

GEDDINGTON, NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25th MAY 2026 at 7.00pm.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors A Williams (Chair), B McCraith, E Gibson, T Bailey, A Storey and J Nolan.

APOLOGIES: Councillors G Johns, C Wrighting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest.

013/27: Co-option.

No potential co-optees were present at the meeting.

014/27: Public session

a) Questions sent in by the public

Any questions sent in are included within agenda item 023/27– Correspondence.

b) Report from North Northants Councillor.

No report.

015/27: APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS FOR COMMITTEES - and other items outstanding from the 11th May 2026 Annual meeting.

It was asked if anyone would like to put their name forward for the appointment of Vice-Chair. No councillor had put their name forward, but if any councillor reconsiders over the next few weeks, to contact the clerk who will add it to the next agenda for councillors' decision.

Finance Committee: Cllr Adrian Williams (Chair), Anita Curtis (RFO), Cllr McCraith.

Planning: Cllr Williams.

Recreation and Environment: *To be filled at a later date.*

Lighting/footpaths: Cllr Gibson

Bridleways: Cllr Nolan.

Parish Plan: Cindy Wrighting (*provisional, as Cllr Wrighting not present at this meeting.*)

Appointment of Parish representatives:-

Flood Wardens: Sarah Pask, Richard Broughton, and Cllr Bailey (for Little Oakley).

Town and Parish Rural Forum: Possibly Cllr McCraith.

Village Hall: Cllr A Storey.

Neighbourhood Watch. No lead at present.

Samuel Lee Charity: - Cllr McCraith

Other posts or issues.

Appointment of Responsible Finance Officer. Anita Curtis

Appointment of Internal auditor: TC Group.

Review of Standing Orders:-Reviewed by Cllrs McCraith and Storey. To be added to the 8th June PC meeting's agenda, for decision.

Review of Financial Regulations:-Reviewed by Cllrs McCraith and Storey. To be added to the 8th June PC meeting's agenda, for decision.

Proposed by Cllr McCraith that yearly reports will not be required in the future. Seconded by Cllr Gibson, agreed by all those present.

016/27- MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of draft minutes for the Monthly Parish Council meeting held 13th April 2026.

Approved by all councillors to be signed as a true record subject to the correction of two typos.

b) Matters arising - progress on outstanding actions.

9.3.26 – action 2: Nat-for-Max are not replying to phone calls or voicemail messages left. As well as a timer for the lights to come on, an electrician to take a photo of the (Queen Eleanor Cross) electrics just in case English Heritage need it in the future.

The clerk to contact another electrical company.

9.3.26 – action 7: *(regarding email from NNC 20.2.26 concerning bund responsibility (CSC783872746). The clerk to chase as no reply has been received.*

CSC823433743 Further chase submitted for the confirmation of ownership of Bund and Berm.

9.3.26 – action 8: *Cllr Johns raised a query: are the old black Victorian streetlights in the conservation area protected? She was informed that they are not protected, and they are owned by NNC as the lighting authority. They are not within the Balfour Beatty contract.*

25.5.26 – action 1: No reply had been received – the clerk has chased this on CSC844994202.

25.5.26 – action 4: *The clerk to write to the Chair of the Village Hall Committee and convey that councillors have great concerns with the situation concerning the play group and how it has been initiated to use both rooms for five days a week from 8.00am to 6.00pm. To ask the Chair of the Village Hall Committee if he could attend the next Parish Council meeting.*

No reply was received. An update and answer to the above query was conveyed to the Parish Council representative for the Village Hall Committee – Cllr A Storey. The Chair said he would not be attending the Parish Council as the representative can give an update. The Village Hall Committee will review the rent in six months. They will however ask the playgroup company if they can be flexible if the room is needed.

LITTLE OAKLEY.

Nothing to report.

Cllr Nolan offered to liaise with Newton residents as to any issues they will to raise.

017/27-FINANCE

These figures were prepared for the 11th May monthly meeting. This meeting was non-quorate.

a) Bank statements. –

Community account statement	18 Mar – 17 Apr	£39,247.44
Business Saver account	18 Mar – 17 Apr	£ 15.79

b) Accounts received

None

c) Accounts for payment : -

Northants CALC Ltd	Ncalc membership YE 31 Mar 2027	720.97
Anita Curtis (payment paid for the PC).	Transaction payment service FIH008201 for “letter before action” invoice – NNC322010364869 Uncontested election expenses May 2025.	70.00
James Stevenson	Priority A tree work completed from Tree survey	2480.00
The Community Heartbeat Trust	Spare Defibrillator pads	74.95

Proposed by Cllr Williams that the payments be approved, seconded by Cllr McCraith, agreed by all councillors present.

d) Third signatory needed for Unity Trust bank.

Proposed by Cllr McCraith that Cllr Williams be the third signatory, seconded by Cllr Gibson, agreed by all those present. Cllr Williams was happy to be the third signatory.

e) Quote for fallen tree in the recreation field from James Stevenson - £400 if wood stacked, £650 if wood is removed.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams that the quote for £650 for fallen tree and wood removal be accepted, as the fallen tree is at the far end of the recreation field, and cars are not allowed to drive over the field. Seconded by Cllr McCraith, agreed by all councillors present.

PLANNING.

a) NNC Decision notices

No decision notices received as at 13.5.26

b) Planning Applications - for comments.

Reference 26/00864/HFUL

Alternative Reference PP-14825951

Application Received Tue 31 Mar 2026

Application Validated Tue 31 Mar 2026

Address 34 Wood Street Geddington NN14 1BG

Proposal Single storey rear and two storey side extension (amendments to previously approved application NK/2025/0138).

Councillors had no comments to make relating to this application.

The Star Inn, 2 Bridge Street Geddington, NN14 1AD

This was an application for a pavement licence.

Councillors wished to support the application.

Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Nolan. Agreed by all councillors present.

018/27: PARISH PLAN updates

Traffic Issues. Cllr Gibson and Cllr Johns had been to the school to highlight the inconsiderate parking issues around the school. A former councillor has reported that the parking issues appeared to have improved. Noted that the resident who lives opposite the school had written in with suggestions and the actions carried out run parallel to those suggested in his letter.

Cllr A Storey and a former councillor had met with Cllr Brendon Lovell-Moore and head of Highways. A zebra crossing near the school was aired as a possibility, but the location meant this was unlikely to happen: too near a junction and they do not do the raised zebra crossings now. If a request is submitted they will look it - possible one-way traffic for an island on the side in Grafton road to narrow the road, or a chicane, may be considered.

New enforcement officers will be operational from September who will be able to issue fines for illegal parking instead of the Police.

ACTON 1: Cllr Storey, and a resident will submit an email concerning the chicanes to Highways and the wish for further exploration of this traffic calming measure. Photos taken of any vehicles over 7.5 tons going through the village and then sent to the Police 101 will also be discussed.

Village maintenance:- A quotation has been requested for trimming of the periphery of the recreation field. The brambles at the back of the Bowls club building will remain however. Elder trees and saplings – Cllr Williams will reach out to NNC to see if one of the colleges such as Moulton College are interested in providing trainee tree surgeons that need trees to work on. Community Service could be used to cut the smaller saplings down.

Noted that trees at the far end of the recreation field are not on the three-year maintenance programme.

019/27 STONEPIT LAND – lease update.

a) Lease update.

The GVFB lease was signed by two councillors following the Annual meeting on 11th May. The lease was then hand delivered to a member of the GVFB who lives in Queen Eleanor Road.

The Youth Club is being chased for closure to their lease.

ACTION 2: Cllr Bailey will draft a reply to TOLLERS for the clerk to send to TOLLERS, so they can confirm that everything is now as it should be with the Youth Club lease.

020/27: ENVIRONMENT

a) Emailed update from Boughton Estate 15.4.26 concerning state of Clay Dick and log removal.

Boughton Estate has replied as follows:-

“The issue of nuisance bikes has been raised with me before; we have raised this with the Police and unfortunately as Clay Dick is registered as a byway and the bikes appear to be registered, there is not a great deal that can be done about them as they have every right to use the track. If you have any pictures and photos of them leaving the track or without registration, if you can pass them on, I can raise this with the Police.

On the felled trees, these are due to be collected in the coming weeks by a contractor who will remove them from site.”

