

Aynho Parish Council

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PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING

Venue: Aynho Pavilion

7th April 2026, 7:00PM

MINUTES

Present:

Cllr Dawn Willis (Chair)

Cllr Poppy Hoole

Cllr Les Horley

Cllr David Leigh

5 members of public

Meeting commenced: 19:00

Cllr Ray Willis

Cllr Helen Mackenzie

Cllr Jerry Stephenson

26/01 Apologies for absence

None.

26/02 Members' declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Cllr D Willis declared a non-pecuniary interest in 26/12 as member of Walking Group.

26/03 Public Participation

- **Craig Kirby (Brackley FC)** addressed the Council to provide an update on the club's use of the sports field and facilities. He thanked the Council for the recent improvements and ongoing support. Mr Kirby also raised the possibility of allocating space for a **5-a-side pitch**. He also noted that funding may be available through the **Football Foundation**, which would require the Parish Council to commit to use of the facility for a **10-year period**.

- **Ian Allerston** spoke on behalf of **Mr Perkins** regarding **Agenda Item 26/05**, in support of **planning application 2026/0806/OUT**. He acknowledged that the **boundary wall requires repair** and read an excerpt from the Local Planning Authority's comments. A **smaller development** is now proposed, intended as **enabling development** to raise funds for repairing the wall, as grant funding is not available. Off-site enabling development had been considered. The land is owned by **RH** and leased by **Mr Perkins**. Members asked questions regarding the **completion of the previous planning permission and associated conditions**.

- **Representatives from Aynho Cricket Club** spoke regarding **Agenda Item 26/16**, confirming that the club is **in agreement with the draft licence** as presented.

26/04 Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council of 2nd March 2026

On the proposition of Cllr Mackenzie, it was **RESOLVED**: to approve minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council 2nd March 2026.

26/05 Planning

2026/0806/OUT - Land West of Bicester Road, Aynho – Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for the erection of **two self-build/custom-build dwellings** within the woodland known as “*The Finger*”, together with **alterations to the existing access from the B4100 Bicester Road** to enable the **full restoration of the east boundary wall to Aynhoe Park**, including associated **tree works and landscaping**.

A **resident statement** was shared with Members.

Members expressed concerns regarding the **incremental or piecemeal development** of the area and questioned the justification for the proposal. Concerns were also raised regarding the **loss of land within the designated Special Landscape Area (SLA)** and the impact on the **woodland corridor**, as well as the **visual impact and visibility of housing within this landscape setting**.

On the proposition of Cllr Horley, it was **RESOLVED**: That the Parish Council **objects to the planning application**, citing the **same grounds as the Council’s previous objection relating to development on this site**.

Brought forward

26/16 Cricket Club Licence Agreement

Cllr Horley updated Members on the **draft Cricket Club Licence Agreement** and recent discussions with representatives of the Cricket Club.

On the proposition of the Chair, seconded by Cllr Mackenzie, it was **RESOLVED**: That the **Cricket Club Licence Agreement be approved**, with Cllr Horley to coordinate final agreement of the draft document wording and the **signing with the Cricket Club by the end of April**.

26/06 Authorisation of Payments

Cllrs Stephenson and Horley inspected and confirmed the **bank reconciliations and invoices against the payments schedule**.

On the proposition of Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Horley, it was **RESOLVED**: To **approve the payments schedule for March to April 2026**, including a **late submission from E.ON for streetlighting maintenance (£355.20)**.

Voucher	Code	Description	Supplier	Net	VAT	Total
6	Audit	NCALC Subscription	NCALC	305.76	61.15	366.91
6	Memberships/Subscriptions	NCALC Subscription	NCALC	207.39	0.00	207.39
6	Memberships/Subscriptions	NCALC Subscription	NCALC	154.67	0.00	154.67
6	Memberships/Subscriptions	NCALC Subscription	NCALC	42.74	0.00	42.74
7	IT (Eqpt & Software)	Sage Payroll	Sage	11.00	2.20	13.20

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9	Pavilion - Utilities	Pavilion Wi-Fi	Starlink Internet Services Ltd	29.17	5.83	35.00
11	Street Lights (Elec & Maint)	Streetlight Maintenance	EON Energy Solutions (Highway Lighting)	296.00	59.20	355.20
10	Grass Cutting & Hedges	Village Grass Cut	RJ Groundcare Ltd	520.00	104.00	624.00
3	Pavilion - Gen Exp	Pavilion Cleaning	K Angell	30.00	0.00	30.00
5	Sports Field - Gen Exp	Green Bin Licence	West Northamptonshire Council	69.00	0.00	69.00
10	Sports Field - Grass Cutting	Village Grass Cut	RJ Groundcare Ltd	165.00	33.00	198.00
1	Hall Hire	Post Office - PC Share	Aynho Village Hall	87.50	0.00	87.50
2	Hall Hire	VH Hire for PC Meetings	Aynho Village Hall	30.00	0.00	30.00
4	PC Website	Aynho PC .gov Website	Parish Online	315.00	63.00	378.00
8	Clerk & RFO Salary	Clerk Salary - Apr	A Youel	685.76	0.00	685.76
			Total	2,948.99	328.38	3,277.37

