

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Ordinary** meeting of **Blisworth Parish Council** held in Blisworth Village Hall on **Monday 3rd November 2025 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr S Billing, Chair
Cllr C Read MBE, Vice-Chair
Cllr D Wilson
Cllr W Root
Cllr B Brown
Cllr M Field
Cllr B Ingram
Cllr N Chandler
Cllr S Dallyn

Also present: Clerk: Angela Billing
West Northants Youth Councillor: Jack Evans
4 Members of public

BPC/171/2025

To receive apologies.

Apologies received from Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Gardener. The Council resolved to accept the apologies.

BPC/172/2025

To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that if they have either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other interest in any of the agenda items then they should declare the interest and withdraw from the debate or meeting as appropriate. Cllr Billing declared an interest in item BPC/180/2025 (e). Cllr Brown and Cllr Root declared an interest in item BPC/179/2025.

BPC/173/2025

To receive and approve for signature, the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 06/10/2025.

Approved.

BPC/174/2025

To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on the agenda for report only. None noted.

BPC/175/2025

Clerk's report circulated separately.

- Play inspection scheduled for January 2026.
- Noticeboard ordered – awaiting delivery date.
- Notice to clean plots sent to tenants.
- Final water meter reading taken at the allotments.
- New bolt covers obtained for the swing seats.
- Additional bins added to contractor schedule

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BPC/176/2025

Public Session:

- a. **Unitary Councillor(s) Report(s).**
- b. **Members of the public.**
 - (i) The West Northants (WNC) Youth Councillor reported recent engagement with other parish councils, ongoing efforts to promote youth-focused surveys, and plans for the WNC Youth Parish Council to visit Parliament. He also attended the New Scientist assembly to promote career opportunities for young people in the local area.
 - (ii) A member of public asked for help due to communication issues with West Northants Council including conflicting statements from different departments, with no clear resolution or guidance going forward.
 - (iii) A member of public noted the footpath from Connegar Leys to Buttmead now very overgrown and the path is uneven.

BPC/177/2025

Response to issues raised in the public session.

Cllr Read asked the WNC Youth Parish representative to gather views from fellow youth parish councillors on what mitigation measures could be requested in relation to local developments, with a focus on addressing the needs and concerns of young people in the parish. **ACTION:** Clerk to contact West Northants Council and write to local member of parliament to support the resident. Cllr Brown to liaise with WNC representative regarding the footpath.

BPC/178/2025

Planning and Development.

- a. **Application No. 2025/1883/MAO: Land South of M1 Junction 15, Northamptonshire Harworth Planning Development. Proposal: Outline application for up to 149,476 sqm (GIA) of mixed use employment space within Use Classes B8 & B2, Use Class E(g)(i) in connection with ancillary office space & Use Class E(b) café, including vehicular and cycle parking, spine road, lorry park, strategic green infrastructure including circular footway / cycleway route, surface water drainage including SuDS, watercourse diversions as required, foul water drainage, tree and hedgerow restoration and planting, habitat areas associated with securing biodiversity net gain, supporting infrastructure comprising utilities including electricity, water, sewerage, telecommunications and diversions as necessary. All matters reserved except for access, including details for access from A508, and landscaping in respect of the proposed landscape bund including earthworks and reprofiling as associated.**

RESOLVED: Cllr Read to submit a further response to the application setting out proposed mitigation conditions for Parish residents, aligned with Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) obligations. To include:

- **Traffic Monitoring and Routing Restrictions**
Confirmation that all HGVs associated with the development will be restricted to the M1 junction and prohibited from using the A508 and local village roads, with enforceable routing conditions.
- **Deterrent-Level Penalties**
Inclusion of financial penalties for non-compliance with traffic routing and monitoring conditions, set at a level sufficient to act as a meaningful deterrent.
- **Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)**
Installation of ANPR cameras on key local roads prior to commencement of construction and following completion, to monitor compliance and support enforcement.

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- **Parish Council Representation**
Formal inclusion of the Parish Council on the development's traffic management committee to ensure local oversight and accountability.
- **Traffic Reporting Obligations**
Regular reporting to the Parish Council on traffic volumes, routing compliance, and enforcement actions throughout the construction and operational phases.
- **Infrastructure Upgrade to local roads**
For example, commitment to upgrade the bridge on Courteenhall Road and Courteenhall Road to accommodate anticipated traffic volumes and ensure safety and resilience of local infrastructure.

BPC/179/2025

Review outcomes of the parish consultation and agree next steps for the 5-year funding plan supporting Blisworth Parish enhancement projects.

RESOLVED: To arrange a special Council meeting to discuss aims, objectives and criteria. **ACTION:** Clerk to send list of possible dates.

BPC/180/2025

Finance & Administration

Banking Issues:

a. **Bank reconciliation:**

UNITY TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT	31/10/2025	£15,849.95
SKIPTON SAVINGS ACCOUNT	31/10/2025	£132,907.28

Noted:

- Cost of clearance of Plots 56 and 57 increased to £375.00 due to clearance of rubbish in the shed and double wire fencing around the perimeter which had been obscured at the time of obtaining the quotes by the overgrown bindweed.
 - £99.89 grant to Blisworth Friendship Group for tables reduced to £83.98.
- b. **Discuss Finance Working Group Meeting: Update Cllr Root.** Noted.
- c. **Review the Council's spend for the year to date compared with the budget (Actual versus Budget) and agree next steps. Update Cllr Root.** Noted: No issues to report.
- d. **Discuss draft budget 2026-2027 and precept implications for 2026-2027 and agree next steps. Update Cllr Root.**
RESOLVED: Finance Working Group (FWG) to resubmit amended draft budget 2026-2027. **ACTION:** FWG to meet and submit revised budget at December meeting.
- e. **To note receipts and approve payments including any others that arrive after publication of the agenda.**
RESOLVED: To note receipts and agree the payments listed in Appendix I.

BPC/181/2025

Discuss draft grass-cutting contract and agree next steps. Update from Cllr Wilson. Agreed need to establish clear enforcement measures to ensure the successful supplier adheres to the robust terms of the contract.

RESOLVED: To agree the draft grass-cutting contract.

RESOLVED: Finance Working Group to review tenders. The Chair and Vice-Chair thanked Cllr Wilson for his work in drafting the new contract.

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BPC/182/2025

Discuss SEGRO s106 funding and agree next steps.

Noted Blisworth Parish Council's successful application of SEGRO s106 funding. First tranche of funds received: £28,051.15 for costs towards: Closed Cemetery path application with Peterborough diocese, new noticeboard, new defibrillator and bleed kit and costs towards the Stoke Road chicane.

BPC/183/2025

Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read.

No direct messages were received during the period. Social media followers remain steady at 369, with 46% based in Blisworth and the remainder from nearby areas including Northampton, Roade, Towcester, and Hartwell. The most engaged post was an alert concerning anti-social behaviour in the village. Since the last meeting, updates have included details of the Northamptonshire Police Beat Bus visit, burglary risks across the village including incidents at the allotments, the WI's 100th anniversary celebration, and community safety advice from Northamptonshire Fire Brigade ahead of bonfire weekend. The agenda for the November General Meeting was also shared.

BPC/184/2025

Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read.

September's crime data was unavailable at the time of reporting. Safety updates were shared on bonfire events, burglary prevention, and village-wide anti-social behaviour. Regarding issues of anti-social behaviour, local PSCO has responded proactively, and images of those involved have been circulated to help reduce incidents. Residents are reminded to report concerns via 101 or www.northants.police.uk, and to dial 999 in emergencies. A recent live online chat hosted by the Police and Crime Commissioner is available at northantspfcc.org.uk.

BPC/185/2025

Report on data from SID/VAS devices and Traffic Working Group: Update from Cllr Read and Cllr Brown.

Between 4 and 31 October, the new Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) installed opposite the village hall on Stoke Road recorded 76,096 vehicle movements—an average of 2,818 per day. This marks a 15% increase compared to October 2024, when daily volumes averaged 2,450. Despite the rise in traffic, the average speed was 20.8 mph, with 80% of vehicles travelling below 28 mph. These figures suggest that the introduction of the 20-mph limit is having a positive calming effect, with the majority of drivers now keeping below 30 mph. Data from other Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) devices not available due to technical issues.

Cllr Brown is pursuing the completion of 20 mph road roundels as well as the installation of dragon's teeth on Gayton Road on the approach to Blisworth. A representative of WNC has agreed to support Cllr Brown to pursue this further and ensure the projects are fully completed as part of the funded projects for 2025-2026 as agreed earlier in 2025-2026.

BPC/186/2025

Report on Youth Parish Council: Update from Cllr Read.

Attendance was strong, with several parents staying to chat in the Coffee House. The initiative is now fostering valuable social interaction among adults, while youth councillors benefit from a dedicated and safe space to carry out their activities independently. Youth Parish Council to liaise with the Hope Centre for putting together Hope boxes. Future funding queries will be considered as part of the 2026–2027 budget. Blisworth Baptist Chapel (BBC) is exploring the option of holding sessions twice monthly, with staffing support from Cllr Read and volunteers from the BBC team.

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BPC/187/2025

Gateway Update: Update from Cllr Wilson.

No meeting this month.

BPC/188/2025

Discus West Northamptonshire Infrastructure and Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and agree next steps.

RESOLVED: To defer to December meeting.

BPC/189/2025

Review Blisworth Football Club lease progress. As reported in the October meeting, the final copy of the lease is still with Blisworth Football Club, awaiting their signature and return to the Blisworth Parish Council legal team. Once it has been returned, Blisworth Parish Council will be in a position to formally sign off the lease.

BPC/190/2025

Village Maintenance & Open Spaces:

- a. **Play area: Monthly safety inspection report: Update from Cllr Wilson. Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues.**

Monthly check was undertaken and no significant issues were identified. Two new litter bins have been installed and added to contractor schedule.

- b. **Defibrillator: Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues. Update from Cllr Read.**

Monthly check was undertaken and no issues were identified. Funding for the new defibrillator for the Blisworth Shop has been received and the new defibrillator ordered.

- c. **Allotments (Blisworth Parish Council Allotments, off Courteenhall Road). Update from Cllr Ingram and Cllr Read.**

Cllr Billing has shut off the water for winter. Plots 56 and 57 have been cleared at a revised cost of £375.00. Plot 34 remains unlet. Activity will slow over winter, and once vacant plots are filled, a tenants' meeting will be held to agree on marking out of plots.

- d. **Closed Cemetery: Update from Cllr Billing.**

Cllr Billing thanked the Graveyard shift team for their work with epicormic pruning. Ash tree inspection due 07/11/2025.

- e. **Street Lighting: Update from Cllr Chandler.**

West Northants Council Planning application fee for £130.00 for the proposed solar-powered light agreed and payment processed. **ACTION:** Cllr Chandler to research quotes. Clerk to submit quotes for next s106 funding application.

BPC/191/2025

West Northants Council Annual Conference: Update from Cllr Dallyn and Cllr Brown.

Cllr Hastie volunteered to attend Blisworth Parish Council. Stephanie Gibrant (Assistant Director, Planning and Development at West Northants Council) invited Blisworth Council to volunteer as an early tester for a new portal being developed to streamline the process of drawing down Section 106 funds. Cllr Dallyn and Cllr Brown liaised with the Highways Service Manager at West Northamptonshire Highways regarding ongoing highways concerns. As part of the discussions, he raised a proposal to recruit volunteer community wardens to assist with low-level tasks such as hedge cutting and vegetation clearance. The intention is for the unitary council to provide training, carry out risk assessments, and cover insurance and materials, with the hope that basic works could be undertaken by volunteers to help speed up the delivery of routine maintenance.

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RESOLVED to volunteer for the new s106 portal and to submit an interest in the warden project. **ACTION:** Cllr Brown to contact the Highways Service Manager at West Northamptonshire Highways.

BPC/192/2025

Resolution to agree Civility and Respect Pledge.

RESOLVED: To renew our commitment by re-signing the Civility and Respect Pledge.

BPC/193/2025

Internal Control: Financial & Management Risk Assessment: To receive declarations of gifts/hospitality and review record of gifts/hospitality received by Councillors or the Clerk to date. None received.

BPC/194/2025

Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.

Cllr Ingram: Defibrillator training.

Cllr Chandler: 7 residents have volunteered for the speed watch initiative.

Request for data from the recent camera on Stoke Road. **ACTION:** Clerk to request data.

BPC/195/2025

Council Surgery – Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for the next Council Surgery.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Billing, Ingram and Wilson to attend.

BPC/196/2025

To agree the date of next meeting 01/12/2025 at 7.30pm. Agreed.

BPC/197/2025

Close. The meeting closed at 9:41 pm.

Signed: Chairman.....

Date:

Please see the clerk for a copy of the signed minutes.