021/27 VILLAGE HALL AND CAR PARK.

a) Ownership of Village Hall car park – discussion

The Parish Council needs to find out if the land is owned by the Village Hall as the Village Hall Committee are sure that it does. It is believed that the Parish Council are “holding Trustees” but the Village Hall are “management” via the Committee.

b) Gigaclear – Village Hall Committee query to Parish Council concerning route of cable.

The Parish Council do not want to see the tarmacked car park left in a mess similar to some of the roads in the village when Gigaclear was installed. The route would ideally follow the right-hand side of the car park, but that is determined by any cars parked there.

c) Tennis court – Somebody is potentially interested in this – to provide paddle courts. It would have to go through Planning apparently as it would be a big structure with a glass roof. It would be part of the Sports Club.

ACTION 3: The Parish Council needs to look into this further to clarify the legal status of custodial trustee and holding trustee and examine the Charity Scheme 1976. . Cllr Storey will download the relevant documents, look at them and also email them to Cllr Bailey.

The wall and land to the right of the village hall also need determination of ownership.

022/27: COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH – discussion.

To register for Community Speedwatch, a minimum of one co-ordinator and six volunteers are needed. The cost to register is £150.00.

ACTION 4: Cllr Gibson will look into it further.

023/27: CORRESPONDENCE.

a) Highways engagement walkabouts from NNC 17.4.26, and specific items request.

The walkabouts will be on 1st June at 11.20am. Cllr Williams will liaise with NNC. Cllr McCraith can also attend the meeting.

b) Highways engagement walkabouts from NNC -plus Newton and Little Oakley cllr request .ACTION 5: Cllr Williams will telephone tomorrow and find out if 1st June slot is still available.

c)Email from resident regarding further damage to barn roof (claim) and electric cable on extension car park dangerous information.

ACTION 6: Cllr Williams will knock on his door as it is unclear which electric cable he is referring to.

d)Email 14.4.26 from resident regarding parking in Wood Street.

Some of the issues he raised have been addressed, with two councillors talking to and liaising with the school.

e)Email re. CAN Champion – meeting on Wed 20.5.26 , 7.00 8.00pm, online.

No councillor was available to attend the online meeting.

f) Email from resident -naming of road (John Doran Road) on one of next new roads in Geddington.

Action 7: one of the Highways officers that are currently involved in Highways walkabouts with councillors to be informed of this request, and if there is anything that the Council needs to do.

ACTION 8: As a back up, the clerk will contact NNC to ask if the Council needs to do anything, and ask if it can be formally registered as a request for naming the next new road in the village.

g)Email from resident regarding PTA event on 26th June at the Cricket Club.

The relevant documentation is in the process of being sent in. Councillors agreed the event can be held on the 26th June.

h) Email from Brightwayz regarding publicity for the PC for the new bike rack.

Publicity for the bike rack will be explored once the Brightwayz person is back from holiday.

ACTION 9: Councillors are happy for publicity to be carried out, but asking to see the draft written material before it is finalised.

AOB.

a) Cllr Williams had been approached by the Chair of the allotments. There has been a drive to raise money to enable water to be installed in the allotments area. About 40 residents use the allotments, most of which are Geddington residents. It was asked if the Parish Council would be happy to make a small donation. The allotments representative has been asked if she would like to attend the July Parish Council meeting to explain the proposed scheme, what she is currently doing, the cost and how much money has been raised so far.

b) The garages in The Woodlands are getting quite dilapidated. There is apparently still quite a long waiting list for hire of a garage however.

ACTION 7: Cllr Williams will speak to the former Parish Council Chair concerning this, as he believes he knows more about the garages and relevant NNC policy.

c) Cllr Williams also asked councillors if it may be beneficial to arrange an informal chat between The Bowls Club, Cricket Club, the Football Club and the Parish Council as all the organisations are there to benefit the community but nothing seems to be joined up. Councillors thought this was a good idea.

ACTION 8: Cllr Gibson to contact Cllr Wrighting and a member of the Cricket Club who has put forward some ideas to have an informal chat as to how the different groups can work together for the good of the community.

There being no more business, the meeting therefore closed at 8.45pm.