www.newnhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

These are the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting which was held on 5th October 2026 in Newnham Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: *Cllrs: G. Hammersley, G. Niblett, R. Levin, D. Bastin, J. Astle, T. Collins*

West Northants Councillors: *Cllrs R. Frost, & C. Hastie*

Present: Residents: *Steve Ratcliff* **Clerk:** *K.Carr*

ITEM NO	***BUSINESS***	***RESPONSIBLE***
01.09.26	**To Receive and Approve Apologies for Absence**	
	Cllr. P. Bannerman *Cllr. S.Shenton* *Clerk K. Carr* *The reasons for absence were approved.*	
02.09.26	**Declarations of Interest for Items on the Agenda**	
	None.	
03.09.26	**To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 7Th September 2026**	
	On a proposal by Cllr. Niblett and seconded by Cllr. Levin, the Minutes were approved and signed by Cllr. Hammersley.	
04.09.25	**Public Time (3 minutes per speaker)**	

FINAL

	River monitoring scheme - *A resident came to update council regarding the trial river level monitoring. He reported that the monitoring device is recording accurately despite the current low water levels. He indicated that the data collected could be useful with predicting potential flooding issues in the future. Councillor will discuss whether to continue this project on a paid-for basis at the next meeting.* **Highways / Road closures –** *Cllr Frost provided an update regarding the issue of unannounced road closures affecting traffic around the village. West Northants Highways are not required to notify Parish Councils of planned road closures and have no plans to change this policy currently.* **Flood Management** *– NPC raised whether WNC can support with silt/rubbish clearance under the road bridge at Newnham Mill, to further alleviate any risk of flooding. Cllr Frost will support by requesting a site meeting to progress this issue. Also to liaise with the Environment Agency regarding the general management of this stretch of water.* ***MUGA** - Cllr Frost shared that WNC estates had been in discussion with DRET regarding the Playing Field. It was agreed to arrange a round-table meeting to advance the conversation.*	*All*
05.09.25	**Correspondence & Ad Hoc items**	
	(a) Action Log – *the action log was reviewed and updated.*	*All*
	(b) Additional SID Update – *the device has been ordered. Cllr Hammersley has contacted Highways to see if a Section 50 application needs completing and submitting. The new SID will be located on Badby Road.*	*Cllr Hammersley*
	(c) Footpaths and Stiles – *no update.*	*Cllr Shenton*
	(d) MUGA update - *a meeting is to be arranged between NPC, WNC and the school (David Ross Education Academy Trust) to discuss the lease and tenure.*	*Cllr Hammersley* *WNC Estates*
	(e) Handyman – *scope for work to the Church Footpath is to be revised.*	*Cllr Niblett*
	(f) Removal of old telephone lines – *no further action required.*	
	(g) L.C. Hedging Invoices – *it was agreed that all outstanding invoices will be paid in full. Moving forwards, the contractor will be redirected to other tasks when mowing is not required or possible.*	*Cllr Niblett* *All*
	(h) Screen in Village Hall – *equipment to be purchased as agreed in budget.*	*Cllr Collins*
	(i) Christmas Lights – *it was agreed to extend the lighting to more trees on The Green.*	*Cllr Collins*
	(j) Distribution of village information leaflets – *councillors to distribute leaflets.*	*All*
	(k) Building rubbish on grass verge (bottom of Coronation Rd) – *a letter has been sent to the resident.*	
	(l) Preston Capes Road culvert/bridge – *Discussed in Public Time with Cllr s Frost and Hastie*	*Cllr Niblett* *Cllr Frost*

FINAL

	(m) Insurance renewal – *approved with immediate payment authorised.*	*Cllr Hammersley*
06.09.26	**Review of Policies:**	
	Equality and Diversity Policy - *the policy was reviewed, proposed by Cllr Bastin and approved. It will be posted on the PC website.*	*Cllr Bastin*
07.09.26	**Financial**	
	a. Bank Balance at 29th September 2026 is £73,496.22 of which £46,780.78 is held in the interest-bearing account.	
	b. Ratify and approve payment of the invoices on the attached schedule plus any others received after this agenda has been issued - *all payments were approved on a proposal by Cllr. Hammersley and seconded by Cllr. Levin.* *Invoice 1256 to L.C Hedging was ratified; there is a further payment and VAT is still outstanding. Clerk to review invoice schedule for L/C/Hedging and resubmit.* *Payments to be checked against the invoice schedule in the Minutes and then authorised by Cllr Hammersley.* c. Monies received since last meeting: *Precept £17,361.00 Cemetery Fees £365.00 plus £239.17 interest.*	*Clerk* *Cllr Hammersley*
	d. Audit Update - *External Audit report produced and circulated to Council. Notice to view Audit report has been posted on web site. There were no changes following the external Audit review.*	
	e. Revised Electricity Tariff – *a three-year fixed contract with Conrad Electric has been approved.*	*Clerk*
	f. Business Rates Update – *ongoing.*	*Clerk*
	g. Broadband Update – *action to liaise with Village Hall Committee /BT regarding charity status and potential savings.*	*Cllr Hammersley* *Cllr Collins*
	h. Budget 2027 – *the budget planning meeting has been arranged for Monday16th November.*	*All*
08.09.26	**Communications**	
	The monthly newsletter was sent out.	
09.09.26	**Planning**	
	a) Applications: *none*	

FINAL

	b) Decisions: *work to trees in Ivy Lodge approved.*	
10.09.26	**Health & Safety**	
	a) Burial Ground – *no updates*.	
	a) b) Play Area – *damage to matting will be repaired*.	
	b) c) Defibrillator check – *all checks carried out.*	
11.09.26	**Items for the next meeting**	
	• River monitoring project • Carols on The Green	
12.09.26	**Date of next meeting**	*All*
	Monday 2nd November 2026 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.	

FINAL

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE OF INVOICES

(a) Ratify the following payments made since the date of the last meeting (6th July 2026):

	Payee	**Details**	**Amount**	**VAT**	**Total**	**Stat.Power**
B/P	Business Rates	Sept/Oct	104.00		104.00	

(b) Approve payment of the following invoices:

	Payee	**Details**	**Amount**	**VAT**	**Total**	**Stat.Power**
B/P	Shield Maintenance Ltd	Dog Bin Collection Sept	26.00	5.20	31.20	LGA 72 – S.111
B/P	L.C.Hedging	16 Sept	365.00	73.00	438.00	OSA 1906 - Secs 10 & 15 & LGA 1972 – S.111
B/P	L.C.Hedging	03 Oct	290.00	58.00	348.00	OSA 1906 - Secs 10 & 15 & LGA 1972 – S.111
B/P	Village Hall	Oct	16.00		16.00	LGA 72 – S.111
B/P	K Carr	Clerk Sept	397.60		397.60	LGA 72 – S.111
B/P	Bartora	Defib check Aug	75.00		75.00	LGA 72 – S.111

B/P	Rob Haynes	Various	140.00		140.00	LGA 72 – S.111
B/P	Transfer	Transfer to Interest Paying Account	20,000.00		20,000.00	LGA 72 – S.111

(c) Direct Debits, Standing Orders & regular monthly payments:

	Payee	**Details**	**Amount**	**VAT**	**Total**	**Stat.Power**
D/D	IONOS	Internet Aug./Sept	18.00	3.60	21.60	LGA 72 – Sec 111
D/D	Giga Clear	Broadband Aug/ Sept	56.05	11.21	67.26	LGA72 - Sec111

FINAL