draft

WEST WICKHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the ParishCouncil held on Monday 27th July 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Those present were Councillor A. Schuilenburg (Chairman), Cllrs. D. Sargeant (Vice Chair), J Copas, G. McNeillie, C. Mulley-Richards, N. Salter, the Parish Clerk, District Cllr. Harvey, County Cllr. Batchelor and 4 members of the public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. A. Cornish

2. **Declaration of Interest:** None

3. **Minutes** of the meeting held on Monday 18th May 2026 were signed as correct.

4. **Correspondence:** Di Licence had sent an email regarding the protection of the orchid areas. The Chairman said that the contractor proposed to cut grass and hedges etc., Bradley Goss, has been given a set of maps showing exactly what the protected areas are.

5. **Planning:**

Reference	*applicant*	*address*	*description*	*date*	*PC*	*SCDC*
26/01367/S73	Mrs Churcher	70 Annex High St	S73 to vary condition 3	14/4/26	**Support**	**Withdrawn** .
26/0631/TTCA	G.McNeillie	45 Streetly End	Tree work	26/6/26		**Awaiting decision**
26/0580/TTCA	A.Midwood	Meadow Pond	Tree work	10/6/26		**Awaiting decision**
26/0727/TTCA	S. Sutch	35 High St	Tree work	16/7/26		**Awaiting decision**
26/022581/LBC	B. Upton	31 Burton End	LBC on chimney works	15/6/26	**Agreed Support**	**Awaiting decision**

31 Burton End - chimney works: It was agreed to support this application. Cllr. Sargeant will respond.

a) **Devana Footpaths & Ponds:** Cllr Salter informed the council there are a number of Ragwort outbreaks on the Devana Wildlife area and was tasked to contact Chris Bawtree to alert him of the situation.
b) **Streetly Hall Biodigester:** Cllr. Copas confirmed there was nothing new to report.
c) **Kingsway Solar Farm:** The Planning Inspectorate raised numerous issues with the application, pointing out many mistakes in Kingsway's submission. Kingsway have withdrawn this

application but it is quite likely they will re-submit. Cllr. Simon Chandler from West Wratting PC, who leads the Parish Council Alliance, will keep us informed.

d) **Forest City proposal:** Cllr. Sargeant had attended a meeting about this proposal, arranged by Cllr. Bachelor and chaired by Stephen Kelly, Director of the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service. It was obvious the proposal had no support and limited credibility with the relevant local authorities. Parish Councils will be kept informed but the proposal has no obvious pathway to approval at this stage.

e) **Grange Farm new town proposal:** This development is supported by the emerging Local Plan and proposes to build ~4500 homes at Grange Farm, next to the A11 near Abington. This proposal has gained local authority support because proposals for north east Cambridge were abandoned when the government withdrew funding to relocate the Milton sewage works. The Parish Council were unable to attend the Save Abington Environment meeting, which went through the advantages and disadvantages of this proposal. The Chairman has also been contacted by and since spoken to the chair of Horseheath Parish Council on the possibility of holding a joint public meeting in which a spokesperson from SAVE and Henry Batchelor would be invited. It is proposed to hold the meeting at our Village Hall since it is larger and would therefore accommodate a greater number of the public. The purpose of this public meeting would be to inform people of the likely benefits and challenges of the development and to establish local feelings on the proposal. It will also explain how to respond in the imminent Local Plan consultation which is the final opportunity for people to have their say on development in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

f) **Query regarding AirB/B permission re S/2419/19/FL:** The original cart lodge planning consent stated it could only be used in conjunction with the main house. However, the local authority have now considered it a new dwelling with separate council tax due. This has been contested by the current tenant without success, so they have agreed with the landlord to let the dwelling as an AirBnB. The Parish Council agreed that they have no grounds to intervene and noted they have supported previous similar change of use applications.

1. Finance:

a) *Authorised payments:*

£ 464.60 Clerks June/July salary
£ 33.05 Expenses:. photocopy paper £9.00, Petrol re audit £24.00.
£ 858.00 ABC Tree Surgery Inv.1455 **paid**
£ 58.00 E&E Plumridge Inv. 5524 **paid**
£ 84.00 E&E Plumridge Inv. 5593 **paid**
£ 504.72 Lawnmower service (Darren J Mason) Inv. 1815 **paid**
£ 71.50 Running Total (JDockerill) int.audit fee Inv. 2066.**paid**
£1717.56 MH Goals Ltd. Inv.1097 - 5-aside items. **paid**
£ 105.00 SCDC Inv.80103529 - Uncontested election costs. **paid**

b) *Monies received:* None

c) *Internal Audit:* The internal audit has been carried out satisfactorily and an external audit is not required.

