

Deene and Deenethorpe Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 17th March 2025 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Hannah Chambers (Deputy Chair), Simon Hickling, Ian Bridden, Linda Whatling, Stuart Barratt

In attendance: Clerk & RFO Joe Roberts, three members of the public (which included two representatives from Bulwick Parish Council)

18.03.18	Welcome Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members of the Council.
18.03.19	Dispensations There were no requests for dispensations
18.03.20	Declarations of interest Cllr Hickling Declared an interest with Deene and Deenethorpe Estate
18.03.21	Public Forum Representatives from Bulwick Parish Council provided an update on their recent efforts to address speeding and dangerous driving along the A43. The Chair also outlined other work undertaken by the Parish Council. It was agreed that Bulwick Parish Council and Deene & Deenethorpe Parish Council would collaborate on this ongoing issue and organise a separate meeting to discuss it further. Other local Parish Councils would be encouraged to participate, with the aim of forming a collective effort to tackle the problem. Additionally, a resident from Priors Hall shared an update regarding the potential establishment of a new Parish Council for the area, which could be in place as early as May 2027.
18.03.22	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Kieth Gautrey-Prue
18.03.23	Minutes of previous meeting It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. It was resolved to change the number system to ensure the numbers on the agenda match the numbers of the minutes.
18.03.24	Finance Matters a) It was RESOLVED to accept payments, income and bank balances for January and February 2025 b) Bank Balances were noted as at 28/02/2025 c) It was RESOLVED to approve the quote for works on the Debfib telephone box, costing £246.00
18.03.25	Planning Matters The clerk informed Council he was still waiting for an update on the Metal Recycling Facility, when this is received the clerk will send an email update.
18.03.26	Highways and Village Maintenance

	<p>a) Grass Cutting Plan - Councillors raised concerns about the estimated time required for each area to be cut by the current Grass Cutting Contractor. It was agreed that the Parish Council would seek two additional quotes to assess competitiveness in both time and cost. Additionally, it was agreed the Parish Council will consider selling assets once the grass-cutting contract is confirmed.</p> <p>b) A43 Update - The Chair provided a verbal update on ongoing issues related to the A43. It was agreed that a separate meeting would be arranged with neighbouring Parish Councils to discuss this matter in more detail.</p> <p>c) Signs for the Plantations - Cllr Hickling presented a printed draft of the signs to be installed at the plantations, informing the public that they are for the exclusive use of Deene and Deenethorpe residents. It was RESOLVED to approve the signs, and Cllr Hickling will work with the Clerk to have them printed.</p> <p>d) Land Near Plantation Entrances - Following recent weather changes, previously reported issues have now been resolved. It was RESOLVED to defer this matter until the autumn for further review.</p> <p>e) Dog Fouling Bins - The Clerk provided an update on the ongoing issue of bins not being emptied. He will continue working with North Northamptonshire Council to establish a formal agreement ensuring regular bin collection. The Clerk has reported the current issues six times and is working hard to get the problem resolved ASAP.</p> <p>f) Overgrown Trees on Benefield Road - Cllr Keith Gautrey-Prue has reported the issue and will continue to follow up with North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) for action.</p> <p>g) Deenethorpe Lane Drainage - The drainage work has now been completed, and no further action is required.</p> <p>h) Local Potholes - Cllr Keith Gautrey-Prue has reported the potholes and will continue to press NNC for necessary repairs.</p>
18.03.27	<p>Official reports</p> <p>a) The Clerk informed Councillors about the correspondence received. He will continue to forward email correspondence to Councillors as it arrives.</p>
18.03.28	<p>Police, Fire and Crime commissioner’s meetings –</p> <p>Cllr Keith Gautrey-Prue recently attended a Police, Fire, and Crime Commissioner’s meeting where local policing priorities were discussed.</p> <p>He also met with the local police team to address concerns regarding the recent illegal rave in the village. Additionally, he has submitted a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to Northamptonshire Police to obtain further details on how the incident was handled.</p>
18.03.29	<p>Tresham Village Development</p> <p>There was no update on the Tresham Village.</p>
18.03.30	<p>New Council website</p> <p>The Clerk provided a verbal update on the new website and informed members that the website and email system will be transitioned to the recommended .gov.uk domain in the coming weeks.</p>
18.03.31	<p>Community Orchard</p>

	<p>New trees for the community orchard were recently planted during a community planting day, with participation from Parish Council members, local parishioners, and staff from Deene Estate.</p> <p>Cllr Hickling will explore options for printing a new sign for the Community Orchard and will present this at the next Council meeting.</p>
18.03.32	<p>Parish Plan</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the Parish Plan will be reviewed and further developed based on the work completed in 2018. The Clerk will lead this process with support from Council Members.</p>
18.03.33	<p>Meeting closed 8:10</p>

Signed by: *Joseph Roberts*

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

Deene and Deene Thorpe Parish Council