

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

Parish Clerk: Alison McDaid.

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Minutes of the Broughton Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Broughton Chapel Room, 7pm, Thursday 19th February 2026

Councillors Present:

Cllr P. Scouse (Chair)

Cllr R. Shrive

Cllr. H. Bull

Cllr M. Rose

Cllr A. Tempest

Cllr M. Gray

Cllr C. Taylor

Ward Councillors present:

Cllr Jim Hakewill

175/25. Apologies.

Cllr B. Davies

176/25. Declarations of Interest.

No declarations were declared

177/25. Minutes to be resolved.

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 15th February 2026 were circulated. After an amendment was made, 169/25 read Orlington instead of Orlingborough, 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

CiLCA – Certificate in Local Council Administration

178/25. Public right to speak.

179/25. Reports from NNC ward councillors

Cllr Hakewill noted that NNC is currently facing significant challenges due to the departure of many experienced councillors from the previous administration. This has led to a depletion of "corporate memory," impacting the efficiency of current operations.

He expressed disappointment that Broughton continues to face the same recurring issues today as it did during his previous tenure as Ward Councillor.

Morrisons Daily: A review of the premises license is required. Cllr Hakewill is actively working with a local resident on this matter and will forward a video file of the original licensing meeting to the Clerk via WeTransfer to assist with the evidence.

The planning department remains in a "dire" state due to a severe shortage of qualified planning officers. While several apprenticeships have been created, the current lack of senior staff is a concern.

Investigations are ongoing in Loddington to identify the current occupants of the Gypsy and Traveller site

A planning application for a Costa Coffee outlet has been submitted at the truck stop. It was noted that a previous appeal for a similar development at this site was refused.

The council tax increase has been set at **4.99%**, in line with Central Government recommendations. Cllr Hakewill warned that failing to adhere to these levels would put future government grants at risk.

Cllr Scouse raised the situation regarding the A43 embankment is now critical; landslips and significant cracking are currently destroying the footpath. A geotechnical solution has yet to be identified. Cllr Hakewill committed to liaising with Highways and Cllr Pat Scouse to push for an urgent resolution.

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of a weight limit in Broughton. Cllr Hakewill cited Harrington as a cautionary example; despite having a 7.5-tonne limit, heavy goods vehicles continue to use the village due to a complete lack of enforcement.

180/25. Report from clerk & correspondence

Clerk Report

128/25 – 28 Wellingborough Road – Clerk to ask ward councillor to chase Enforcement and Highways. Ongoing

The Clerk contacted NNC Highways (Erik Drake) to request the inclusion of lamppost K180 on the Council's Section 50 licence. The Clerk was advised that formal permission must first be obtained from the asset owner. On the advice of Highways, the Clerk contacted the Estates Team on 3rd February (chased 11th February) to clarify ownership but the Estates Department has since confirmed that the asset does not fall under their remit and has referred the matter back to the Highways Department so the ownership remains unconfirmed. Ref MEM2585

The clerk received an email via the website from a resident asking if there is the intention of painting yellow lines around the new junction as there have been vehicles parking and causing blind spots when pulling out of Northampton Road.

There is also a damaged car parked on the footpath opposite Rathmine Close.

The clerk responded to say NNC Highways had no intention of installing yellow lines so contacted PCSO Adam Goode, to see if he could visit the offending vehicles and issue warnings. PCSO Goode reported that the police have already engaged with the owner. Currently, the police lack the legal powers to forcibly remove the vehicle; however, the situation is being monitored for tax expiration, which would provide a legal trigger for removal.

The clerk has wrote a letter which will be placed on the windscreen asking for the vehicle to be removed.

A young Broughton resident, Violet Parker is doing her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and for part of the volunteering element she's litter picking round the village. Cllrs and another resident have already recognised the difference her volunteering has made to the overall tidiness of the village and wish Violet good luck.

The following was reported:

- Ref: 8790509 - Temporary barrier fencing has fallen over along the side of the travellers site at Broughton have fallen over. **Completed**
- Ref: 8829674 - The drain in Gate Lane is blocked by debris from the adjacent bank and is causing water to pool further down the hill. This is dangerous when it freezes. **Completed**
- Ref: 8680317 - Numerous defects at bottom of hill including failed repairs at edge and new pothole in centre of road. **Completed**

- Ref: FLY796221292. Flytipping on the A43. **Completed**
- Ref: 8708184 - Road surface getting worse in Wellingborough Road – **Action scheduled**
- Ref: 8708134 - Pot hole in High Street – **Action scheduled**

A discussion regarding the amount of poor workmanship on the potholes around the whole of Northants was had. Cllr Shrive remarked that Essex Council have cameras on their bin lorries which automatically feed back to their council where the potholes are and asked if NNC would consider this. Cllr Hakewill informed BPC that the JCB machine that is also on the market and trialled by West Northants uses too much tar.

Anglian Water have requested a road closure on Church Street to safely carry out comms pipe maintenance. It is expected that the works will take 3 days and are due to commence on 23 March 2026. The closure and diversion can be viewed here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB148128736>

18/02/2026 -The clerk has now put in a FOI request for the March minutes of the Town and Parish Forum after another non response from the department since the 16th January

February correspondence

- North Northamptonshire's Empty Homes Strategy
- Members Planning Training - S106 and Developer Contributions
- NCALC Training Newsletter - January 2026 Edition
- Local Link newsletter - From Cllr Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council x 2
- Commissioner launches pioneering team to work with frontline police officers and clamp down on youth anti-social behaviour
- Northants ACRE Transport Directory 2026
- Latest newsletter from Northamptonshire's Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner
- Northants CALC Training Newsletter
- Police Locally Identified Priorities: Have your say
- Launch of North Northamptonshire's New Tailored Energy Advice Service (TEAS)
- Developing the Community Safety Plan 2025 – 2029 slides from meeting
- Town and Parish- Local Plan review briefing – 2nd March 2pm – 4pm. Cllr Scouse attending. 4th March, 6:30-8:30pm Cllr Bull attending

- PLACEHOLDER* Kettering East Local Area Partnership Meeting – The Pavilion, Kettering. 10am – 12pm
- Save the Date 24th March 2026 - Strategic Town and Parish Forum – Chambers, 7pm – 9pm. Cllr's Bull, Shrive and Rose attending.

181/25. Report from external meetings

Cllr Shrive attended the Highways Meeting at the Corby Cube on 10th February. The session included an operational overview by NNC Highways and an extensive Q&A session with Graeme Kane (Executive Director of Place and Economy).

Following recent infrastructure issues, a dedicated out-of-hours emergency number for highways has been confirmed: **01604 651074**. This has been verified and updated on the Council website.

Guidance was provided on the correct method for reporting faults. NNC advises against using the independent *FixMyStreet.com* website as it is not monitored regularly. Residents should instead use the official NNC Highways Online Reporting Tool (HORT).

NNC indicated that a dedicated direct contact for Parish Councils (similar to the Police PLR system) is expected to be introduced shortly.

Cllr Shrive raised concerns regarding the lack of communication surrounding road closures, noting instances where neither the village nor bus companies were notified, leading to significant transport disruption.

NNC maintains that "patching" remains the most cost-effective repair method. There is no longer a specific depth requirement for repairs; instead, faults are prioritised via risk assessment.

Major resurfacing works continue to be assessed on a case-by-case basis subject to budget availability.

Litter picking on the A14 and A45 is ongoing, though works are generally scheduled to coincide with lane closures for other repairs to minimize disruption.

NNC confirmed that road signs should be cleaned regularly as part of standard maintenance.

It was noted that under the Government's "traffic light" evaluation system, NNC Highways currently holds an Amber rating.

NNC stated that Balfour Beatty-managed lamps will transition to LED within the coming months. However, "legacy" lighting remains under review and may not be included in the immediate upgrade schedule.

End

Cllr's Scouse and Bull attended a remote meeting on 9th February with Richard Palmer & Sue Bakeman (NNC) to determine Broughton Parish Council's (BPC) current standing regarding the wider Local Plan.

