

# Minutes

Of the meeting 14 January 2026 at Westborough Village Hall

Members Present:

Arnold	Birnage (Chair)	Broomham	Forman	Lett	
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Members Absent:

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In attendance: The Parish Clerk

Also Present: County Cllr Bamford, District Cllr Wood and several members of the general public.

<i>Agenda no</i>	<i>Agenda item title</i>	<i>Power/ Regulation</i>
	<p><b>Public Forum:</b> to <b>receive</b> questions and comments from residents of the village on any matter relating to items on this agenda. (15 minutes maximum)</p> <p><b>There were no questions from members of the public.</b></p>	
	<p>To <b>receive and note</b> verbal reports from the district and county councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Bamford reported that Lincolnshire County Council considered changing its policy on pothole repair. He reminded those present, that the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) was out for consultation. He offered to look into land ownership of the land surrounding Westborough Village Hall.</p> <p>Cllr Wood talked about the introduction of Food Waste bins. He spoke about budget meetings and council tax increases which the District Council had been trying to keep to a minimum.</p>	
26-25	<p>To <b>receive and note</b> apologies for absence and resolve to approve such absence where applicable.</p> <p>The Council noted that Cllr Ford had resigned from the Council and that a casual vacancy had arisen.</p>	<i>Local Government Act 1972, s85 (1) &amp; Sch 12, p40.</i>

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26-26	To <b>receive</b> any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 <b>and consider</b> any dispensation requests received by the Clerk.  There were none	<i>Localism Act 2011, s31, s33</i>								
26-27	To receive and note the clerk's report. The Council received and noted the Clerk's report.									
26-28	To receive the minutes of the previous Full Council Meeting and <b>resolve</b> to sign these as a true record of the meeting(s). a) <b>Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 14 January 2026</b>  The council <b>resolved</b> to sign the minutes of the meeting <b>14 January 2026</b> as a true record of that meeting.	<i>Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, p4 resolved 1 (1).</i>								
26-29	To <b>consider</b> joining the LALC Annual Training Scheme for a further year Council with up to 500 electorate 130.00 + £26 VAT.  The Council <b>resolved</b> not to join the Annual Training Scheme.									
26-30	<b>Financial Matters:</b>  a) To receive and note the council's receipts and payments over budget report to 28 February 2026  The Council <b>resolved</b> to receive and note the council's receipts and payments over budget report to 28 February 2026.  b) To receive and note the council's receipts and payments For January and February 2026 and approve payments made under delegated powers.  The Council <b>resolved</b> to receive and note council's receipts and payments For January and February 2026 and approved payments made under delegated powers.  c) To receive and note the council's bank reconciliation to 28 February 2025.  The Council <b>resolved</b> to receive and note the council's bank reconciliation to 28 February 2025.  d) To authorise the following known upcoming payments:	<i>Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel Practitioners Guide 2025.</i>  <i>The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014</i>								
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Details</b></th> <th><b>Payment</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LALC Membership 2025-26</td> <td>169.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Forman – Mowing expenditure</td> <td>55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>224.36</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Payment</b>	LALC Membership 2025-26	169.36	Cllr Forman – Mowing expenditure	55.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>224.36</b>	
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	Plus staff salaries.	
26-31	To <b>consider</b> commissioning a village sign for Dry Doddington (Cllr Birnage) – <b>deferred from previous meeting</b> .  Members considered the proposal and decided to look into cheaper alternatives sourced locally.	
26-32	<b>BANKING</b>  a) To consider opening a deposit/savings account with either CCLA or Hinckley and Rugby building society to maximise potential interest earnings and  The council <b>resolved</b> to open a Local Council Deposit Fund with CCLA.  b) To consider signing rules etc for the new account. To consider what to do with a council owned strimmer currently located at a member of the public's personal address.  The council <b>resolved</b> that the current signatories, Cllrs Birnage, Bett and Arnold should be signatories on this new account with the Clerk and RFO be in the administrator of the account.	<i>Action: Clerk to start opening new bank account.</i>
26-33	To receive an update on play area consultation. (Cllr Birnage)  Cllr Birnage had no updates.	
26-34	To consider changing the meeting day from the second to the third Thursday of a meeting month.  To consider meeting dates for the 2026/27 municipal year and set dates for the Annual Parish Meetings.  The Council considered the proposed meeting dates and <b>resolved</b> to meet every other month on the third Thursday of the month in the coming municipal year.	<i>Action: Clerk to post meeting dates, times and locations on website</i>  <i>Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, p10 (2)(a)</i>
26-35	To receive feedback from the recent litter picks.  Members received and noted feedback from the recent litter picks. It was established that further hoops and more pickers would need to be purchased in time for the next litter pick and confirm a date at the November meeting.	<i>Action: Clerk to add to November agenda.</i>
26-36	To consider authorising the expenditure for a suitable strimmer to be used for the maintenance of grass verges in the parish.	<i>Local Government Act 1972, s 111.</i>

