

ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Alex George
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28th May 2026 AT 7.30 PM

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

Others: WNC Cllr Alison Eastwood (AE), Charles Lees and Clerk

		Action
1.	Election of Chair Matt Hawkins was elected as Chair. Rhiannon Harris was elected as Vice-Chair.	
2.	Declarations of interest in items on the agenda: There were no declarations of interest.	
3.	Apologies: N/A	
4.	To approve the minutes of the meeting on 18th March 2025: The minutes were RESOLVED as accepted, but a note was made that MW should be MH in the minutes.	
5.	Matters Arising from the last meeting, not covered elsewhere on agenda: HS2 Update: The tunnel section at Chipping Warden is 90% complete. Appletree Lane should be opened again in Summer 2027. Public Rights of Way and bridlepaths will be the last to reopen when the work is complete. The Parish Council was invited to undertake a 2-hour long site visit between a Tuesday to Thursday in July or August 2026. Water Supply Issue: It was noted that Anglian Water were slow to respond to the issue and were very vague on their response to triggering the supply of bottled water. Parishioners will be encouraged to sign up to the priority list in case of future issues via social media and the village newsletter. The MP for South Northamptonshire, Sarah Bool, has written to Anglian Water to complain about the lack of information provided to West Northamptonshire, as the leak occurred in North Oxfordshire. However, the pumping station there supplies several villages in South	

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	<p>Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Council was not informed of the issue.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to put Anglian Water’s emergency line number on the Parish Council website for future awareness.</p>	Clerk
6.	<p>Chairman’s Announcements:</p> <p>N/A</p>	
7.	<p>To receive report from the WNC Ward Councillor(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AE has handed over the chains as Chair of West Northamptonshire Council to Councillor Fiona Baker, who has a long history of serving the communities of South Northamptonshire. • Two of the Ability Buses are being repatriated to WNC for future use. Tenders have gone out to contract two companies due to the variety of the routes identified in the tender process. • The move to have black waste bins emptied every three weeks is going ahead. It has been a Daventry area initiative for the past few years but is now going countywide in West Northamptonshire. It was noted that parishioners can request an extra black bin for free over the next 12 months if they believe that they will need it. • The Parish Council was reminded about the impact of any potential planning developments in the area. While Aston le Walls has not been earmarked for any development in the new Local Plan, it is not immune to developments. • WNC is currently undertaking an assessment on cars passing schools in the hopes of developing a planning criterion that no new houses are build opposite schools. 	
8.	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>N/A</p>	
9.	<p>To consider applying for Police & Crime Commissioner’s grant to use towards improving speed management in the village:</p> <p>It was RESOLVED for AE to request some “20 is plenty” signs from WNC for the Parish Council to use.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to research what grants are on offer for traffic management.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to research what training was available for volunteers to access regarding the use of handheld speed cameras.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED for the Clerk to ask Northamptonshire Police to consider a presence at future equestrian events due to excessive speeding by attendees of the events at weekends.</p>	<p>AE</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
10.	<p>To consider installing dog poop bag holders in the village:</p>	

	<p>The Parish Council discussed the proposal to install dog poop bag holders in the village at the cost of £295 per unit.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the dog poop bag holders were not needed at this time and instead continue to monitor the situation.</p>	
11.	<p>To note upcoming RoSPA Play Safety Inspection:</p> <p>It was noted that RoSPA was due to undertake a safety inspection of the Pocket Park in June/July 2026.</p>	
12.	<p>To sign off 2025/26 AGAR for Internal Audit Review:</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed and signed off the 2025/26 AGAR.</p>	
8.	<p>Finance:</p> <p>Income received from 15 March to 23 May 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Interest: £15.07 • Precept: £5,500.00 <p>Fund balances 23 May 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Account: £137.96 • Deposit Account: £21,287.90 • Total: £21,426.86 <p>Memorial Fund: £474.40</p> <p>Consider renewal of insurance policy with Zurich Insurance for £366.00:</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to renew the insurance policy with Zurich Insurance for 2026/27 for £366.00.</p> <p>Payment Schedule was RESOLVED and approved for payment.</p>	
9.	<p>Village Maintenance:</p> <p>Pocket Park: Ongoing maintenance continues.</p> <p>Millennium Garden: Ongoing maintenance continues.</p> <p>Streetlights: The streetlight between Main Street and Butler's Close has been repaired.</p> <p>Defibrillator:</p>	

	<p>N/A</p> <p>Public Footpaths & Rights of Way: N/A</p> <p>Trees and General Parish Environment: N/A</p> <p>Winter Maintenance: N/A</p>	
10.	<p>General Update:</p> <p>Welsh Road: N/A</p> <p>HS2 Liaison, Highways and Road Safety update: N/A</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch: It was noted that there had been an attempted break in in the parish recently.</p>	
11.	<p>Dates of next meeting(s): Thursday 16th July 2026 Thursday 17th September 2026</p>	
12.	<p>Meeting closed at 8:51pm.</p>	

Signed:

Date: