

SIBBERTOFT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk & RFO: Mrs CE Valentine
c/o 20 Styles Place
Yelvertoft
NN6 6LR
clerk@sibbertoftparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.sibbertoftparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE SIBBERTOFT ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 20:00 hrs in The Reading Room, Sibbertoft.

Attendees: Chairman G Kershaw, Councillors Walpole, Bickerstaff, Parsons, Wilkinson and Abraham.
2 members of public including Unitary Ward Councillor Ware.
Clerk: Mrs C E Valentine

3056	**TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies received and approved for Councillor Brunel-While (personal)
3057	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
	Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed. A disclosable pecuniary interest requires withdrawal from the meeting during that item. None
3058	**SIGNING OF THE MINUTES**
	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2025 as a correct record.
3059	**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
	Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of three minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the Chairman. None
3060	**WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT** To receive a report from the Ward Councillor. Apologies received by Councillor Ware. Report provided included with the end of the minutes.
3061	**PLANNING -** Planning portal: https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/
	a) **New applications:** To consider any applications not otherwise on the agenda. **b)** New 2025/5313/FULL comments by 04.02.06 and updates on existing applications. It was **RESOLVED** Note the change and no comment.

Reference No.▶	Location▶	Proposal / Description▶	Valid Date▲	Decision Issue Date▶	Decision▶
2025/5313/FULL	Townsend Lodge, 3 Welford Road, Sibbertoft, LE16 9UJ	Proposed two storey side extension, single storey side extension, single storey rear extension & external alterations.	16/12/2025		**Pending NEW comment by 04.02.26**
2025/4995/FULL	Ashby Cottage 35 Welland Rise Sibbertoft LE16 9UD	Proposed single storey extension to dwelling to form annex	19/11/2025		Pending
2025/4573/FULL	Lowe Farm Clipston Road Sibbertoft LE16 9UB	Proposed new stables to sit alongside existing stables within existing concrete yard.	14/10/2025		Pending

c)	Local Plan – progress following WNC Policy Committee meeting 8th January and Full Council 19th January 2026. Consultation pending. It was noted that the local plan does not appear to impact Sibbertoft in terms of housing allocation.
d)	Updating the Village Design Statement and associated spend. Councillors Bickerstaff and Abraham are gathering information and confirm the VDS requires updating to bring in line with current regulations and to ensure the village is shaped the way it is wanted.



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3062	**NEW MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AND OUTSTANDING FROM THE MEETING OF THE 2nd of December 2025**
a)	Highways updates and FixmyStreet reports & vegetation issues
	• 8744612 – Overgrown vegetation & blocked ditch causing flooding. Church Street/Springcroft field. Investigate within 5 working days at 27.01.26 Noted to clear ditch.
	• 8744563 – Pothole Church Street/village green. 5 days to investigate at 22.01.26. Repair in 10 days
	• 8721880 – Pothole Berkley Street/Naseby Road – priority 4 repair 59 days as of 26.01.26 Repair in 10 days
	• 8721847 – Road subsidence and potholes – Priority 3 repair 12 days as of 21.01.26 Pothole repair in 10 days
	• 7687799 – All white lining requested – multiple fixmystreet reports closed – awaiting update. GK has again written to highways to request repainting completed. Noted still awaiting request of dragon's teeth painted on road at village entrance to alert traffic entering village and slow down.
	• To note the Parish Council has requested road sweeper and drains and gullies cleared. Awaiting request.
	• Nursing home development meeting DP. Any vehicle/traffic or construction matters regarding the Parish/highways. Cllr Parsons met on site with developers. A base course of tarmac will shortly be put down on site to reduce the mud on the road. A road sweeper has been contracted to attend and clean roads if it gets muddy from construction vehicles leaving site. Hardcore will be temporarily be put down by the entrance on the verges where vehicles are driving over with the reassurance that they will be reinstated with topsoil and grass seed. The dumper truck should now be off site reducing the noises of reversing beeping from the vehicle. Deliveries will now be accepted at lunch to better adhere to the planning conditions set around delivery window not being before 8am. Signage has been displayed to remind people on site that they must adhere to the speed limit in the village. It was noted as a separate matter vehicles are driving over the grass verge at the top of Welland Rise (triangle)
	To report road or street issues go to: https://fix.westnorthants.gov.uk/
b)	**STREET LIGHTING** 1. To discuss new energy contract and decisions on spend – note we await billing from British Gas after Tomato Energy ceased trading. Cllr Parsons is reviewing contract options and the necessary calculations to ensure the best value for money. It was **RESOLVED** that GK & CV can authorise the contract should it be required between meetings. 2. Update streetlights – fixes/adjustments to the street light Beeches Close. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a shield up to £80.00 for the streetlight in Beeches Close. It has also been identified that that streetlight was supplied incorrectly, and the lantern will be replaced to match the rest of the streetlights they will fit the shield at no cost the same time but the PC will provide the shield.
3063	**REPORTS, TO RECEIVE AND AGREE ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**
a)	**Sibbertoft Peace Park** Plans for maintenance and update on biodiversity grant expenditure. Opening of the Peace Park – Noted Park is open, gate repaired but will need a monthly check. Oter gate opens slowly and possibly needs a sign to ask people to keep it closed. Some work has been carried out to improving the hut and adding flagstones at the front. Meeting to take place shortly regarding plans to spend the biodiversity grant money. Looking at planting and habitats. Other funding opportunities -noted to look at other opportunities.
b)	**Recreation Ground** Any matters regarding the play area requiring attention/expenditure. Pirate Ship, fencing, items requiring maintenance. Checked as - ok work to be scheduled for summer.
c)	**Police Liaison Representative** Policing updates and any further action for the Parish Council relating to Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr Wilkison has applied for a crime prevention box from the police which will contain useful information with leaflets and packs for parishioners. Cllr Wilkinson will notify when the leaflets will be made available to public.



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3064	**FINANCE**
a)	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation statement. Bank balance on 27th January 2026. £ 9,910.10
b)	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments for January 2025 and to note below the agenda payments that occurred outside meeting where the Parish Council did not ordinarily meet December/January.
c)	To consider the Clerk report from Leicestershire Gardens (payment listed below). To note regarding the VAT element of invoicing and any outstanding invoices. To note a VAT return to be processed. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments. Chairman to contact the supplier and discuss future invoice methods.

Date	Payee	Details	Amount £	Payment method	Power to pay
03.02.26	Staffing	January 2026	x	BP	LGA (1972) s112
03.02.26	HMRC	PAYE 2026	x	BP	LGA (1972) s112
03.02.26	CPRE	Jan 2026 Subscription	5.00	DD	LGA (1972), s111
03.02.26	Ionos Cloud Ltd	Email monthly fee	4.20	DD	LGA (1972), s111
03.02.26	Tesco Mobile	Parish Mobile	10.29	DD	LGA (1972) s111
03.02.26	Leicestershire Gardens	grass cutting July 25/104 and VAT	1670.90	BP	Opens Spaces Act 1906
03.02.26	Lloyds Bank	Service charge	4.25	BP	LGA (1972) s111
03.02.26	BWP Websites	INV-4172 Domain renewal	36.00	BP	LGA (1972) s142

d)	**INTERNAL CONTROL/AUDIT/FINANCE**
	a) To approve the effectiveness of the internal review It was **RESOLVED** to approve the effectiveness of the internal review. b) To consider a Finance Committee – not required. c) To understand and comply with Assertion 10, IT Policy and compliance. It was **RESOLVED** to prepare an up-to-date IT policy for the next meeting and review Assertion 10 requirements. The website is understood to be compliant by the host.
3065	**CORRESPONDENCE –** noted Open consultations can be found via link: **https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/ West Northants Consultation Hub** • **Smartphone & Smart Device Use in Schools/Colleges** Closes **31 January 2026** https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/education/smartphone-use-in-schools • **Draft Budget 2026–2027 Consultation** Closes **3 February 2026** https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/corporate/budget-2026-27 • **Private Hire & Taxi Vehicle, Driver and Operator Licence Fees** Closes **12 February 2026** https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/licensing/taxi-private-hire-fees • **Term Dates for West Northamptonshire Schools 2027–28** Closes **15 February 2026** https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/education/term-dates-2027-28 • **Draft Housing Allocation Policy 2026** Closes **22 February 2026** https://westnorthants.citizenspace.com/housing/housing-allocation-policy-2026 • **West Northamptonshire Town and Parish January 2026 Briefing** Town & Parish Briefing 42 **https://sway.cloud.microsoft/7ZMaxXmoDCK0D7Gr?ref=Link** • Guy Fawkes Night and Remembrance Sunday fall close together in 2026. Veterans' groups are asking for no fireworks on Sunday 8 November because of their impact on those with PTSD. • **The Rt. Hon. Stuart Andrew MP** is gathering residents' views on potholes and road safety through an online survey and would welcome input from Parish Councils and local residents. Individual potholes should still be reported via FixMyStreet, but delays mean broader feedback is needed. Chairman to respond.



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	Survey: www.stuartandrew.org.uk/news/potholes (stuartandrew.org.uk) 'Keep Daventry Parking Free' petition: www.stuartandrew.org.uk/webform/keep_parking_free_in_daventry (stuartandrew.org.uk) Residents are also encouraged to respond to the budget consultations: West Northamptonshire (closes 23:59, 3 Feb 2026) • **Anglian Water Thriving Communities Fund** – opportunity for Parish Council to seek grant/project https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/environment/supporting-our-communities/thriving-communities-fund. Closes Sunday 1st February 2026. Chairman to look at grant. Clerk circulated for Peace Park. • **Northants CALC CAN Champion information**: **www.northantscalc.gov.uk/can-champions** • Teams meeting with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner will take place on Wednesday 4th March at 6pm. She will be joined by the Chief Constable and Chief Fire Officer. Cllrs to advise clerk if they wish to join the meeting. • **Annual Parish Consultation Survey** organised by Kier Transportation on behalf of West Northamptonshire Council Highways. Your feedback will assist us in understanding Parish perspectives, concerns, and priorities. Parish Council to take part in the survey please click on the following link: Annual Parish Satisfaction Survey • **Parish & Town Council Snapshot Survey** – Satisfaction with your Local Planning Authority. Closed 31st January 2026. For Clerk, Chairman and Councillor to complete. • **Free Defibrillator Training** St. John Ambulance is offering a FREE demonstration on how to do effective CPR and how to use a defibrillator – parish council offer. Noted that defib has clear instructions but is locked specifically for emergency services to guide.
3066	**Future agenda items None**
3067	**Date of next meeting**: Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 20:00 hrs on Tuesday 3rd March 2026. Meeting closed at 21:07hrs

Payments made December – January 2026

09/01/2026	Staffing	£
09/01/2026	SIBBERTOFT PEACE PARK DONATION	£100.00
09/01/2026	HMRC	£
09/01/2026	E. ON ENERGY SOLUTIONS INV 6018810195 Final maintenance to Sept 2025	£134.40
31/12/2025	IONOS CLOUD LTD	£4.20
23/12/2025	CPRE	£5.00
22/12/2025	TESCO PARISH MOBILE	£10.29
19/12/2025	SERVICE CHARGES BANK	£4.25



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Parish Council Update - Sibbertoft 3 February 2026:

I am sorry that I won't be at Sibbertoft Parish Council meeting this month. Please accept my apologies. Here's an update from me and I will be grateful if you can share this with council.
Please do get in touch if there is anything you need from me.
The focus at WNC is on the budget and the Local Plan.
1. Local Plan - as you know this is now out for consultation. You can find this online at https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/local-plan. A printed copy is available in all libraries.
Sibbertoft has no allocations in the draft, however rural areas are included. In the Naseby ward Naseby, Creaton, Guilsborough, Spratton and Welford all have draft allocations.
We are on a timeline - the plan has to get through Reg 19 (final formal public consultation which publishes the final version which will go to planning inspectors) before the end of the year. Once 'made' the local plan will take West Northants through to 2043.
Please do respond to the consultation. You can do this as an individual and/or as a Parish Council.
2. Budget - this has been out for consultation and will go to cabinet on 16 February before going to full council on 26 February.
The headlines are: max 4.99% CT increase, 33% increase on green bins from £60 £80, Car parking increases including new car parking charges in the market towns of Towcester and Daventry (Stuart Andrew and Sarah Boole came to the cabinet meeting to object and in December alone between Daventry and Towcester there are over 8k signatories raising objections and we suspect that these will be removed). More locally the proposal is to remove free car parking for the Park Runs at Brixworth Country Park.
We, as Lib Dem councillors, are putting together amendments for the budget which will go to full council on 26th.
Sibbertoft
Bus shelter: The chair asked if Sibbertoft may be considered for a replacement bus shelter under the government's bus service improvement plan. The current bus shelter you have is parish owned I believe. Is it sited on parish land or highways land? The other shelters we have secured funding for are all on highways land which is why the applications have been considered.
Also please note that there is no choice of the type of shelter installed. These will be a relatively contemporary design as per the photograph below albeit without the white line as shown.
The shelters will be maintained by Bauer Media so there would be no cost to the parish. They will have solar lighting, seating and a paper free timetable case.



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If the land is Highways, and if you do wish to be considered for a new shelter then please let me know and I will make an application. I will manage your expectations though as the successful applications have so far been for sites where there is no existing bus shelter.

Drainage and white lines: I'm continuing to chase these issues however, at present I have no further update.

Kind regards

Christine

Christine Ware
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