

ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Alex George
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15th January 2026 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillors: Rhiannon Harris (RH), Tom Boston (TB), John Funnell (JF), Grahame Barnes-Moss (GB-M), Lee Lewis (LL) and Matt Hawkins (MH) - Chair

Others: Alison Eastwood (AE) - WNC and Clerk

		Action
1	Apologies: Richard Burgess provided apologies. It was RESOLVED to accept the apologies.	
2.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: There were no declarations of interest.	
	To receive report from the WNC Ward Councillor(s): AE informed the Councillors about WNC's Local Planning consultation and invited them to consider a response to it. Currently, Aston le Walls has not been identified as a rural development site. Concerns around the parking charges introduced around West Northants continue to be discussed by WNC and feedback is always welcome. It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to continue to send the agenda to AE for future meetings.	Clerk
3.	To approve the minutes of the meeting on 13th November 2025: The minutes were RESOLVED as accepted.	
4.	Correspondence to include Website and IT: It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to send any relevant emails and articles to RH for inclusion on the website.	Clerk
5.	Financial Matters: It was RESOLVED to approve payments on the payment schedule.	
6.	Complaints/Suggestions: WhatsApp Group: It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to look into setting up a WhatsApp group to allow parishioners to join it to get information about issues like Neighbourhood Watch, etc.	Clerk
7.	Planning Application: 2025/5111/Full – 3 Sutton Close, Aston le Walls, NN11 6UJ: It was RESOLVED to support this application.	
8.	Trees overhanging St Mary's Primary School: MH provided an update to the councillors regarding the ash tree on the boundaries of the primary school that is a safety risk due to ash dieback. It was RESOLVED to share the costs of cutting back the trees with the school.	
9.	Biodiversity Grant: A grant of £1,335 was awarded to the Parish Council thanks to the work of Charles Lee and the Pocket Park group. The money will be used to improve the Pocket Park and will also hopefully help pay for some of the upcoming needed tree work.	

Copies of all council papers are available on request from the Clerk

	It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to purchase the identified materials for the Pocket Park project.	Clerk
10.	Dim streetlight between Main Street & Butler's Close: Quotation to replace existing lantern and install a new LED lantern was £315.00 plus VAT. It was RESOLVED for this work to take place.	
11.	Village Maintenance: Pocket Park: Grant money will be used to improve the Pocket Park. Millennium Garden: A tidy up is scheduled for the week commencing 19 th January 2026. Streetlights: N/A Defibrillator: N/A Public Footpaths & Rights of Way: N/A Trees and General Parish Environment: Two ash trees on Welsh Road were identified in the recent tree review as needing urgent work. Due to their location, they were reported to WNC Highways, who inspected them and stated that no work was needed at this time. Other trees further along Welsh Road are at risk of ash die back and overhang private property. The work identified would cost £950 for the trees to be cut back. It was RESOLVED for this work to take place. Winter Maintenance: Grit bins have been checked and do not need refilling.	
16.	General Update: Welsh Road: N/A HS2 Liaison, Highways and Road Safety update: HS2 Liaison Meeting taking place on 16 th January 2026. Neighbourhood Watch: The Clerk will speak to NCALC and CALC to get advice on a village WhatsApp group.	Clerk
13.	Any Other Business: N/A	
14.	Dates of next meeting(s): Thursday 19th February Thursday 19 th March Thursday 23 rd April – Annual Parish Open Meeting	
15.	Meeting closed at 8:27pm.	

Signed:

Date: