

NOTES OF MEETING HELD on WEDNESDAY 8th APRIL 2026
in the Memorial Hall, Helpringham

PRESENT:

Councillors: Geoff Hotchkin (Chairman), Julie Frizzell (Vice-Chair), George Frizzell, Mark Robinson, John Pittock, Adam Young.

Clerk/RFO: Judy Pittock

County Councillor David East, District Councillor Russell Jackson

NOT PRESENT: Councillor Steve Waterfield

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

TEN MINUTE PUBLIC FORUM - No members of the public were present.

01/27 WELCOME REMARKS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

02/27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Steve Waterfield and it was resolved to accept them.

03/27 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

It was resolved to accept the Clerk's notes of the last Parish Council Meeting held on 12th March 2026.

04/27 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT 2011.

No declarations were received.

05/27 REPORTS FROM COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- A written report from District Cllr Jackson was noted and is attached.
- County Cllr David East informed the Parish Council about the Councillor Volunteer Scheme and a small grant scheme for awards of under £200 to Parish Councils. There was no update on the Local Government Review.

06/27 CLERK and COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Maintenance and Village Assets

- Remembrance Memorial plaques – Cllr Pittock agreed that he would carry out an annual clean.
- Repairs to the Little Hale Road Cemetery gates and Old Cemetery railings. Quotes still awaited, item deferred until they have been received.
- Installation replacement seats by the school. Cllr Robinson confirmed that he would install the seats and the playing field bin by the end of the week.
- Noticeboard repair – Cllr Pittock now has the plywood and will proceed with the rest of the refurbishment.

Tree Works

- The cherry tree from the Circle of Trees Project has now been planted on the East Street/Hale Road junction.

Contracts and Agreements

- Pinfold Agreement – deferred

Village Projects

- Christmas Tree - It was resolved to accept the quote received of £45.00 delivered for a rooted 6ft Norway Spruce and that an order would be placed for a tree to be delivered in the autumn.
- Digital Hub – the clerk informed the Councillors that NKDC cannot provide any funding they will give as much support for the project as possible. It was resolved that a short survey should be distributed for residents to complete to gain interest. The clerk is to approach the Memorial Hall about installing WiFi in the Hall using the

Quickline community QHub, which is a free service. The clerk and Cllr Julie Frizzell will arrange to attend one of the NKDC Digital Hubs to gain more information.

- Dog Waste bins – it was resolved that the clerk should go ahead and purchase the bins for Vicarage Lane and South Drove. The third bin for Thorpe Latimer will be deferred until a suitable location is agreed.

Purchases and Admin

- Fireproof bags have been purchased. Laptop, laptop software, and cloud storage deferred.
- Bank signatories – waiting for further information to support application.

07/27 FINANCE

07/27.1 Final accounts for year ending 31/3/26 - It was resolved to accept the final accounts for the year ended 31/3/26 including the Actual v budget figures, bank reconciliation, payments over £100.

07/27.2 It was resolved to accept following documents presented by the RFO for the period 1/4-8/4/26:

- Bank reconciliation
- Actual v budget figures

07/27.3 It was resolved to approve payments presented at the meeting, totalling £1744.48:

CJP Garden Services	Inv 1022 – grass cut 17/3/26	£401.60	No VAT
CJP Garden Services	Grass cut w/c 30/3/26	£401.60	No VAT
Clerk's Wages	March 2026	£257.20	No VAT
Clerk's Expenses	Fireproof bags	£69.68	No VAT
HMRC	PAYE March 2026	£64.40	No VAT
HAVCS	Grant	£300.00	No VAT
Citizen's Advice	Grant	£250.00	No VAT

07/27.4 The following Direct Debit payments since 12/3/26 were noted:

18/3/26	E.ON inv0018 – memorial light electricity	£19.39	£0.97
29/3/26	Wave inv16326574 – cemetery water charge	£20.61	No VAT
31/3//26	Unity Trust Bank – service charges	£7.00	No VAT

07/27.5 The following receipts since 12/3/26 were noted:

31/3/26	Unity Bank credit interest	£119.56
1/4/26	Pinfold Rent	£60.00
1/4/26	NKDC Precept	£20,580.00

08/27 ASSET REGISTER – It was resolved to adopt the asset register for year ended 31/3/26 as presented by the clerk.

09/27 CEMETERY and GRASSCUTTING

Cllr George Frizzell reported the following:

- Interments in plots S18 and I30.
- Topple test will be carried out in May in the Hale Road and High Street cemeteries.
- Two grass cuts had been carried out to the usual good standard.

10/27 HIGHWAY MATTERS

To discuss Highway matters including:

- Request for extension of the 30mph on Station Road to the railway bridge – deferred as no update had been received.
- B1394 road damage and letter of complaint sent to Gareth Davies MP, Mayor of Lincolnshire and LCC Chief Executive – a response had been received from the LCC Chief Executive. It was agreed that the replied were unsatisfactory and that Cllr Pittock should reply.
- Update on FixMyStreet issues:

Date Reported	Ref No	Location	Issue	Status @ 30/3/26
24/8/2025	2853416	Station Road	Bollards	These have now been re-sited. One has since been pulled out.
10/11/2025	2860923	Station Road	Blocked drain	Order committed and sent to contractor. Will be on site asap as resources allow.
05/12/2025	2864369	Engine Drove	Multiple potholes	Hotbox job committed, waiting for confirmation of date.
09/12/2025	2864818	Thorpe Latimer	Low hanging tree	Enforcement process second letter sent. Highways officer needs to inspect before any further action.
17/12/2025	2503159	Station Road	Pothole	Completed 10/3/26
30/01/2026	2873622	By bus stop on Village Green	Standing water - blocked drain?	Will be cleansed at next gully cleansing cycle which is currently due in June.
31/01/2026	2874135	10 Station Road	Pothole	Completed 10/3/26
03/02/2026	4576381	Station Road	Pothole	Completed 10/3/26
11/02/2026	2876969	High Street	Standing water - blocked drain?	Work order committed, awaiting programming.
19/02/2026	2879299	Knott Hall Gardens	Standing water - blocked drain?	Work order committed, awaiting programming.
24/02/2026	2880847	Engine Drove	Bank slippage causing road collapse	Hotbox job committed, waiting for confirmation of date.
26/02/2026	2881288	Wheelwrights Lane	Light no 2 not working	Work completed.
02/03/2026	2882311	Highgate junction	Double yellow lines need repainting	Will be renewed asap once the weather has improved.
06/03/2026	2883142	Field Farm and Highgate Barns, Screddington Road	Multiple potholes	16/3/26 multiple jobs raised for intervention level defects. Works will be completed asap.

11/27 AGENDA ITEMS FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETING and ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Annual Parish Council Meeting agenda items to include:

- Reports from HAVCS and Citizens Advice Bureau following successful bids for grants.
- Reports from village clubs and societies
- Community Emergency Plan
- Finance – transfers between bank accounts
- Policies – HR following Employment legislation changes.

12/27 MATTERS AFFECTING THE VILLAGE/CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received was noted:

- Cllr Volunteering Schemes
- NKDC – Empty Homes Project

13/27 Date and time of the next meeting – **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Wednesday 13/5/26 2026 commencing at 7.30pm.** All meetings will be held in the Memorial Hall, Helpringham.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 13 th May commencing at 7.00pm	8 th July commencing at 7.30pm.	14 th October commencing at 7.30pm
ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 13 th May commencing at 7.30pm	12 th August commencing at 7.30pm.	11 th November commencing at 7.00pm.
10 th June commencing at 7.30pm	9 th September commencing at 7.30pm.	9 th December commencing at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm