



Ecton Parish Council

Minutes of the **Ordinary Meeting of Ecton Parish Council** held in the Village Hall, High Street, Ecton on **Tuesday 22nd July** at 7.30pm.

Present: Mr I Whittaker (Chair), Mrs C Adams, Mrs S Bell, Mr N Bond and Mr D Dicks

In Attendance: Mrs S Wong – Parish Clerk and Unitary Councillor Scott Brown

Item No	
1121/2025	<p>Public Session – Parishioner Points – Lasting up to 15 minutes There was no public session as there were no members of public in attendance.</p>
1122/2025	<p>To Receive Apologies Apologies were received from Mr J Fernley and Mr S Grisewood.</p>
1123/2025	<p>Receive any Declarations of Interest No Declarations of Interest were received</p>
1124/2025	<p>To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 20th May 2025 It was RESOLVED the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Parish Council held on the 20th May 2025 having been previously circulated, were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair Mr I Whittaker.</p>
1125/2025	<p>To receive a report from North Northamptonshire Councillors and to Receive any updates regarding the PC’s next steps with regards to reducing the speed limit of the old A4500 Cllr Scott Brown gave his update report which included the following:</p> <p>Isham By-pass Good progress has been made in resolving the queries raised by statutory consultees in relation to the planning application, and we are expecting that the application will be considered by our Planning Committee in the autumn.</p> <p>The Government made an announcement about the funding of major road and rail schemes a few weeks ago. Isham Bypass was one of the schemes listed as “under consideration” and in the months ahead the Government will be reviewing the viability and affordability of the scheme to determine whether they will be able to fund it. In essence this is a continuation of their review of the Outline Business Case which was submitted last December, and Council officers have written to the Department for Transport to offer any help they can with this review.</p> <p>Planning Plans to add an additional 300 homes to Glenvale Park development have been passed. As Part of the conditions of this development there will be improvements to the Ock & Dough roundabout, in addition to a roundabout at Great Harrowden to aid journeys in and out of the village.</p>

	<p>Residents Satisfaction Survey NNC has launched a Residents Satisfaction Survey to gather feedback on council services. This initiative provides residents an opportunity to voice opinions on local services, including roads, planning, community facilities all of which could influence future decisions affecting the village.</p> <p>School Renovation and SEND provision NNC has allocated £4.7m for school renovations in Rushden, Kettering and Oundle to increase school places and improve SEND provision</p> <p>Grants Ward Empowerment fund is available. Each ward is allocated yearly funding for small community-based projects. Money can be awarded to parish councils, community groups, voluntary organisations and charities working in North Northamptonshire. For more information, please get in touch!</p> <p>Speed limits on A4500 Panel meets in August to consider reductions to 40mph from Ecton Brook through to Wilby. I submitted the case back in February, but I can still amend my submission with any updated information which may be assist the case. I have already requested updated statistics on any reported accidents from the police that I may be unaware of.</p> <p>Signage Unfortunately, WNC still have not trimmed back the foliage obstructing the No HGV signage. Further signage for the NNC side is on order. I haven't ordered the requested please slow down signs requested as of yet, since I don't know how many you may want.</p> <p>Dog waste I'll speak to Tracey Montgomery tomorrow to get this sorted out and ascertain what may be going on and try to make sure you're getting an appropriate service!</p>
1126/2025	<p>Parish Council Vacancies – Discuss any Applications No applications of interest have been received. The Clerk will continue to advertise the Parish Councillor vacancy.</p>
1127/2025	<p>Receive any Police Updates from Councillor Ian Whittaker The Chairman Mr I Whittaker is the PC's Police Liaison Representative. Ian reported there was a recent recorded crime in the village. One car was broken into at the Worlds End Pub.</p>
1128/2025	<p>Correspondence Northants Calc – CAN Championships. Action: Clerk to write back and ask what they hope to accomplish by holding these meetings? The Clerk will be the PC's CAN representative. Sywell PC wrote in to ask if the PC has a litter picking group? Action: Clerk to reply there is No Litter Picking Group in Ecton Village, maybe try the Northants Litter Wombles at https://northantslitterwombles.co.uk/ The PC has received a number of complaints regarding parishioners leaving their refuse wheelie bins out longer than is necessary. Action: Clerk to make an announcement on social media and write to a household in High Street.</p>
1129/2025	<p>Financial Matters a Review of financial statement as at 22/07/25 & propose payments for bank authorisation at meeting It was RESOLVED to approve payments to be made in July 2025 (Appendix A) via bank transfer. These payments were authorised online during the meeting via NatWest Bankline by Cllr N Bond.</p>

	<p>The Clerk reported the Bank Balances to date as reconciled to the bank statement were as follows: Current Account £50.00, Reserves Account £32,861.49 less July payments of £1,548.30 = £31,363.19</p> <p>This is broken down into £3,289.39 David Cross funds, £113.52 Playing Field Funds , £814.75 Chair Pilates Grant and £27,145.53 Parish Council Funds.</p> <p>Income received since May 2025 Bank Interest £34.33 30.5.2025 & £32.55 30.06.2025. Financial reports were received for information.</p>
1130/2025	<p>Village Services a Receive any update reports on the Playing Field There were no concerns to report at the Playing Field.</p> <p>b Receive updates and discuss any village maintenance matters inc the Lower Ecton Lane fly tipping Unitary Scott Brown said to continue to report any fly tipping to him and he will arrange to get it removed. NNC have an agreement with WNC that any fly tipping they remove that is on the WNC boundary, NNC will bill WNC for the cost of the clearance services. NNC are quicker at dealing with the fly tipping than WNC, so NNC are happy with this arrangement.</p> <p>c Discuss and agree whether to purchase a new waste bin for the bottom of West Street to alleviate the ongoing Dog Waste problems The waste department at NNC are not being very forth coming with the PC's request to install a larger dog waste bin by the field at the bottom of West Street. The PC has been informed they can't replace the small dog waste bin with a larger one, nor can they add any further dog waste bins to the village. The PC however, can purchase and install a public waste bin at the bottom of West Street instead. Before the PC looks at this route, Councillor Scott Brown will speak with Tracey Montgomery at the waste department to see if the bin at West Street can be emptied twice a week to help alleviate the over flowing of the bin?</p>
1131/2025	<p>Receive any reports from Parish Councillors – including Chair Pilates Update – Cllr Chrystal Adams Cllr C Adams attended a Gypsy and traveller forum meeting at NNC yesterday and gave councillors a brief update report on the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr C Adams also reported that program 1 of the Chair Pilates ended last week and gave a summary of the feedback received from the feedback survey. The Chair Pilates was a popular course, attended by just short of 15 attendees each session, due to drop outs. Attendees reported they enjoyed the sessions. Program 2 will take place in September. Numbers will increase to 17, to allow for drop out numbers. This will be the final course offered FOC by the PC, as the costs were covered by a grant secured through NNC and not directly from the PC.</p>
1132/2025	<p>Discuss any planning related matters including those not yet determined The PC has been notified that the Secretary of State has accepted an application by Green Hill Solar Farm for a Development Consent Order, this is now available to view and to download on the Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) website at the following link: national-infrastructureconsenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010170/documents Additionally, a link to the application can be found on the Green Hill website. The PC has no comments to make at this time. No other planning applications have been received at this time.</p>
1133/2025	<p>Progress any Matters Arising from the previous minutes not covered by items on the agenda</p>

	There were no matters arising to discuss.
1134/2025	Discuss any items to be considered for the next meeting There are no items for consideration for the next meeting at this time.
1135/2025	Date of next meeting – Meeting of the Parish Council - Tuesday 23rd September 2025 It was RESOLVED to hold the next Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 25 th September in Ecton Village Hall at 7.30pm.
	Close: The meeting ended at 8.40pm

Signed byDate

Appendix A

1129/2025 Financial Matters

Monies must be paid out only in pursuance of statutory powers (SP) vested in the Parish Council. All paid under the General Power of Competence which was implemented in May 2025.

RESOLVED balances as presented are accepted. **RESOLVED** the following accounts be paid.

Payments to be made in July

Payment Method	Total Amount	Vat	Payee	Details
BT	341.02	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary 25.06.25 to 22.07.25 20 hours @ LCP 27 £19.10pph Office & Broadband £35.42 Tax deductions £76.40
BT	76.40	0.00	HMRC	Employer NI Contribution £0 Tax S Wong £76.40
BT	318.00	53.00	Hayeswood Landscapes	Grass Cutting June
BT	160.00	0.00	Shevolution Fitness	Hire of Pilates Teacher in June 2025
BT	440.42	33.85	SSE Energy	Street Lighting costs 1.6.25 To 30.06.2025
BT	212.46	10.12	Valda Energy	Street Lighting costs 1.7.25 To 31.07.2025

Total value of payments £1,548.30

To note approved payments made out of meeting in June by the Clerk using delegated powers

Payment Method	Total Amount	Vat	Payee	Details
BT	799.74	29.36	SSE Energy	Street Lighting costs 1.3.25 To 30.04.2025
BT	349.94	0.00	Shirley Wong	Clerks Salary 22.5.25 to 24.06.25 21 hours @ £393.12 Office & Broadband £35.42 Tax deductions £78.60
BT	78.60	0.00	HMRC	Employer NI £0 Tax S Wong £78.60
BT	451.49	16.35	SSE Energy	Street Lighting costs 01.05.25 to 31.05.25
BT	708.00	118.00	Hayeswood Landscapes	Grass Cutting May and apply Weed Control
BT	45.00	0.00	Ecton Village Hall	Room Hire for Chair Pilates June 2025
BT	160.00	0.00	Shevolution Fitness	Hire of Pilates Teacher in May 2025
BT	209.99	35.00	Wybone Limited	56ltr Dog Waste Bin

Total value of payments £2,003.02