Kings Cliffe Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 7th October 2026 at KC Active, Kings Cliffe, PE8 6YH

Present: Cllr Woore (Acting Chair), Cllr Day, Cllr Meadows, Cllr Howard, Cllr McVitty, Cllr Varty, Cllr Stewart

Clerk/RFO: Lee O'Connor

1 Member of the Public / Cllr Simon Fairhall (NNC)

Minutes

26/155	**Apologies for absence** Cllr Atkinson Cllr Jubb Cllr Copeland
26/156	**Declarations of Interest** 26/180 Cllr Woore (KCA) 26/180 Cllr Varty (KCA) 26/166 Cllr Day - Planning: 26/02570/TCA 26/169 Cllr Day – Quote for works
26/157	**Public Participation** None
26/158	**Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated)** The minutes from the 10th September 2026 were agreed in full. Proposed: Cllr Stewart Seconded: Cllr Meadows
26/159	**Matters arising from the previous Meeting** On the agenda
26/160	**Reports from Unitary Councillors** Cllr Simon Fairhall reported: *Pleased to report a well attended Cluster Meeting for Town and Parish Councils / Meetings from the Oundle Ward – 16 represented, 4 apologies for absence. Good interaction and sharing of issues, albeit could have structured the evening better to create more discussion in groups. Major issue if a feeling of lack of collaboration, partnership, understanding and appreciation of Parish Councils by North*

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	Northamptonshire Council – seemingly across the board and so inviting the Leader and Chief Executive to a future meeting hopefully before the end of the year. *EV Chargers installation in Easton-on-the-Hill and Oundle has left a little to be desired – in effect 'inconsiderate construction'. With poor notice given to residents of work starting, compounding an existing feeling of insufficient or inappropriate consultation. Concern that in the future parking restrictions might be added and therefore recommend to maintain an awareness of use or any issues once they are installed and operational – and contribute to ongoing engagement regarding possible additional sites in Kings Cliffe.* *Local Plan next stage consultation has been pushed back into the New Year. I will keep pressing for early release of actual dates so that Council can plan in terms of their own meeting agendas but also any consultation activity with their communities.* *I would appreciate seeing the results of the KCPC Oak Lan Play Consultation because I am proposing a Play Consultation to 'plug the gaps' of the NNC work, which was focused only on NNC owned Play facilities, thus excluding most of old East Northamptonshire area. Parish Council activity in the Ward (KC, EotH, Collyweston, Nassington etc) highlights that it's an area of interest.* *Old Middle School site. I will feedback on outcome of discussions at NNC regarding potential future use of this land, having flagged to senior Officers the possibility of reinvigorating the Care/sheltered housing provision idea led by the Surgery years ago. Concern that NNC might just determine disposal for development and I would ask KCPC to consider whether to add any weight to the exploration of this idea.* **Action:** Old Middle School (NNS) Land onto the agenda
26/161	**Reports from Staffing Committee/Working Groups** **Amenities Working Group** No update **Staffing Committee** No update **Cemetery and Churchyard Working Group** No update **Emergency Planning Working Group** Councillors are content for Cllr Woore to speak as the Chair of EPWG to the press. The Clerk should be made aware of all communications and then would communicate with the Chair/Council. It was resolved for the Clerk/RFO to purchase resources required for the Emergency Planning Working Group, up to the cost of £500 (plus VAT) Proposed: Cllr Howard Seconded: Cllr Stewart

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	L.E.D Conversation Working Group The Clerk/RFO reported that a KC streetlight plan has been sent to Belfour Beaty and awaiting an assessment from them and an update. The Clerk/RFO has also asked E-on, our current maintenance supplier, for a total project cost as well. Following discussion on lighting on Sovereign Grange, it was agreed for the Clerk to link with J Gamble regarding streetlights on Sovereign Grange. Also to write a letter to Persimmons/Encore following this conversation, if needed.
26/162	**Clerks Report** Social Media updates Website updates Policy Updates Finance/Accounts work Allotments – Meetings Final Grant submission and report for the Cricket Field with GrantScape Updating Grant schedule with Veolia Community Trust Meeting contractors Meetings with Councillors Meeting with Parishioners Meeting with Parish Cluster Groups Sourcing Quotes Project Management Bench on Wood Road (adding to Asset Register) External Audit result shared with Councillors and posted on website. All councillors confirmed they had received and read the report.
26/163	**Accounts Payable** YU Energy – Monthly £653.80(dd) Scribe – Monthly £68.40 (dd) Barclay Card Commercial – Monthly £13.61 (dd) HMRC – Monthly £721.24 Robinsons Gardening – Monthly/One Off £3,745.00 EE – Monthly £15.60 Memorial Village Hall – One off £24.00 Matthew Kirk – One off £10.15 Anglian Water – One off £27.86 (dd) Rob Giddings – Monthly £900.00 E-on – One off £420.00

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	Parish Online – Annual	£745.20
	G.P Services – One off	£120.00
	Oundle Community First Responders – One off	£2,200.00
	*HMRC – One off	£916.57 – not paid
	Community Heartbeat Trust – Annual	£810.00
	Proposed: Cllr McVitty Seconded: Cllr Woore	
	*HMRC – £916.57 [agreed not to be paid - Clerk/RFO to write a letter of appeal]	
26/164	**Amounts Received**	
	Allotments	£8.00
	Cemetery	£100.00
26/165	**Financial Position**	
	Bank Balances:	
	Unity Trust Current Account £134,372.79 **(as of 30/9/26)**	
	Unity Trust Savings Account £887.96 **(as of 30/9/26)**	
	Nationwide Business 95 Day Saver: Section106 Lap&Leap £69,587.73 **(Hypothecated Reserves, as of 31/03/26 Statements Annually)**	
	Cambridge Building Society Saver: Section106Lap&Leap **(Hypothecated Reserves)** £54,625.20 **(as of 31/03/2026, Statements Annually)**	
	[Cllr Meadows checked the figures produced against the bank account (current Acc) – all figures checked were correct]	
	It was resolved to transfer £887.96 from Savings to Current Account for Cemetery works in November (historical cemetery funds) and to also Transfer £100,000.00 from the Current Account to Savings Account.	
	Proposed: Cllr Howard Seconded: Cllr Milne Atkinson	
26/166	**Planning Applications to NNC**	
	https://publicaccess.northnorthants.gov.uk/online-applications/	
	https://publicaccess.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/	

26/02625/HFUL	121 Wood Road, King's Cliffe, PE8 6XR	Householder Planning Permission: erection of a side extension.	No objection

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	Ref.	**Location**	**Proposal**	**KCPC Comments**
	26/02570/TCA	31 Park Street, King's Cliffe, PE8 6XN	Removal of Sycamore and reduction/ management of Leyland Cypress.	No objection
	26/02537/AOC	Land Rear of Fineshade Close, King's Cliffe	Discharge of Conditions 16 (Site Management Plan) and 17 (Footpath) pursuant to NE/23/01021/FUL.	Objection - KCPC to write a letter to contractor regarding the footpath - is it open for public use?

26/167 **Planning Decisions by NCC /Appeals**

Ref.	**Location**	**Proposal**	**Decision**
26/02196/TCA	43 West Street, King's Cliffe, PE8 6XB	Fell T1 Eucalyptus tree	**Approved by NNC**

26/168 **Cricket Field Update**

The final project report has been submitted and approved by GrantScape and the final payment for the grant has been paid on 6th October to KCPC.
The Clerk/RFO will continue to work with all stakeholders in this area to develop a Management Plan and 'User Agreement'.

It was resolved to not cut the long grass at the western edge of the Cricket Field and leave it until next year.

Proposed: Cllr McVitty Seconded: Cllr Woore

26/169 **Oak Lane Common Update**

The fencing is expected to be completed by the end of next week. Once the works are complete, the Clerk/RFO will liaise with the local farmer to arrange for sheep to be introduced to the site.