The primary objective was to ensure BPC is aligned with NNC's overarching Local Plan and to understand the impact of any current shortfalls in housing allocations across the North Northamptonshire area.

Discussions took place regarding the formal review process for the existing Broughton Neighbourhood Plan. It was confirmed there is a shortfall on housing allocation.

BPC will now establish a specific methodology for the review, Form a dedicated steering group, and set a formal agenda for the NP review. A briefing on all call up sites will be sent to NNC tomorrow.

182/25. Police & Community matters within village

There was an attempted burglary in Lime Close, Broughton, Kettering 07/02/2026 between 12am – 12:15am

The Northamptonshire Strategic Road Safety plan adopts the five pillars approach:

- Road Safety Management
- Safer roads and mobility
- Safer Vehicles
- Safer Road users
- Post-crash response.

Northamptonshire OPFCC is seeking two new members to join their Joint Independent Audit Committee (JIAC) — a vital team providing independent assurance and oversight of governance, risk management, financial reporting and internal controls across the Office of the PFCC, Northamptonshire Police, and Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service.

The Road Safety Community Fund - Northamptonshire Police & Fire Commissioner is currently open

183/25. – High Street Playground Equipment

Liam Faulkner (NNC) replied to Cllr's Scouse to say they have successfully worked with Rothwell Town Council on the delivery of replacement equipment at Greening Road, which saw the removal and disposal of assets beyond expected useful life and economic repair. All assets were selected to incorporate low maintenance, greater resilience to wear and tear and burden on the very limited budget held for ongoing play area repairs.

In respect to the request for Broughton he explained it would be beneficial to understand the scope of intent at the site. There are several options to progress this request.

1. If the requirement is to replace the current play area in its entirety through a fully costed, approved and externally funded scheme which meets locally identified priorities we can explore the incorporation of the asset into the Councils' inspection, repair and maintenance schedules.
2. The option of a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the public open space to the Parish Council will enable full control over the long term strategic management of the site and freedom to explore alternative arrangements for the relevant statutory play area management regime.
3. Should the requirement be determined to increase the liabilities of the Council beyond those of current budget provision and allocated resources a service level agreement to mitigate any increase in liability will be required.

He stated that he is happy to continue the conversation along with reviewing any preliminary engagement and identified priorities that can be shared.

BPC will now seek further details on the specific terms and costs associated with a Service Level Agreement and inspect the Glebe Road site (funded by NNC) to review the quality and type of equipment installed there as a benchmark for High Street.

184/25. – Communications

The Council discussed several initiatives to improve outreach to residents by looking at their social media engagement

Total Followers 655, Likes 599

Since the last meeting, the clerk has posted 6 times

Help get our roads fixed – 16/02/26 – 2222 views, 20 likes, 2 shares and 16 link clicks

Report Fraud - 23/01/26 – 79 views, 2 link clicks

Road Closure – 28/01/26 – 3000 views, 1 comment, 4 likes. 10 link clicks

The Beat Bus – 1/02/26 – 639 views

Community Transport – 2/02/26 – 112 views, 1 link click

NNC Tailored Energy Advice Service – 12/02/26 – 115 views, 3 link clicks

The clerk will now update to the website homepage and on social media post recruitment opportunities, advertise upcoming face to face surgeries, Neighbourhood plan snippets, agenda items and Traffic calming results

185/25. – Traffic calming – Works update

NNC have filed all the necessary administrative forms to have all the funding streams approved for the pinch point on Kettering Road. The S106 funding needs to be approved by the Developer Board, which takes place in February, so there will be a further update at the end of the month. In the meantime, Highways is looking to get the consultation element of the scheme moving and will be drafting letters to the nearby residents affected.

The SID will be moved to collect comparison data from before the traffic calming measures were in place

It was noted that the new illuminated sign by the junction has been fitted but the old Give way sign painted on the road is still visible at night coming from Wellingborough Road. BPC have asked NNC to remove this but they stated that they were unable to due to the condition of the road.