7. Traffic & Parking issues:

a) Potholes, flooding and footpaths:

509460	Horseheath Road, Streetly End - No longer listed on the reporting map.
96135 (10/06) 96745 (15/06) 100363 (21/07)	Overhanging trees at 43 Streetly End and NE triangle
100252/20147	Missing 30mph sign and broken post (previous reports 492135 & 499915 *Ordered '91 Day' Priority. Works incorrectly marked completed on 25/06/26 - signpost but no sign*
88423	Potholes by Church, (previous report 86712) *Ordered '21 Day' Priority. Works Completed Date of 23/06/26*
27555 (03/02) 80190 (17/02) 97193 (18/06) 97194 (18/06)	Potholes between Ivy Todd Farm and Footpath to NE. Some marked 'Not at intervention level' others 'Works Already Programmed' *Ordered '21 Day Priority'*
84545 (02/03)	Potholes on Maypole Croft - Open.
96744 (15/06)	Overhanging Trees opposite 19-19a - Open.
81642 (20/02)	Potholes near 33 Burton End, failed previous repair *Ordered '21 Day' Priority. Works Completed Date of 23/06/26*
94514 (24/05) 94515 (24/05)	Loose Kerb collapsing drain cover at Home Close. No longer listed on the reporting map.
87818	Drain Cover - Fixed.
93501	Faded 30mph signs - No longer listed on the reporting map.
100376 (21/07) 100377 (21/07) 100378 (21/07)	Overgrown Hedges or grass/weed verge onto pavement obstructing pedestrian and wheelchair access. 65-71 High Street, 51 High Street.

a) Cllr Batchelor will contact Highways for an update on 100252/20147.

b) *Speedwatch* speed readings:
Period ending 22/6/26 White Gables looking East - *total vehicles 3437, over 35mph 59, max speed of 48mph (05:30 7/6/26)*
Week ending 29/6/26 Burton End facing North, vehicles entering 30mph limit - *total vehicles 1072, over 45mph: 15, max speed 53mph (14:15 22/6/26)*

8. Maintenance:

a) Footpaths: Mr Duncan was contacted by the Parish Clerk about Footpath 18 and the path has now been cut.

b) Replacement for grass cutting following ABC Tree notice: The Chairman had met Bradley Goss and discussed what needed doing and provided him with a workplan showing what needs cutting and how often. He was asked to quote for the work, which was to include additional periodic weed killing around the village hall at a modest cost. The quote was emailed to all councillors and unanimously accepted at the meeting.

c) Hedges and pavements: The Chairman had received a complaint regarding hedges which had overgrown onto the pavement preventing a wheelchair user from passing. As the hedge owners had previously been contacted in this regard, these overgrown hedges have been reported to the

County Council along with a grass verge, owned by the County Council, that has spilled onto the pavement.

d) *Risk assessment review*: A Risk Assessment review needs to be carried out on the allotments and the land around the rec and allotments. This will be done annually.

9. Village Hall & Recreation Ground:

a) *Repairs to play equipment, broken fencing etc.:* The quote from Tom Licence to replace all four posts for the zip wire platform has been agreed and accepted and the Parish Clerk will let Tom Licence know. Cllr. Sargeant is storing the seat.

b) *Grass and Hedge Cutting:* Discussed and agreed above.

c) *Grass restoration at front of hall:* This is gradually being carried out opening up the view. The quote to clear this area was accepted.

d) *Allotments:* This will be discussed at the meeting to be held after the main Parish Council meeting. The Chairman told the Parish Clerk that she will liaise with allotment holders over any issues.

e) *Five-a-side project:* The Chairman gave a brief outline of progress and what has been purchased. The purchase of the shipping container previously approved by the Parish Council for storage of the mower, goals, marking equipment and football kit has been shelved as the Football Association finally have responded regarding the application process for funding of one of their community/club storage containers. It would therefore be prudent to pursue them for funding. As these are mainly suitable for kit storage only, a smaller separate shed for housing the mower, line marking kit and associated equipment should be considered in place of the original container.

Volunteers are needed to manage the 5-a-side pitch and associated activities, as well as help establish the pitch. Cllr. Salter thought we should look for someone who would lead and keep the teams working together. Volunteers are needed to finish making the pitch ready for use and maintain it. An article has been sent to the Village Voice for the August issue.

f) *Strowger bench:* Mrs Jenny Hill had spoken to the Parish Clerk, saying that the seat has now been ordered and her sons will remove the old seat etc. before erecting the new one.

10. Meetings attended by councillors: Cllr. Sargeant and Cllr. Copas had attended the Forest City meeting and Cllr. Copas had attended the GCSP Planning training session. Cllr. Sargeant intends to watch the replay.

11. Reports by District Cllr Harvey & County Cllr. Batchelor (May/June. reports on website).
County Cllr Batchelor said most items had been covered in the meeting. He did explain that a decision by the central government on the forthcoming merger of County and District Councils has been delayed. The decision is now expected by October and the first election for the new authority could possibly be held next year. The 5 year housing land supply has been challenged by developers. If this challenge is successful it will have serious impacts for the control of development in the area. For example the Local and our Neighbourhood Plan would be held in abeyance, allowing development outside of village boundaries.

12. Any other Business:

a) Our village website was affected by vulnerability CVE-2026-63030 and subsequently was notified by our ISP that it was breached between 21-27 July 2026. On detection our ISP also removed newly created admin accounts and recommended a further set of actions which were

immediately followed. As the website does not hold any personal or confidential information or private records, no data breach was recorded.

b) The chairman notified the Parish Council he has a meeting scheduled with the Monitoring Officer, at his request, regarding compliance.
c) The Harvest Fair to be held on Saturday 26th September linked to the Harvest Service on Sunday 27th September was announced by Cllr. Copas. The council were pleased to hear of a new community event centred around St Mary's church.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Monday 28th September 2026

Signed: