Minutes of the East Carlton Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd November 2026 in the Cricket Club, East Carlton at 7.00 pm.

Members Present	Cllrs G Chambers (Chair), J Hanlon, J Underwood, A Nelson and B Trevelyan.
Others in Attendance	Mrs J Medwell (Clerk) NNC Cllr H Howes

Minute		Action
26/66	**To receive and approve apologies:** Cllr L Strutt - approved	
26/67	**Member's declaration of interest in items on the agenda** There were no declarations of interest in items on this agenda. There were no changes to the Members Register of Interests.	
26/68	**To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2026 were **agreed** as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Chambers Seconded Cllr Nelson	
26/69	**Matters Arising from the last Parish Council meeting:** There were no matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda.	
26/70	**Public Time and Exchange of Information:** There were no members of the public present. The Chair reported that a member of the public had raised concerns regarding the bin at the bottom of the Park, on Middleton end of the Jurassic Way footpath. The bin is frequently left unemptied and is currently overflowing again. **Action:** The Clerk will contact NNC to establish whether the emptying of this bin is East Carlton Park's responsibility or whether it is maintained by the Council's highways, street-cleansing or public rights-of-way service.	**JM**
26/71	**Reports from NNC Councillors and Constabulary Matters:** NNC Councillor H Howes advised that he had nothing to report on behalf of NNC. There were no reports of any incidents of crime or antisocial behaviour. PCSO 7074 ALI WALLACE can be contacted via e-mail on alison.wallace@northants.police.uk The Neighbourhood Policing Team can be contacted via NPT-CorbyTown@northants.pnn.police.uk	
26/72	**Planning:** **26/02892/FUL Change of use of land from public highway (footway) and hard standing to private residential driveway, parking and garden, ancillary to 37 East Carlton Park** The Council had no objection to this application.	

Chairman …… Date ……..……..

Minute		Action
26/73	**Village Matters:** a) **Parish Assets** - These were reviewed and found to be in good order. b) **NNC Car Parking Strategy 2026-36 Consultation** – The Council discussed the proposed unified car parking charging policy and its implications for East Carlton Park. It noted that East Carlton Park is the only NNC Countryside Park located within a residential area, between the villages of East Carlton and Middleton. The Council expressed concern that introducing parking charges would significantly affect residential streets in both villages. The Council considered that double yellow lines on all roads surrounding the park and a residents' parking permit scheme would be essential. These measures would involve substantial costs, and arrangements for enforcement would also need to be considered. **Action:** The Chair will draft a formal response to the consultation on behalf of the parish council. c) **Highways Engagement Walkabout** – The Chair reported that he had met with representatives from NNC Highways team as part of NNC's highways engagement walkabout programme for 2026/27, with the aim for parishes to raise local highways concerns. The following matters were discussed: • **Siding out of footways on the A427 and The Hill:** The Parish Council raised concerns regarding the incomplete siding works, which had previously been highlighted. It was noted that NNC had agreed to arrange for the maintenance team to carry out siding along the full length of the sections raised. The works are expected to be completed within 90 days. • **Roadworks signs remaining following surface dressing:** The issue of signs remaining in place following the surface dressing works was raised. The Council was advised that the contractor responsible for the works had been made aware and intended to collect the remaining signs. • **Trees and foliage at the junction with East Carlton Park on The Hill:** Concerns regarding overgrown trees and foliage affecting visibility were raised. It was confirmed this would be trimmed back at the same time as the siding works, where possible, to improve visibility. • **Retaining wall at East Carlton Park:** The Parish Council sought clarification regarding responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the retaining wall should any issues arise. It was confirmed that the wall marks the boundary between the parkland and the highway and that responsibility for its maintenance rests with NNC's Country Parks team, rather than Highways.	**GC**
26/74	**Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2026/27:** The Council noted that its previous internal auditor had retired. Having considered NCALC's competence and independence in accordance with AGAR Assertion 6, it was **RESOLVED** to appoint NCALC as the Council's internal auditor. Proposed Cllr Hanlon Seconded Cllr Trevelyan All Councillors in favour	

Chairman …… Date ……..……..

<table>
<tr><th>Minute</th><th></th><th>Action</th></tr>
<tr><td>26/75</td><td>
Finances:
a) To consider 2027/28 Budget and to Set Precept
The Council considered the budget for 2027/28 – see appendix.
This was duly authorised and the precept set at £6,989.00, equating to a 1.64% increase on last year's figure.
Proposed Cllr Underwood Seconded Cllr Nelson All Councillors in favour
Action: The Clerk will submit the Precept Demand to NNC.

b) Payments
The following payments were unanimously agreed:
<table>
<tr><th>Payee</th><th>Details</th><th>Amount</th><th>VAT</th><th>Legal Authority</th></tr>
<tr><td>Kanda Print</td><td>Sept & October Newsletters</td><td>£92.40</td><td>£15.40</td><td>LGA 172 S.111</td></tr>
<tr><td>The Range</td><td>Bulbs for Park Planter</td><td>£37.67</td><td>£6.27</td><td>OSA 1906 s.15</td></tr>
<tr><td>East Carlton Cricket Club</td><td>Hall Hire</td><td>£350.00</td><td></td><td>LGA 172 S.111</td></tr>
</table>
c) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation
Current Account £511.92
Savings Account £9,960.40
Total Balance of Reserves <u>£10,472.32</u>
All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on eastcarltonparishcouncil.org.uk
</td><td>JM</td></tr>
<tr><td>26/76</td><td>Correspondence:
There was no further correspondence to consider.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>26/77</td><td>Items for the Newsletter:
A reminder to residents to submit a response to the NNC consultation on the proposed car parking strategy by 1st December.
The draft parking strategy can be accessed to view at:
https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/news/your-voice-matters-consultation-launched-draft-north-northants-wide-car-parking-strategy</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>26/78</td><td>Date of next meeting:
Monday 4th January 2027

The Chair closed the Meeting at 7.38 pm</td><td></td></tr>
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Appendix

Chairman …… Date ……..……..