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	The Council considered the proposal. Cllr Arnold would look into selling the old strimmer and using the proceeds to purchase a smaller and lighter one.	
26-37	To <b>adopt</b> an IT policy based on a LALC template and tailored to the council – a requirement for Assertion 10  The Council <b>resolved</b> to adopt an IT policy based on a LALC template and tailored to the council.	<i>Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel Practitioners Guide 2025.</i>
26-38	To review the effectiveness of the council’s internal controls.  The Council <b>reviewed</b> the effectiveness of its internal controls and <b>resolved</b> that these were effective and sufficient.	<i>Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel Practitioners Guide 2025.</i>
26-39	To review the council’s Asset Register.  The council <b>reviewed</b> its Asset Register.	<i>Smaller Authorities Proper Practices Panel Practitioners Guide 2025.</i>
26-40	To consider planning applications for comment.  a) <a href="#">S25/2294 Change of use of agricultural building to new dwelling. Replacement roof and new porch canopy. Westfield Farm Town Street Westborough Lincolnshire NG23 5HJ</a> b) <a href="#">S25/2293 Change of use of agricultural building to new dwelling. Replacement roof and new porch canopy. Westfield Farm Town Street Westborough Lincolnshire NG23 5HJ</a> c) <a href="#">S25/2387 Change of use of farm yard including demolition of modern farm buildings, conversion of traditional barn to form 1no.dwelling and erection of 4no. residential dwellings with associated infrastructure, erection of detached garages and improvements to existing driveway. Manor Farm Town Street Westborough Lincolnshire NG23 5HQ</a> d) <a href="#">S25/2415 Erection of stable block in rear garden The Elms Town Street Westborough Lincolnshire NG23 5HQ</a>  The council <b>resolved</b> not to comment on any of the applications.	<i>Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Sched.1, para.8</i>
26-41	To note planning decisions made since the last meeting.  <b>S26/0341</b>  Regulation 5 notice of intention to install fixed line broadband apparatus. The Paddock Claypole Lane Dry Doddington Lincolnshire NG23 5HZ <b>No Objections Made</b>  <b>S25/2414</b>  Erection of stable block in rear garden The Elms Town Street Westborough Lincolnshire NG23 5HQ <b>Approved conditionally</b>	

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	The Council <b>noted</b> the planning decisions.	
26-42	<p>Items for notification to be included in a future agenda. For information only.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant Applications</li> <li>• Co-option Applications</li> <li>• Annual Governance and Accountability Return.</li> </ul>	
26-43	<p>To note the date and time of the next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>The Council noted the date of the next scheduled meeting, the Annual Parish Council meeting as 21 May 2026 at 19.30 at Westborough Village Hall.</p>	<i>Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, p10 (2)(a)</i>

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed as a true record by the presiding Chair of the approving meeting.