On the proposition of Cllr Horley, seconded by Cllr Stephenson, it was **RESOLVED: To receive and note the schedule of receipts totalling £1,298.80.**

26/07 Bank Reconciliation

On the proposition of Cllr Stephenson, it was **RESOLVED: to receive and note bank reconciliation to 17th March 2026.**

On the proposition of Cllr Horley, it was **RESOLVED: to receive and note bank reconciliation to 31st March 2026.**

26/08 Budget Expenditure Report Qtr 4 2025-26

On the proposition of Cllr Horley, seconded by Cllr Stephenson, it was **RESOLVED: To receive and note quarterly report on expenditure against budget Qtr 4 to 31st Mar 2026.**

26/09 Financial Year End

The Clerk updated Members on the **year-end process to date and the next steps.**

26/10 Asset Register

The Clerk reported the following **updates to the Asset Register:**

- Disposal of **SumUp Air Bundle**
- Addition of **Community Speed Watch Camera**
- Addition of **Table Tennis Table**

On the proposition of the Chair, seconded by Cllr R Willis, it was **RESOLVED: To approve the Council's updated Asset Register.**

26/11 Governance

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED: To approve the Subject Access Requests Policy.**

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED: To approve the Reserves Policy.**

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED: To approve the Biodiversity Policy & Biodiversity Report.**

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26/12 Pavilion Hire Charges

The Chair updated Members on **pavilion hire charges** following feedback regarding the current **non-resident rates** and their impact on bookings.

Members considered:

- Setting the **non-resident hire rate at £10 per hour**, as originally suggested.
- Introducing a **slight adjustment to regular user rates**.
- Maintaining **no change to rates** for groups that hired weekly during the previous year.
- Removing the **“10-times user” rule** from the pricing structure.

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED**: To **adjust the non-resident rate to £10 per hour** and to **remove the 10-times user loyalty rule**.

26/13 Energy Pricing

The Clerk advised Members of **concerns regarding current energy prices** and **displayed some feedback from early engagement with an agency regarding electricity renewal options**.

26/14 Road Safety – Station Road

Members considered a **written submission from a resident of Station Road** regarding concerns about **vehicle speeds within the 30mph limit**.

The resident reported that, despite the introduction of the **30mph restriction**, vehicles are frequently travelling at excessive speed. Reference was made to a **serious local collision** and to **two previous incidents in which vehicles left the carriageway and struck the resident’s property**. The resident expressed the view that the current measures are not securing adequate compliance and that a **foreseeable risk remains**.

The resident requested that the Parish Council:

1. Formally request **updated speed survey data** from West Northamptonshire Council.
2. Formally request a **review of enforcement activity** from Northamptonshire Police.
3. Request a **site meeting with a Highways engineer and Police representative**.
4. Consider whether a **Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS)** or other **traffic calming measures** could be supported or co-funded locally.

Members noted that the **Council has previously met with Highways at this location**.

It was agreed that the **Clerk will respond to the resident**, advising of the previous engagement with Highways and that **Cllr Horley has offered to act as liaison with the resident regarding the possible use of the Council’s speed camera to gather relevant data**.

26/15 Village Survey

Cllr Leigh updated Members on progress following the circulation of **draft survey questions** and requested consideration of a **SurveyMonkey subscription** to support the survey.

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On the proposition of Cllr Horley, it was **RESOLVED**: To **approve Cllr Leigh subscribing to SurveyMonkey for 12 months at a cost of £228.00.**

Cllr Leigh will **obtain quotations for the printing of hard copy surveys** and report back to a **future meeting.**

Cllr Leigh left the meeting at 20:40.

26/17 Community Matters

a) Health & Safety:

No updates.

b) Grounds Maintenance – Cllr R Willis updated:

a. Maintenance Update:

- **Electrical testing reports** carried out this month – **all tests passed.**
- **Fire extinguisher checks** are due shortly.
- The **first grass cut of the year** has now been completed.

b. Play Park Update:

- **Two toddler swings require replacement**, approximately £109.00 each to be funded from the **maintenance budget.**
- An **additional swing seat and chain** also need to be purchased to replace worn equipment, to be purchased from **maintenance budget.**

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED**: To **approve the purchase of replacement swing equipment from the maintenance budget** and to **carry forward consideration of the options circulated for new play park equipment to the May meeting.**

c) Events

On the proposition of the Chair, it was **RESOLVED**: To set date for Car Show as Sunday 6th September.

d) Consultations

- Following the May 2025 elections, WNC have been reviewing the way the cost of elections is recharged to town and parish councils. WNC are aware the cost of elections is a concern for parishes and are consulting on 3 options which will run until **10 April 2026. No response.**

26/18 Newsletter

Items for next newsletter edition – Cllr Mackenzie to edit on behalf of council.

- Cricket Club
- Asset Register
- Policies
- Playpark
- Annual Council Meeting
- Council Vacancies

26/19

Next Meeting

20th April 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting

11th May 2026 – Annual Council Meeting

Meeting closed: 20:55

Signed: