

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 7th April 2026 at 20:00 hrs in The Reading Room, Sibbertoft.
Attendees: Chairman G Kershaw, Councillors, Walpole, Bickerstaff, Parsons, Abraham.
Clerk: Mrs C E Valentine
2 Members of Public and Ward Councillor J Harris

3080	**TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Apologies received and approved for Councillors Brunel-While and Wilkinson None
3081	**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
3082	**SIGNING OF THE MINUTES**
	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2026 as a correct record. Updates made to Ward Cllr Ware's report.
3083	**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. The Chairman gave thanks to E Gibbs for the lovely village planters and tidiness of the war memorial for the village.
3084	**WARD COUNCILLOR REPORT** To receive a report from the Ward Councillor. Ward Councillor Ware sent apologies. Cllr Harris advised WNC had held an extraordinary meeting linked to devolution. There are still discussions around a super combined authority with 4 of 6 regional authorities such as Milton Keynes maybe interested in, but this does not look likely to include Northampton. There are discussions of another type of combined authority which is a step down from the bigger plans for combined authority that Northampton Councils may look into and have completed a letter of interest. Highways and potholes were discussed along Kelmarsh Road and the airfield road where work is required and will be followed up for news. Cllr Bickerstaff reported potholes Leicestershire end of the airfield road. Noted the there is a byelection 7th May.
3085	**PLANNING -** Planning portal: https://wnc.planning-register.co.uk/
	a) **New applications:** To consider any applications not otherwise on the agenda. None **b)** Current applications: Noted as approved.

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.	25/03/2026		Approval

c)	Updating the Village Design Statement consider next steps Cllr Abrahams and Bickerstaff have been researching the VDS and putting together plans to update the VDS. This is progressing well and a committee group will be required.
3086	**NEW MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AND OUTSTANDING FROM THE MEETING OF THE 3rd March 2026**



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a)	Highways updates and Fixmystreet reports & vegetation issues
	• Multiple potholes reports logged on fixmystreet around the village during March. Noted C Ware check fixmystreet
	• 8744612 – Overgrown vegetation & blocked ditch causing flooding. Church Street/Springcroft field. Action scheduled as of 11.03.26
	• 8939762 – Verge damage triangle grass verge Church Street/Welland Rise 5 days investigation from 17.02.26 no update – J Harris to progress
	• 8812698 – Drain cover collapse Church Street Investigating as of 01.02.26 No change
	• 8808571 -White lines completion of the repaint around village as of 31.01.26 No change
	To report road or street issues go to: https://fix.westnorthants.gov.uk/
3087	**REPORTS, TO RECEIVE AND AGREE ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**
a)	**Sibbertoft Peace Park** Update on the project, plans and spend the biodiversity grant - deadline 31st March 2026. Open Gardens Finance update. Cllr Bickerstaff has mowed the grass in the park today and Chairman to contact the mowing contractor to see if they would be willing to add this to the rota. It is a very small area. Cllr Walpole has built a compost box grill to be added to stop little animals getting in and the metal gate has been repaired. Councillor Bickerstaff reported they have spent majority of the grant and a spreadsheet has been circulated regarding the expenditure on biodiversity. Money to be set aside for a low-pressure hose. Cllr Bickerstaff has lowered the holly hedge which saved around £400.00 from a recent quote provided by a contractor. Benches to be treated. Trees purchased and some more plants to be bought. Cllr Bickerstaff met on site with WNC and advised the grant was signed off with very positive feedback, pleased with all the hard work of the committee and volunteers and enjoyed visiting the Peace Park. Slight extension permitted to finish any additional grant work. Information Boards with artwork are planned for the Peace Park and now an additional sign for possibly the triangle green verge near the jitty. Clerk to contact National Grid for power cables underground map and highways regarding permissions. Consent from adjacent landowners to be sought for the A. size information boards they will contain history and information about the village. Clerk to draft consent letter.
b)	**Recreation Ground** Play area any areas requiring attention/expenditure. Next play inspection is due in June. Whips have been added to create tunnels for hedgehogs and fill hedge gaps. More whips maybe required. Cllr Bickerstaff brough an example of a hedgehog house he has created. Pirate Ship, fencing, items requiring maintenance
c)	**Police Liaison Representative** Policing updates and any further action for the Parish Council relating to Neighbourhood Watch. None
d)	**Litter picking** Village litter Pick (JW) Cllr Wilsinson is kindly coordinating a village litter pick. Cllr Abrahams to look at obtaining extra hi-vis vests, gloves bags and litter grabbers. Plan will be to create a clear map route of area and risk assessment. Cllr Walpole to collect rubbish bags.
3088	**FINANCE**
a)	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation statement. Bank balance on 31.03.26 £6,676.38 Income 12.03.26 MARTIN J+L BENCH DONATION £500.00 - noted grant received.
b)	To receive year end 2025/2026 financial data. Positive position and circulated for approval.
c)	It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments for April 2026: - Noted at time of agenda awaiting green bin invoice from WNC.

Date	Payee	Details	Amount £	Payment method	Power to pay



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07.04.26	Staffing	March 2026	-	BP	LGA (1972) s112
07.04.26	HMRC	PAYE 2026April 2026	-	BP	LGA (1972) s112
07.04.26	CPRE	Subscription	5.00	DD	LGA (1972), s111
07.04.26	Ionos Cloud Ltd	Email monthly fee	4.20	DD	LGA (1972), s111
07.04.26	Tesco Mobile	Parish Mobile	10.29	DD	LGA (1972) s111
07.04.26	Lloyds Bank	Service charge	4.25	BP	LGA (1972) s111
07.04.26	British Gas	Street lighting	87.66	BP	Highways Act 1980
07.04.26	TRT Lighting	TRT Lighting baffle	37.78	BP	Highways Act 1980
07.04.26	West Northamptonshire Council	Green bin subs	69.00	BP	Litter Act 1983 s5 (1)
07.04.26	Brixworth Parish Council	59/60 contribution Inv 65	250.00	BP	Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s26-29
07.04.26	West Northamptonshire Council	Election fee	64.50	BP	LGA (1972) s111
Payments	**Grant – Peace Park**				**Grant – Peace Park**
07.04.26	Sustainable Furniture Uk Ltd	Bench inv 126483	470.00	BP	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and Environment Act 2021 S102.
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Hedging reimburse	217.76	BP	
07.04.26	Pond keeper	Flex liner proforma	24.00	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Bat & Squirrel boxes	53.96	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Bird box	12.99	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Robin Box	13.98	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	The Plant Man -plants	247.50	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Boston seeds	18.99	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	Langton Garden Centre Trees – Apple Hedgehog house	143.95	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff	4 nesting bird boxes	22.99	BP	
07.04.26	M Bickerstaff		18.95	BP	

d)	**INTERNAL CONTROL/AUDIT/FINANCE**
	IT Policy and compliance for approval. - Approved Note internal audit scheduled mid April. Noted.
3089	**CORRESPONDENCE** WNC Interim support for households relying on heating oil https://westnorthants-newsroom.prgloo.com/news/interim-support-for-households-relying-on-heating-oil
3090	**Future agenda items** Monitoring irresponsible parking, bus shelter.
3091	Date of next meeting: The Annual Meeting of the Parish (village meeting for 15 mins) will be held on the 11th May 2026 at 19.45 hrs. Local village groups, organisations and members of the public are welcome to attend. Please provide reports regarding your organisation's activities and annual accounts in advance of the meeting to the Parish Clerk. Annual Parish Council meeting 8pm 11th May 2026. Meeting closed at 20:46.hrs