

Minutes of the East Carlton Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2026 in the Cricket Club, East Carlton at 7.05 pm.

Members Present	Cllr G Chambers (Chair)) Cllr J Hanlon (Vice Chair) Cllr B Trevelyan Cllr L Strutt
Others in Attendance	Mrs J Medwell (Clerk) NNC Cllr D Howes

Minute		Action
26/27	<p>Election of Chair: The position of Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr Trevelyan nominated Cllr Chambers and was seconded by Cllr Hanlon. Cllr Chambers agreed to become Chair.</p> <p>Election of Vice Chair: The position of Vice Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr Chambers nominated Cllr Hanlon and was seconded by Cllr Trevelyan. Cllr Hanlon agreed to become Vice Chair.</p>	
26/28	<p>Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Members' Interests The Chair and Vice Chair signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office witnessed by the Clerk. There were no changes to the Register of Members' Interests.</p>	
26/29	<p>To receive and approve apologies: Cllrs Underwood and Nelson - approved PCSO Ali Wallace</p>	
26/30	<p>Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda.</p>	
26/31	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2026 were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Hanlon Seconded Cllr Strutt</p>	
26/32	<p>Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting: The Council referred to the recent Basic Life Support (BLS) and AED Training event at the Cricket Club on Friday 17th April 6 given by the Northants First Responders Team. The session was considered very good, despite a disappointing turnout. The Council expressed its thanks to the First Responders and agreed to make a donation them of £50.</p>	
26/33	<p>Reports from NNC Councillors and Constabulary Matters: NNC Cllr D Howes informed the Council that NNC had agreed to increase council tax by the full amount of 4.99% and will be extending the Keir Highways contract. Although Keir has met its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), the company will be subject to scrutiny as part of the contract extension process. The Council discussed its frustration with the condition of the highways and particularly with the reporting tool and the repair of potholes. Cllr Howes explained the limits on NNC spending,</p>	

Chairman Date

Minute		Action
	<p>especially due to its statutory responsibilities for adult social care and children’s services and outlined the criteria used to determine which potholes are repaired.</p> <p>He advised that the Council pass on any complaints or concerns they may have to the Highways Portfolio Holder Chris McGiffen at chris.mcgiffen@northnorthants.gov.uk</p> <p>Cllr Howes also informed the Council of the new NNC Highways Online Reporting Tool, noted via the link below. Any Highways issue can be reported here and 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>https://highways.northnorthants.gov.uk/</p> <p>The Council noted a request from a Church Lane resident for either the 30mph zone to be extended to the edge of the village or a buffer zone to be introduced between the village boundary sign and the current speed restriction near the parish church. This had been considered by the NNC Highways Liaison Officer, whose response is summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The decision on extending the speed limit on Church Lane, considered in September 2025, cannot be changed or reviewed again at this time.</i> • <i>The current 30mph limit on Church Lane, which then changes to the national speed limit, will remain in place.</i> • <i>The Panel will not reconsider the matter before September 2028.</i> • <i>The decision was made by specialists who assess a range of factors, with each road considered on its own circumstances.</i> • <i>The national speed limit does not mean drivers should travel at 60mph; drivers are expected to travel at a safe speed for the conditions.</i> <p>PCSO Wallace had provided the following report</p> <p>Arson East Carlton Park Toilets (not endangering life)</p> <p>Between 07/04 at 8:30pm and 08/04 at 07:30am, Unknown person/s has caused damage to the toilet door and set fire to toilet roll holders and melted them causing damage. Nothing seen or heard and no CCTV.</p> <p>PCSO 7074 ALI WALLACE can be contacted via e-mail on alison.wallace@northants.police.uk</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Policing Team can be contacted via NPT-CorbyTown@northants.pnn.police.uk</p>	
26/34	<p>2025/26 Accountability and Governance:</p> <p>i) Approval of Certificate of Exemption 2025/26</p> <p>The Council noted that its gross income or expenditure did not exceed £25,000 in the year ending 31st March 2026 and therefore agreed to certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review under section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Chambers Seconded Cllr Hanlon</p> <p>The Certificate of Exemption was then duly signed by the Chair and Responsible Financial Officer and will be returned to the External Auditor.</p> <p>(ii) Internal Audit Report</p> <p>The accounts had been presented for internal audit and were found to be in good order with no issues raised.</p>	JM

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	<p>(iii) Approval of Approval of Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 The Council considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26. Proposed Cllr Underwood Seconded Cllr Nelson This was duly signed by the Chair and Responsible Financial Officer</p> <p>Approval of Annual Accounting Statement 2025/26 The Clerk had prepared the 20245/2026 Financial Accounts in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and circulated prior to the meeting. The Council considered and approved the Annual Accounting Statement 2025/26. Proposed Cllr Trevelyan Seconded Cllr Nelson This was duly signed by the Chair and Responsible Financial Officer.</p>																																				
26/35	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a) 26/00579/HFUL Single Storey Rear Extension 7 East Carlton Park The Council raised no objections to the application.</p> <p>b) Wilbarston Solar Farm The Chair advised that he had attended the recent public consultation event, and a request for representation from East Carlton on the Friends of the Airfield and Valley (FAV) working group had been put in the newsletter. The process is currently awaiting Innova to submit a planning application to North Northamptonshire Council. Once this application has been submitted, the relevant parish councils will be able to provide a formal response to the proposal.</p>																																				
26/36	<p>Village Matters:</p> <p>a) Safety Review of Parish Assets (defibrillator, beacon and noticeboard) were reviewed and found to be in good order.</p> <p>b) East Carlton Park – The Chair advised that the white entrance gates required a coat of paint and that he had now taken over the maintenance of the stone flower bed adjacent to the gates. The Council approved the spending on these from the monies allocated to village maintenance.</p> <p>c) Speed Restriction Church Lane – This was covered earlier in the meeting. The Chair asked Cllr Howes to follow up with NNC clearance of vegetation along the relevant section of the A427 which still had not been done.</p>																																				
26/37	<p>Finances:</p> <p>(i) Payments The following payments were unanimously agreed:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="240 1727 1394 2040"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Details</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>VAT element</th> <th>Legal Authority</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Apple</td> <td>Web Storage</td> <td>£35.88</td> <td>£6.00</td> <td>LGA 172 S.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NCALC</td> <td>Membership</td> <td>£248.69</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 172 S.143</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Krystal Hosting</td> <td>Website</td> <td>£8.39</td> <td>£1.40</td> <td>LGA 172 S.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zurich</td> <td>Insurance</td> <td>£241.00</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 172 S.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kanda Print</td> <td>April and May Newsletter</td> <td>£84.70</td> <td>£7.70</td> <td>LGA 172 S.111</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I Arnott</td> <td>Audit Fee</td> <td>£90.00</td> <td></td> <td>LGA 172 S.111</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Details	Amount	VAT element	Legal Authority	Apple	Web Storage	£35.88	£6.00	LGA 172 S.111	NCALC	Membership	£248.69		LGA 172 S.143	Krystal Hosting	Website	£8.39	£1.40	LGA 172 S.111	Zurich	Insurance	£241.00		LGA 172 S.111	Kanda Print	April and May Newsletter	£84.70	£7.70	LGA 172 S.111	I Arnott	Audit Fee	£90.00		LGA 172 S.111	
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	<p>(ii) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation</p> <p>Current Account £3,645.39</p> <p>Savings Account £9,870.58</p> <p>Total Balance of Reserves <u>£13,515.97</u></p> <p>All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on eastcarltonparishcouncil.org.uk</p>	
26/38	<p>Correspondence: There was no further correspondence to consider.</p>	
26/39	<p>Items for the Next Newsletter: Chair's Annual Report</p>	
26/40	<p>Date of next meeting: Monday 6th July 2026</p>	

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8:22 pm

Chairman

Date