186/25. – Village Hall

As the Village Hall are now a CIO and BPC no longer have to be Custodian trustees as they can hold their own lease, it was decided that they no longer need a representative from BPC so Cllr Scouse will step down. Action: Clerk to ask for quarterly reports to be kept in the loop.

187/25. – Pocket park works

To note, the works have now been completed by Castletree.

188/25. Development control / Planning Report.

Planning applications

26/00251/TCA

LOCATION: 10 High Street Broughton NN14 1NG

PROPOSAL: T1; Beech - crown reduce by 2.5-3m

T2; Poplar - remove to ground level.

T3/T4/T5/T6; Conifer - remove to ground level.

T7; Beech - crown reduce by 2.5-3m.

25/02168/HFUL

LOCATION: 22 Glebe Avenue

PROPOSAL: Proposed two storey rear extension, single story front extension and conversion of out building, including external insulated render and alterations.

No comment

25/02061/LNT

LOCATION: Bypass Farm A43 Broughton Bypass Broughton NN14 1NT

PROPOSAL: Removal of 3 no. existing antennas, and installation of 6 no. new antennas, 2 no. transmission dishes, and ancillary development thereto

25/01424/LBC

LOCATION: The Gables 54 Church Street Broughton NN14 1LU

PROPOSAL: Installation of a home wall mounted 7kw EV charger to the garage within a private driveway

Planning Decisions

25/00766/HFUL

LOCATION: 16 Carter Avenue, NN14 1LZ

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

In progress

NK/2025/0047

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

In progress

189/25. Finance Report - to note expenditure for February

February 2026 statements

Nationwide 125-day saver - £17,817.63

Nationwide 35-day saver - £5,194.28

Community – £20,380.97

Credits to Nationwide 125 day-saver account

Interest		
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Credits to Nationwide 35 day-saver account – 2.45% Jan 2026

Interest		
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Credits to Community account

SLCC Education Trust		£1645.00
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Payments issued from Community account.

Payee	Method	Amount
Salary - mth 11	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	Bank transfer	£24.15
Northants CALC – Training – A. Tempest	Bank transfer	£84.00
Northants CALC – Training – A. McDaid	Bank transfer	£1380.00
NNC Elections - Uncontested	Bank transfer	£25.00
Castletree – Pocket Park works	Bank transfer	£4176.00
Broughton Chapel – Dec - Feb		£60.00
EE Ltd	Direct Debit	£6.88
Hugo Fox	Direct Debit	£11.99
Hugo Fox emails	Direct Debit	£20.99

Cllr Scouse to authorise payments this month.

Nationwide – The signature mandate has now been authorised by Nationwide

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has confirmed the appropriate sum for the purposes of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for parish and town councils in England for the financial year 2026/27 will be £11.60 per elector, which represents an increase from the 2025/26 figure of £11.10.

190/25. CiLCA, external grant, training and future conference

The clerk applied for an external grant from SLCC Educational Trust to undertake CiLCA and was awarded £1645.00. The clerk accepted the award which will be paid directly into BPC's account. The NCALC training is £1150.00 plus VAT and £495.00 to register with the portal EMMA

NCALC training sessions start on Wednesday 18th March and run once per month through until 14th October. The sessions are on Zoom 9:30am – 12:30pm. The clerk's main job has given permission to study in their time.

BPC have offered the clerk 7 sets of 3 hours, a total of 21 additional hours that can be claimed at any time to study

It was Resolved to purchase the latest addition of the Charles Arnold-Baker 14th edition on Local Council Administration from SLCC.

The clerk asked if she could attend SLCC Regional training on Devolution, governance and growth at the Mercure Hotel Northampton, 4 November 2026. £85.00 plus VAT SLCC | Regional Training Seminar – East Midlands.

191/25. Items for consideration at next meeting

Winter light project – report from working group and clerk

Communications

S50 licence

NCALC membership

Memorial Garden

High Street Play Equipment – Site visit

Neighbourhood Plan review

192/25. Date of next meeting and other matters the chair considers to be urgent.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 19th March 2026

The meeting was closed at 8:36pm

Signed:

Dated:

DRAFT