

## Minutes of Dingley Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in the Village Hall, Dingley at 7.00 pm.

<b>Members of the Parish Council Present</b>	Cllr S Dudson (Acting Chair) Cllr L Jones Cllr E Lomer-Wood Cllr R Winship
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	Mrs Justina Medwell (Clerk) NNC Cllr D Howes

		<b>Action</b>
1568	<b>To receive and approve apologies</b> Cllr R Read – approved NNC Cllr H Howes	
1569	<b>Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda and any changes to the Members Register of Interests:</b> There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda. There were no changes to the Register of Member's Interests.	
1570	<b>To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting:</b> The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 were <b>agreed</b> as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Dudson      Seconded Cllr Lomer-Wood	
1571	<b>To approve co-option of new Councillor:</b> The Council <b>agreed</b> to co-opt Mrs Rebecca Winship to fill the vacancy arising from the loss of Cllr Bill Jones. Proposed Cllr Lomer-Wood      Seconded Cllr Dudson      All in favour.  Cllr Winship was welcomed on to the Council and duly completed and signed the Members Register of Interest and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk.	
1572	<b>Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting:</b> There were no matters arising.	
1573	<b>Open Forum and Representations from members of the public – Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council:</b> There were no members of the public present. <b>(Meeting closed to the public)</b>	
1574	<b>Planning:</b> There were no new planning applications to consider.	
1575	<b>(i) Safety Review of Parish Assets:</b> All assets were in order. Cllr Dudson advised that the defibrillator was registered on 'The Circuit', the UK's national defibrillator network, an online database that maps the location of public-access defibrillators (PADs) and which connects them directly to NHS ambulance services. Cllr Dudson is now the registered person in charge.	

		<b>Action</b>
	<p><b>(ii) Local Government Update:</b> NNC Cllr H Howes advised that there was nothing to report as far as NNC matters were concerned.</p> <p><b>(iii) To Review Risk Assessment:</b> The Risk Assessment document was distributed to all members of the Council for their review prior to the meeting. The Council considered the contents of the assessment and agreed that no amendments were necessary. The Risk Assessment was therefore approved in its existing form, confirming that all Councillors were satisfied with its accuracy and relevance.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr S Dudson    Seconded Cllr E Lomer-Wood    All in favour</p>	
	<p><b>(iv) Friends of Dingley Park (FODP):</b> Cllr Dudson provided the Council with an update regarding the future of the Friends of Dingley Park scheme. At present, the proposed Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) project being carried out in the Park involves fencing off four or five sizeable areas for tree planting. Access to these designated areas will remain restricted for the next few years, during which time the scheme's activities will proceed in accordance with the BNG regulations. There is currently a sum of £1,700, accumulated from membership contributions, which requires appropriate allocation. Going forwards, Cllr Dudson proposed that the Council formally assume responsibility for administering the scheme and holding the accrued monies. These would be ring-fenced exclusively for expenditure related to Friends of Dingley Park (FODP) activities. All Councillors were in favour of this proposal.</p> <p><b>(v) Community Governance Review:</b> Following consultation with parishioners, the Council <b>agreed</b> that its current community governance arrangements are entirely appropriate and that its preferred outcome in the context of the Community Governance Review is NO CHANGE.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr S Dudson    Seconded Cllr L Jones    All in favour</p>	
	<p><b>Parish Highways and Rights of Way: Highways Update</b> The Council reviewed several highways concerns affecting the village. Outstanding potholes on Sutton Lane and Braybrooke Road continue to require attention, although Cllr Lomer-Wood reported that some potholes at the village end of Braybrooke Road have been repaired. Persistent flooding has once again occurred at the two known locations along Braybrooke Road. Additionally, the condition of the western side of the A6 roundabout was observed to be hazardous due to ruts and scattered gravel across the carriageway. All identified issues have been formally reported.</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the new NNC Highways Online Reporting Tool via the link below. This will drop straight into the NNC work plan, be assessed for urgency, will appear on a map of activity and it will provide a reference number which can be checked for progress</p> <p><a href="https://highways.northnorthants.gov.uk/">https://highways.northnorthants.gov.uk/</a></p> <p>The Council acknowledged the recent works by a small team from the Village Hall helping to cut back overhanging hedging along part of the A427 both sides of Church Lane. This has left clearing of the ground level footpath width still to be resolved.</p> <p><b>Proposed Cycleway:</b> Cllr Dudson provided an update regarding the ongoing progress. Cllr Jones is still working to obtain written permissive access agreement from the landowners, which would enable the creation of a safe pathway connecting the existing village pavement to the top of Sutton Lane.</p>	

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1576	<p>Cllr Dudson remains in communication with NNC Highways and Lucy Hawes, the Greenways project officer, to discuss further options for advancing this initiative, as the Council has not secured additional permissions from other landowners necessary for extending the pathway towards the A427 roundabout.</p>																													
1577	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b>  <b>(i) Payments</b> The following payments were approved.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>VAT element</th> <th>Legal Authority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NNC</td> <td>Election Costs</td> <td>£25.00</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NCALC</td> <td>Training</td> <td>£63.60</td> <td>£10.60</td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dingley Village Hall</td> <td>Hall Hire</td> <td>£100.00</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 1972 s.111</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Current Account</td> <td>£1,032.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Savings Account</td> <td>£26,761.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ringfenced – Cycle Path</td> <td>£21,952.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total Balance of Reserves</b></td> <td><b>£5,842.61</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on <a href="http://dingley-pc.gov.uk">dingley-pc.gov.uk</a></p>	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT element	Legal Authority	NNC	Election Costs	£25.00		LGA 1972 s.111	NCALC	Training	£63.60	£10.60	LGA 1972 s.111	Dingley Village Hall	Hall Hire	£100.00		LGA 1972 s.111	Current Account	£1,032.98	Savings Account	£26,761.63	Ringfenced – Cycle Path	£21,952.00	<b>Total Balance of Reserves</b>	<b>£5,842.61</b>	
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1578	<p><b>Exchange of Information, Crime Report and Village Hall:</b></p> <p>The Village Hall Committee had advertised upcoming events in the latest edition of the Pump. More gardens and volunteers for teas, parking, etc are needed for the Open Gardens event on 7<sup>th</sup> June. A request was made for a piece from the Council for the next edition of The Pump, due by 1<sup>st</sup> May. A decision on the Braybrooke Road application was still awaited from NNC.</p> <p>The Annual Litter Pick was set for Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March.</p>																													
1579	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p>There was no further correspondence to discuss.</p>																													
1580	<p><b>New items for inclusion on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting:</b></p> <p>Annual Governance and Accounting Year End  Conservation Area for Dingley</p>																													
1581	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026</p> <p>The Meeting Closed at 8.30 pm.</p>																													

Signed ..... (Chair)

Dated .....