



Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 23rd March 2026 at East Haddon Village Hall

Present

Chair:	Cllr M Wells
Councillors:	Cllr N Bell, Cllr J Lambert, Cllr R Brinkman, Cllr M Longley, Cllr P Wells, Cllr J Cooper, Cllr M Marsh
Clerk:	Nicola Wright
Public:	17

MINUTES

OPENING PROCEDURES

Chair Cllr M Wells opened the meeting and welcomed all

26/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies received from Cllr G Wrathall

26/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) There were no declarations of any Disclosable Pecuniary or Other Interests reported
- b) There were no dispensations or written requests for dispensation of DPI

26/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public spoke with reference to the Draft Local Plan Regulation 18, questioning East Haddon's rural hierarchy category as a Secondary Village.

26/26 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on 26th January 2026

26/27 PLANNING

There were no planning applications for consideration

BUSINESS TRANSACTED

26/28 West Northants Council Draft Local Plan Regulation 18

- i.) Council received feedback from Cllr M Wells, Cllr Bell, Cllr Cooper and Cllr Brinkman following attendance at the Long Buckby Draft Local Plan meeting.
- ii.) Following a lengthy discussion giving consideration to EHPC's response to the plan (circulated prior to the meeting), it was agreed that amendments would be made and a second draft circulated to Councillors before submission. Council **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Clerk to submit the consultation response to West Northants Council.

26/29 **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

Council considered a proposal from Cllr Bell, supported by Cllr Cooper, to prepare a Neighbourhood Development Plan. It was agreed that a community consultation should first be undertaken to gather residents' views before any decision is made on whether to proceed. Cllr Bell and Cllr Cooper will lead this consultation. Council RESOLVED to approve a budget of up to £1,000 to cover printing and any associated costs.

26/30 **Cemetery**

- i. Council considered unsafe memorials that have been laid flat following an inspection in November 2025. It was RESOLVED to allow grave owners 12 months for the opportunity to have memorials professionally reinstalled. After this time, memorials will be 'sunk'.
- ii. For reasons of safety, Council RESOLVED to re-lay flat the 3 memorials that have been repositioned by the public.
- iii. Council considered and RESOLVED to approve wording for a gate sign. Clerk to obtain a cost.
- iv. Council considered and RESOLVED to approve the Tributes and Memorial Regulations.

26/31 **Tree Survey**

Cllr Brinkman reported that he had completed a survey of all village trees. With the exception of the tree at Barnacre, that has overgrown the lamppost, there are no current issues.

26/32 **Appointment of Internal Auditor**

Council reviewed the independence and competence of Northants CALC audit services and RESOLVED to approve their appointment as Internal Auditor for the 2025/26 financial year.

26/33 **Staffing Matters**

Council RESOLVED to appoint Cllr M Wells and Cllr N Bell to conduct the Clerk's annual performance review and granted delegated authority to agree on any necessary actions or objectives arising from the review.

26/34 **Meeting Date Change**

Council NOTED that the meeting on 14th May 2026 has been changed to 21st May 2026

26/35 **Fly tipping**

Cllr Lambert informed Council of recent fly tipping activity on Brington Road near to the Kennels. This appears to have been resolved. Cllr Lambert agreed to monitor.

26/36 **FINANCE & ACCOUNTS**

- a. Council acknowledged receipt of financial reports for January and February 2026 – circulated prior to the meeting
- b. Internal Control Officer Cllr Cooper verified Bank Reconciliations for January and February 2026
- c. Council RESOLVED to move £15,000 from the Instant Access to the Current Account.
- d. Bank Balances as at 28th February 2026
 - i. Current Account £5814
 - ii. Instant Access Account £80,285

26/37 **PAYMENTS**

Council RESOLVED to

- i. ratify the payments in appendix 1 made between meetings
- ii. approve payments in appendix 2

26/38 **REGULAR REPORTS**

Cemetery: No further report

MW

Defibrillator: Working and all in order

MW

Highways: Potholes have been filled near Tilbury Rd, One near the Church been reported.

RB

Mowing and Maintenance: Mowing has commenced. Cllr Lambert to get a list of weddings to give to Clerk to give to Elm Tree Maintenance.

Police Liaison Officer: no report

Playing Field Association: JC to liaise with PFA to obtain a location for a Bench

Village Hall Committee: The next meeting is on 30th March 2026

Village Guide & CAN Champion Liaison: A successful litter pick has been completed, Council offered thanks to the organisers.

JL

JC

ML

NB

26/39 MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR DISCUSSION

Council have received a request for small patch of land in Churchyard to encourage the children at the school to grow small plants and tend the land.

26/40 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

None

26/41 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

21st May at 7pm at the Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Appendix 1 – Payments made outside meetings

Payee	Details	Amount £
January		
Valda energy	Street Lighting	7.66
Valda energy	Street Lighting	138.44
HMRC	Tax and NI	-----
N Wright	Staff salary	-----
Scribe	Annual accounts package fee	532.80
Unity Trust	Bank Fee	6.00
February		
Elm Tree	Ivy removal from Lamppost	95.00
e-on	Replaced photocell	42.00
Valda energy	Street Lighting	106.77
Parish Council Websites	Annual hosting and emails	309.60
HMRC	Tax and Ni	-----
N Wright	Staff salary	-----
Unity Trust	Bank Fee	6.00

Appendix 2 – Payments to approve

Payee	Details	Amount £
NCALC	Training #5172	360.00
Village Hall	Jan Hall Hire	24.00
Elm Tree	Grass cutting #2386	225.00
Clerk	Expenses inc Microsoft 365 fee	125.49
e-on	Street Light Lantern Holdenby Road	372.00
Barbara Osborne	Payroll	73.50

Signed: _____

Date: 21st May 2026

Marysia Wells - Chair