNC Liam Faulkner for the parks & verges.

Kerry Purnell provided an overview on NNC Community Safety Strategy that they are building with their strategic partners e.g. Police etc. looking to create a greater emphasis on collaboration and effective working to deliver and embed a more robust strategy going forward. CCTV especially was discussed as an example as this is an under-performing strategic element.

Kerry Purnell also provided an overview of the strategic framework they have been working to devise to provide a platform for the devolvement of services. This project is work in progress and has been brought to this primary stage with a working group formed of NNC officers, some town parish representation and rural parish representation from NCALC. Similarly to Graeme Kane, they have a broad disparity of service arrangements and levels across the whole authority area and they need to achieve a basis to work from to allow an equitable alignment. The emphasis (for the time being) is confirmed for devolvement to be choice led so opt in as preferred with a S136 arrangement rather than being forced to accept a mandatory decision. The devil will be in the detail and there is much to discuss i.e. it has not been decided as yet what could be in scope or not but it is clear that the status quo of having effectively what was Kettering Borough operating a separate legacy system will be no longer.

It was agreed by all that the Forum should meet more regularly and should focus each meeting on fewer agenda items so that more in-depth discussion and interaction can happen.

Broughton Parish Council (BPC) members challenged and raised several questions with Kerry Purnell NNC Assistant Director of Communities and Leisure, regarding the devolution of services to parish councils.

Cllr Rose and Shrive referenced the last Town & Parish Forum meeting, where BPC, along with other attendees, had requested:

- Quarterly forum meetings instead of half-yearly meetings.
- Inclusion of parish councils in the decision-making processes regarding devolution.

Kerry Purnell acknowledged that this request had been minuted, but provided no explanation as to why these changes had not been implemented, nor was a timetable offered.

It was suggested by Kerry Purnell that the Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (NCALC) represented parish interests in discussions with NNC. BPC members stated this was unsatisfactory, noting that NCALC is a subscription organisation of which Broughton Parish Council is not a member.

BPC raised the following:

- The efficiency of NNC's approach, asking why significant time and limited funds were being spent on internal meetings and committees to formulate devolution options, when the entire process could potentially be negated by first simply gauging the interest of parish councils in taking on the specified services.
- The opinion that NNC's paid professionals were attempting to transfer core responsibilities to unqualified, unpaid volunteers, who are becoming increasingly difficult to recruit, without proper consultation.
- The legality of handing services out to certain parishes.

BPC commented that it was unreasonable that the devolution of Grounds Maintenance, which NNC was aware would be the most contentious issue of the meeting, had been allocated such a limited amount of time for debate. No answer was provided.

The Chair of the meeting, Cllr Gregory Wilcox, clearly stated that if any parish took on an asset or responsibility, NNC would no longer provide any support for that asset. It was confirmed that NNC would not undertake any work on land owned by parishes.

End

ASB outside Morrisons

Cllr Scouse and the clerk had a meeting with a resident regarding the ongoing ASB outside Morrison's daily which is directly impacting on their families wellbeing. Residents are to be encouraged to log all ASB to 101. This in turn will show there has been an increase in ASB in this area since the shop was granted a 24hr licence. The resident is keeping a diary of events as requested by the Environmental department.

104/25. To note the Climate & Nature Champion

Resident Dasha Tolkacheva has applied to NCALC and been accepted as Broughton's Climate and Nature Champion representative. Her first meeting will be on Wednesday 19th November, 7pm – 9pm. Cllr Taylor will assist when Dasha is unavailable.

105/25. Police & Community matters within village

PCSO Adam Goode emailed the clerk with an update. Parking patrols have resumed now that the schools have reopened.

The speed gun was out one day last month and a few warning tickets were given out.

The Beat bus will be back again on the 18th of this month. **Action: Clerk to put on socials**

The PLR has now been promised a 3 monthly update for each area.

106/25. – Morrison Daily – Robbery

A recent robbery took place at 3am at the shop. The cash machine was targeted and police were called to the scene. It was noted that as the shop is open 24 hours, this leaves it vulnerable to night attacks.

Cllr Benneyworth has asked Kirk Harrison's advice on the possibility of a licence revoke.

Action: Clerk to check if there were any previous planning restrictions and will contact the waste and Environmental departments about the additional rubbish that is being created by the shop.

107/25. – Winter light project – report from working group and clerk

The clerk arranged for RMC Property Services to attend the site on Saturday 11th October at a cost of £595.00 plus VAT. This was after a change of company at the same cost. Cllr's Gray, Rose and Shrive stripped the old lights from the tree outside the bungalows and added new LED lights which will be turned on in December.

To note – one of the residents has complained but the lights will be on a timer and were deliberately not put on the back of the tree facing the resident's property.

The Red Lion lights will remain the same and fresh batteries will be added.

The clerk and Cllr Scouse had an onsite meeting with Gareth from The National Grid regarding the installation of a 500 watt unmetered electric supply for the winter lights on the High Street. The source will come from Bakehouse Lane and will be situated next to the bin in the park. BPC will then hire a private contractor to connect lights. **Action: Clerk to acquire MPAN from NNC and submit. Ref: 5728749. Emailed 19/09/2025 but have had no response as of yet**

108/25. – Village Map project – report from working group

The frame has now been collected and is being sprayed. Cllr's Scouse and Bull will meet up in the month to decide on artwork

109/25. – Memorial Garden – next planning phase

Everything that was recently planted is growing well despite the dry summer. All agreed that an English lavender feature, location to be decided, would be a nice addition. Cllr Bull to source.

110/25. – Communications

It was noted that residents are not necessarily clicking on links from the website on social media, so it was agreed to change the way BPC communicate. The clerk will post the following statement:

Update on Traffic Calming Measures - Northampton Road

We appreciate your patience as NNC Highways implements the new traffic calming scheme.

Scheme Design Change

The original plan for Northampton Road, which aimed to combat regular speeding, unfortunately had to be revised. This became necessary after a resident was granted permission for a dropped kerb that directly conflicted with the initial design.

NNC Highways subsequently developed an alternative solution. This new measure includes:

- A change to road priority at the corner of Wellingborough Road.
- New white line markings along Northampton Road. These lines are intended to create a visual illusion of a narrower road when vehicles are not parked along the street.

Please Note: There are currently no plans to add extra yellow lines.

Crucial Information on Funding

We want to be clear that the funding for these measures is not taxpayer's money. The Parish Council secured this funding through a Section 106 agreement when the Redrow estate was built. This means NNC Highways is using dedicated developer funds that can only be spent on traffic calming measures within the village.

Broughton Parish Council is committed to achieving the best value for this money, which is why we have been in extensive talks with Highways for years. We also plan to use these funds for necessary traffic calming work on Kettering Road in the near future. The evidence to instruct NNC on where work is most needed came from data collected by our Speed Indicator Device over the last few years.

Communication and Consultation

NNC Highways was responsible for sending letters to all directly affected residents on Northampton Road. If you live on other roads, you would not have received one.

Regarding general notification, we did the following:

- NNC put up notices on lampposts a couple of days before work started.
- BPC issued a message on social media as soon as we were notified by NNC, as this is the quickest way to reach the most people.
- Notices were also placed in the village Notice Boards.

We do not have the resources to leaflet every household in the village.

The latest position is as follows:

- Temporary give way signs are being installed today (Friday), which will allow the three-way temporary signals to be removed on Monday.
- A NNC site supervisor will be present to observe traffic movements once the junction reopens under give way control.
- The illuminated "Give Way" sign has been ordered, and they are awaiting a confirmed connection date from the contractor.
- The redundant VAS sign has now been removed, and a separate disconnection date for the remaining signpost has been requested.
- The outstanding road markings on Kettering Road are scheduled to be completed on Wednesday 22 October, subject to weather conditions.

NNC understands this scheme has taken longer than anticipated and apologise for the inconvenience caused by the ongoing temporary traffic management. The team is working to ensure all remaining elements are completed as quickly and safely as possible.

Finally, these traffic issues have been discussed at our Parish Council meetings for at least the last 8 years. Members of the public are always welcome to attend our meetings on the third Thursday of every month at 7 pm in the Chapel Room. End.

Action: Cllr Rose will draft a piece about the Christmas tree lights

111/25. – Traffic calming – Works update

Works commenced on 29th September. Highways were to send letters to residents who were immediately affected along Northampton Road. Notices were put up on lampposts and BPC put notices in the notice boards around the village and shared on social media.

There was some confusion with residents complaining they had not been notified of the works starting. As soon as BPC were notified, the clerk posted the information online as this was deemed the quickest way to reach most residents. It was also posted on the village group chats and notices out in the notice boards around the village.

The traffic lights failed on at least one occasion and NNC have been asked to remove and any outstanding signage to be completed.