Draining issues along the boundary between the field and houses have been raised again. Discussions around installing drainage was had but it was decided to not proceed due to any potential future liability issues.

26/170 **Willow Brook Pollution Check Update (Environment Agency/Anglian Water)**

Since the last meeting, the Parish Council has written again to the Environment Agency regarding concerns about the quality of the water flowing through Willow Brook within the parish, copying in the office of Lee Barron MP. To date, no response has been received.

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	The Parish Council has also contacted Anglian Water regarding the capacity of the King's Cliffe Sewage Treatment Works, particularly considering planning permission being granted for the Rockingham Forest Holiday Park. A response has now been received from Anglian Water and has also been shared with the local MP. It was discussed and agreed for the Clerk to email Anglian Water asking, '*Where the manhole cover is*?' from their response. There are concerns over the manhole cover location and the historic bridges in the area.
26/171	**Willow Brook Grant Update** Cllr Milne Atkinson shared a meeting will be set up and will be an 'open discussion meeting'. Councillors are concerned with the process and consultation so far. It was reported all Landholders will be invited.
26/172	**Amplius Owned Garages/Village Parking** Cllr Simon Fairhall will complete a members request to ask when and how these garages were transferred from Council use to private ownership and what the terms of usage are.
26/173	**Street Lighting Approval** It was discussed and resolved to allow the Clerk/RFO to order replacement Street Lighting without full Council Approval. Proposed: Cllr Woore Seconded: Cllr Meadows
26/174	**VAS Camera Update** Cllr McVitty shared the data from the two VAS cameras. On Apethorpe Road, 63.73% of readings exceeded 30 mph, with 31.81% exceeding 35 mph. In comparison, the Railway Bridge recorded 5.17% above 30 mph and just 0.42% above 35 mph. Councillors noted the continued disparity between the two locations, with speeding remaining a particular concern on Apethorpe Road. The results have remained broadly consistent throughout the reporting period. The Council will continue to monitor the data. It was resolved for the Clerk and Cllr McVitty to meet and discuss quotes and then to purchase a new VAS Camera up to the value of £3000.00 plus VAT Proposed: Cllr Stewart Seconded: Cllr Woore
26/175	**Speed Awareness Update/Letter from KCPC to Northamptonshire Constabulary** *Speed Aware Update*

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	Cllr Varty reported he had meet with the PCM and others, highlights from the meeting included 'not enough police supporting rural areas'. Speeding is also an issue. Road safety is a priority from Sept 2026. Community Speed Watch Team will be set up, Cllr Varty to coordinate this. A minimum of 6 volunteers are required. Cllr Varty will draft a letter of support to start to the process. Proposal: Cllr Varty Seconded: Cllr McVitty *Letter to Northamptonshire Constabulary* Since the last meeting, the Parish Council has written to NC with regards to concerns over Local Policing including the lack of PCSO support in the area. A response has not yet been received.
26/176	**Sovereign Grange Park Play Equipment Update** No meeting set up as yet, due to holidays/meetings. This will happen before the next meeting. Cllr Varty to join working group.
26/177	**Northern Boundary Fence/Hedge at KC Active Update** Following discussion of all the quotes, it was resolved to go with the quote from J Snowdon. Proposed: Cllr Woore Seconded: Cllr Varty
26/178	**Allotments Update** Allotments are now full.
26/179	**Gazette Entry for November 2026** VAS Camera update – top line data Oak Lane Common Appeal for volunteers – Speed watch Memorial Bench for the top of Oak Lane Common
26/180	**Communications Received** Bench at the top of Sovereign Grange Park – to be added to the next agenda. A request for KCA 'Augean Grant Funds' applied for by the PC – It was agreed this was not appropriate and could not be undertaken. Traffic Calming measurers in KC (VAS Camera update)

The next meeting of the Kings Cliffe Parish Council will take place on **Thursday 12th November** 2026
(7pm)
(KC Active, Kings Cliffe)

Minutes signed:…… Date:……

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