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Appendix I

PAYMENTS NOVEMBER 2025-2026 MEETING

Entry No	Meeting date	Statutory Power	Invoice	Payee	Purpose	chq no/DD/BT	Total Amount Including VAT	VAT	Amount excluding VAT
111	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, s.111		Unity Trust	Bank charges Unity Trust 01/09/2025 and 30/09/2025	UTDD111	£6.00	£0.00	6.00
112	03/11/2025	LGA (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1976 s.19.		Blisworth Friendship Group	Collapsible tables x 2	UTBT112	£83.98	£0.00	83.98
113	03/11/2025	LGA 1973 S137		Blisworth Baptist Chapel	Repairs to the stairs to leading to the Blisworth Youth Parish rooms s137 grant	UTBT113	£500.00	£0.00	500.00
114	03/11/2025	LGA (Miscellaneous Provisions) 1976 s.19.		Blisworth Football Club	Girls' Football Goal Posts	UTBT114	£500.00	£0.00	500.00
115	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s111		Allot Tenant Plot 40 Ref CS	Allotment Key Deposit Refund	UTBT115	£10.00	£0.00	10.00
116	03/11/2025	Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3	PLAN 2025/4347/PRMI	West Northants Council	Planning Application 2025/4347/PRMI Installation of a solar power streetlamp within the play area.	UTBT116	£130.00	£0.00	130.00
117	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s111		Allot Tenant Plot 13 Ref: JS	Allotment Plot Deposit & Fee Refund	UTBT117	£40.00	£0.00	40.00
118	03/11/2025	Open Spaces Act 1906, s14		Bartley's Landscaping & Maintenance	Rubbish Removal from Allotments Plots 56 & 57	UTBT118	£375.00	£0.00	375.00
119	03/11/2025	Environmental Protection Act 1990, s89 (1a)	9525	Shield Ltd	Dog Waste Bins x 13 & Bin x 1 01.10.25 - 31.10.25	UTBT119	£198.89	£33.15	165.74
120	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s112 (2) Open Spaces Act 1906, s14	20424	J E Matthews & Sons	Anchoring spikes x 8 for litter bins	UTBT120	£48.00	£8.00	40.00

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121	03/11/2025	Highways Act 1980, s. 96	2658	CutCrew Ltd	Cut to: Area 2 x2 & Area 1 x2 17/09/2025 & 01/10/2025	UTBT121	£878.86	£146.47	732.39
122	03/11/2025	Highways Act 1980, s. 96	2662	CutCrew Ltd	Cut to: Closed Cemetery	UTBT122	£219.61	£36.60	183.01
123	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s112 (2)		A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary Oct 2025 Mth 7	UTBT123	£1,041.61	£0.00	1,041.61
124	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s112 (2)	120PF003233662607	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	HMRC Nat. Ins. Employer Contributions Oct 2025 Salary Mth 7	UTBT124	£99.94	£0.00	99.94
125	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s112 (2)	Pension Month 7	Nest Pensions	Nest Pension Employer costs 01/10/2025 - 31/10/2025	UTDD125	£44.08	£0.00	44.08
126	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, s. 215	08/10/2025	N Bigley & Sons	Plants for Biodiversity Project at Closed Cemetery	UTBT126	£120.00	£0.00	120.00
127	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, s.111	27/10/2025	Lloyds Bank PLC	Credit Card Fee	CC-UTDD127	£3.00	£0.00	3.00
128	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, s.111	04/10/2025	Tesco Stores	A4 Paper 500 sheets	CC-UTDD128	£4.90	£0.00	4.90
129	03/11/2025	LGA 1973 S137	120022 88636	Royal British Legion Trading Ltd	Poppy Wreath s137	CC-UTDD129	£24.50	£4.08	20.42
130	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, Section 144	29/11/2093	St Andrews Workbridge	Bulbs for village planters x 10 bulbs miniature daffodils	CC-UTDD130	£3.99	£0.67	3.32
131	03/11/2025	LGA 1972, Section 144	21/10/2024	Northampton Garden Centre	Bulbs for village planters x 30 crocuses	CC-UTDD131	£9.99	£1.66	8.33
132	03/11/2025	LGA 1972 s112 (2) Open Spaces Act 1906, s14	21/10/2025	Tesco Stores	Gorilla Contact Adhesive for Play Area swing seat caps	CC-UTDD132	£5.25	£0.88	4.37
133	03/11/2025	LGA (Financial Provisions) 1963 s5		A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses (01.10.2025 - 31.10.2025)	UTBT133	£35.30	£0.00	35.30
Totals							£4,382.90	£231.51	£4,151.39

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RECEIPTS NOVEMBER 2025-2026 MEETING

Date	Description	Credit Ref/Debit Ref	Paid In	INTEREST	ALLOTMENTS - RENTS	ALLOTMENTS - PLOT DEPOSIT	ALLOTMENTS - KEY DEPOSITS	PRECEPT	GRANTS	VAT REFUND	SEGRO S106 FUNDS	OTHER	TOTAL	Bank
28Oct2025	SEGRO S106 (1st Installment)	WNC FINANCE SEGRO S106	£28,051.15								£28,051.15		£28,051.15	Skipton
Totals				£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£28,051.15	£0.00	£28,051.15	