

# Kirklington Parish Council Meeting

*Draft Minutes for the Parish Council meeting on 12th January 2026 at 7.30pm*

Attendees: Cllr Andrew Twidale (Chair) (AT), Cllr Nigel Chattin (NC), Cllr Ian Woolridge (IW), Cllr Bob Radford (RSR), Cllr Graeme Wheatcroft (GW), Cllr Patrick Mitchell (PM), Cllr Sarah French (SF), County Cllr Bruce Laughton (BL), Helen Cowlan (HC)(Clerk).

Public: P. Emerson (Village Hall Management Committee), C. McGarrigle (Church Warden)

## 1. Apologies for absence

District Cllr Penny Rainbow had advised she may not be able to attend due to a clash of meetings.

## 2. Declarations of interest

None.

## 3. Minutes of last meeting

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2025 be approved as a true record – proposed Cllr Woolridge, seconded Cllr Chattin (unanimous).

## 4. Adjournment for matters to be raised by the public for future consideration, and County/District Councillor items.

*Mr Emerson* asked if the Parish Council would consider a contribution towards the purchase of daffodil bulbs for planting in the village. He asked about the current position with the village signs and was reassured that work is still in progress, and a review is underway to agree specific positioning in agreement with Highways advice. Concerns were raised about road surfaces in the village, which have been reported and will be followed up.

*Mr Emerson* gave thanks for the opportunity to provide an overview of Village Hall activities including plans for: making the pathway good, inspecting the flat roof, repositioning the extractor, assessing the glass dishwasher, phone box maintenance.

*Cllr Wheatcroft* commended the fantastic work being done and asked if / how people could volunteer on an ad hoc basis. Mr Emerson will give consideration as to the best way in which to involve residents.

Mr Emerson left the meeting at 19.45.

*Mr McGarrigle* advised of the Christening on Sunday to which all residents were welcome. An update was given about works that residents were planning (with permission) to tidy areas of Home Farm Lane. It is hoped for more regular attendance at Church – services are well delivered and the new curate is settling in well. Church wardens and volunteers have been working hard. It was noted that the Christmas tree looked lovely.

*County Cllr Laughton* advised that the budget is being scrutinised with Council Tax levels to be confirmed. The number of Highways gangs has been halved and is impacted service being delivered – it is vital to report every issue to ensure the scale of problems are visible. The additional £17m that had been allocated to winter funding by those in charge previously has yet to be allocated. Parking enforcement (e.g. for parking on footpaths) may move across to be the responsibility of the County Council. It is hoped that the decision on local government reorganisation will be made by the end of March. The Mayor will take on the Police & Crime Commissioner's responsibilities from 2028. They are also leading a consultation about integrated transport systems which may include a review of rural transport.

Cllr Laughton left the meeting at 20.00, and District Cllr Rainbow joined it shortly after.

## 5. Planning

- i) 25/01880/TWCA – The Shieling, Southwell Road – felling of 1x pine and 1x maple. Outcome – permission granted (info only).

- ii) 25/01445/FULM - WINGS School, Main Road – erection of an animal therapy provision including associated animal shelter and livestock fencing to grazing paddocks. Status – being reviewed by Planning Committee 15<sup>th</sup> Jan (info only until outcome received). It was noted that there appears to be additional building work taking place on site which Cllr Rainbow will look into.
- iii) 25/01823/PIP - Land to the north of Hawthorn Cottage, Main Road – application for Permission in Principle for residential development of one dwelling following demolition of existing open-fronted car port. Status – being reviewed by Planning Committee 15<sup>th</sup> Jan (info only until outcome received). Cllr Rainbow confirmed that the process was a way of 'testing the water' without the cost of a full planning application. It was noted that currently there is no 5-year land supply.

It was **resolved** to suspend standing orders to enable Cllr Rainbow to give any updates (as per agenda item 4).

Cllr Rainbow advised that proposals are being considered to provide Council Tax relief for any household in which someone is suffering from cancer. It was confirmed that planters in Southwell are maintained by volunteers (Lions and Gardening Club).

It was **resolved** to reinstate standing orders to resume the agenda order.

## 6. Flooding

Cllr Wheatcroft gave an overview of proposed works at the sewage works site. Cllr Woolridge advise that works planned for connecting drains under the A617 (near the Church) are under review by a design consultant and it is hoped that draft plans and costings will be done by the end of February, for a summer implementation (dates to be confirmed). It is hoped that works for the apron will also be done at this time. The buried gulley has been cleared. A gulley has been unearthed and whilst it is not yet known exactly where it is draining to, it appears to have helped to resolve some of the issues at the A617 / Southwell Road junction. Issues at the bottom of Hall Farm Lane are slow to clear but do drain.

## 7. Highways Updates

Cllrs Woolridge and Chattin gave an overview of a recent site visit from Highways to review the placement of the village signs. The signs must not block other Highways signs so it may be necessary to put the new sign on the opposite side of the road (from Mansfield side). The position at the bottom of the hill (from Newark side) may need to be pushed back towards the Corkhill Lane junction. The power source of the lamppost is unknown, and it is understood that siding up issues would be reported - **ACTION: Clerk will follow up**.

The positioning of the sign at the Southwell end will need to consider visibility of tractor drivers exiting the fields.

It was identified that hedgerows near the proposed site for the apron works will need to be cut back. It was **resolved** that Cllr Twidale will arrange for one of the landowners to be contacted, and the Clerk will ask NCC to review the other.

## 8. Outstanding actions review

*Highways* – works have not been carried out to improve road surfaces at The Green, on the hill, or at The Mill; vegetation (ivy) needs attention near The Mill – **ACTION for Clerk to follow up and to request the water stop tap is uncovered.** (again).

*Lineage* – due to incidents and Christmas, Lineage have not been able to make progress in line with what was hoped but a site meeting will be arranged for the New Year in the hope of making improvements. Cllrs Twidale and Rainbow gave availability for attending – **ACTION for Clerk to follow up.**

Cllr Rainbow left the meeting at 20.45.

## 9. WINGS

No known issues. Cllrs Woolridge and French will organise a meeting in the New Year to maintain positive relationships.

## 10. Financial matters

- i) Balances – current account £8158.61, village signs £4500.00, CIL £6396.90, Flood Reserves £5993.21 and £8455.08 general reserves.

- ii) Clerk payment – payments for November and December were approved, including holiday pay and reimbursement of £20.81 for printer ink – proposed Cllr Twidale, seconded Cllr Radford.
- iii) Flood Reserves Expenditure – none made.
- iv) Review any other payments needed since last meeting – none made.
- v) Review any other payments due:
 

It was **resolved** to suspend standing orders to allow Mr McGarrigle to give an overview of the Church's position and projects (after which it was **resolved** to reinstate to resume the agenda order)

During a thorough discussion, consideration was given to what funding could be allocated and where, and where reserves might need to be used, to support important village assets. Cllr Woolridge confirmed the war memorial as being the Parish Council's responsibility in terms of payments for upkeep and so repair costs would need to be approved and paid once known, and proposed that basic donations made to the Church and to the Village Hall should match (although each may have different additional components to consider). Cllr Woolridge presented proposals as below to increase the donations for this financial year and continue into the budget for the next. – proposed Cllr Radford, seconded Cllr French (decisions approved by majority vote).

  - a) Donation to the Village Hall – it was resolved to pay a donation of £1500 and to pay £300 for hall hire.
  - b) Donations to the Church and war memorial – it was resolved to pay a donation of £1500 to the Church and £360 for the war memorial, with a donation of £150 towards the cost of the Christmas tree.
  - c) Budget for 2026-27 – it was **resolved** to approve the budget (unanimous).
  - d) Precept for 2026-27 – it was **resolved** to approve the precept being maintained at £9500.00. Any funds which may previously have been allocated for flooding would be set aside for potential projects. Conscious of the need for demonstrating responsibility and value for money, there would be the potential to reduce future precept(s) if funds not required.
  - e) Payments due before the next meeting – none.

## 11. Traffic Report

No known issues.

## 12. Village Signs

In addition to updates in agenda item 7, the signs are at production stage.

## 13. School Playing Field Access

Cllr Chattin advised that there are three proposals to the user agreement that the School and Governors need to review and approve before further progress can be made.

## 14. CIL Funding

The Clerk advised that two replies had been received in response to asking residents for suggestions about using CIL funding – the first was to extend the pavement to the edge of the village / Station Road to connect to the Southwell Trail – it is likely that there may be issues relating to the width of walkways for the footbridge, and the potential costs - **ACTION** for the Clerk to do further research. The second suggestion was to have some Christmas decorations (similar to the principle of lamp post poppies) like areas including Bilsthorpe, Farnsfield, Blidworth and Rainworth have – **ACTION** for the Clerk to do further research.

Cllr Chattin advised that interactive speed cameras could cost approx. £12,000 - after discussion it was **resolved** that this wouldn't be pursued at this time.

In terms of the previous suggestion of getting planters, it was **resolved** that the Clerk would look at prices to bring to the next meeting.

## 15. Correspondence

- i) Local Nature Recovery Strategy – *report has been completed (info only)*
- ii) Mayor's Big Transport Conversation – *consultation (deadline 8<sup>th</sup> Feb)*
- iii) NSDC Rural Watch Scheme – *details of volunteer scheme*
- iv) GTSF 2026 – *residents get 25% discount*

Meeting ended at 21.30.

.....Chair

.....Date

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