All agreed the new gateways on Northampton Road and the dragon's teeth are looking good but the centre line could have been repainted to be more impactful.

Action: Clerk to request the main drag through the village be repainted and refresh the SLOW signs.

112/25. Development control / Planning Report.

Planning applications

25/01102/TPO

LOCATION: 43 Cransley Hill, NN14 1NB

PROPOSAL: TPO Woodland: Oak - remove major deadwood; Row of trees including 1 no. Pine, 2 no. Field Maple, 3no. Beech, 1 no. Sycamore and 1 no. Ash - prune overhanging branches by 3 - 3.5m; Pine - fell due to poor form and obstruction of small Beech

Planning Decisions

25/00802/TPO

LOCATION: 43 Cransley Hill, NN14 1NB

PROPOSAL: W4 oak – cut back overhanging branches

Approved

25/00769/3QCOU

LOCATION: Hockley Lodge Farm, NN14 1NT

PROPOSAL: Change of use and associated operational development of three agricultural buildings from an agricultural use to three residential houses

Prior Approval Required and Not Granted

25/00766/HFUL

LOCATION: 16 Carter Avenue, NN14 1LZ

PROPOSAL: Replace conservatory and outbuilding with two storey side and rear extensions.
In progress

NK/2025/0075

LOCATION: Rathmine Lodge, 42 High Street

PROPOSAL: Full. Conversion of existing house into 3 no. dwellings with associated parking
Supported

NK/2025/0047

LOCATION: 37 Church Street

PROPOSAL: Notification of Works to Trees in Conservation Areas: T1-T6 Sycamore - re-pollard to previous points; T7 Holly - crown reduction by approximately 3m

Target decision date: 13/03/2025

No comment

Re-notification of amended plans - NK/2025/0218

LOCATION: 12 Northampton Road, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Full planning permission: 3 no. detached dwellings with shared vehicular access and associated works.

Comment: See Septembers minutes 93/25

Cllr Scouse contacted the planning officer for clarification in relation to NK/2025/0218 on parking spaces and access for no's 16 and 18. The planning officer has asked the agent for a response

Action: The clerk to share on the website and social media Planning Objections and considerations while commenting on applications

113/25. Old Willows / A43

A43 - Following recent vegetation clearance, further essential works took place under an overnight road closure on Wednesday 15 October 2025.

These works included:

- Installation of Delta block temporary barriers
- Introduction of a temporary 40mph speed restriction
- Application of a temporary carriageway edge line to help guide vehicles safely and maintain lane discipline during the works

As the cycle lane can still not be used until these works are completed fully, the clerk will write to Dean Biddle for an update of the works programme

114/25. Poppy wreath

RBL – medium poppy wreath £19.99 plus £4.50 delivery. Resolved to order and have delivered to Cllr Scouse

115/25. Finance Report - to note expenditure for October

October 2025 statements

Nationwide 125-day saver - £17,817.63

Nationwide 35-day saver - £5,194.28

Community – £24,861.17

Credits to Nationwide 125 day-saver account – find out % Sept 2025

Interest		
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Credits to Nationwide 35 day-saver account – 2.80% June 2025.

Interest		
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Credits to Community account

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Payments issued from Community account.

Payee	Method	Amount
Salary - mth 6	Bank transfer	£447.35
HMRC income tax	Bank transfer	£111.60
A McDaid home working £12.00 Travel 27 miles @ 45p per mile £12.15 x 2	Bank transfer	£36.30
R. Shrive reimbursement – Land Registry	Bank transfer	£23.70
RMC Property Services Ltd	Bank transfer	£714.00
Room hire – Sept/Oct	Bank transfer	£40.00
NCALC - training	Bank transfer	£127.20
EE Ltd	Direct Debit	£6.88
Hugo Fox	Direct Debit	£11.99
Hugo Fox	Direct Debit	£20.99

Cllr Gray to authorise payments this month.

116/25. Precept – Estimates for coming year 2026/27

The incremental budget was circulated. The finance sub committee will look at it and bring their findings to the next meeting in November.

Action: Clerk to ask Cllr Bennyworth and Liam Faulkner if a decision on transfer of Play equipment has been reached and ask Cllr Benneyworth as Portfolio Holder to speak at next month's meeting on play areas.

117/25. Items for consideration at next meeting

Broughton Parish Council IT and email Policy in line with Assertion 10 – website compliance

118/25. Date of next meeting and other matters the chair considers to be urgent.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th November 2025

The meeting was closed at 8:25pm

Signed:

Dated: