

Deene and Deenethorpe Parish Council
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting
held on Monday 19th January 2026 at 7:00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Hannah Chambers (Chair), Simon Hickling, Cllr Linda Watling, Jo Turner, Stuart Barratt

In attendance: Clerk & RFO Joe Roberts, Cllr McDonald & Cllr O'Brien(NNC), two members of the public.

15.09.74	<p>Welcome</p> <p>The Deputy Chair opened the meeting following the resignation of the Chair.</p>
	<p>Elect Chair and Deputy Chair</p> <p>Following the resignation of Cllr Keith Gautrey-Prue as Chair, it was approved that Cllr H Chambers serve as Chair and Cllr S Hicklin as Deputy Chair.</p>
	<p>Keith Gautrey-Prue Resignation</p> <p>The Chair expressed thanks to Mr Gautrey-Prue for his dedication and service to Deene and Deenethorpe and requested that the Clerk send a letter of appreciation on behalf of the Council.</p>
15.09.75	<p>Requests for Dispensation</p> <p>There were no requests for dispensations</p>
15.09.76	<p>Deceleration of Interests (Agenda items)</p> <p>Cllr Simon Hickling recorded a deceleration of interest with the Deene Estate</p>
15.09.77	<p>Public Forum</p> <p>he following items were raised during the public forum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter picking around the village. • The condition of roads around Deene and Deenethorpe. • A representative from the Deene Village Hall Committee requested advice regarding a possible grant application. <p>Cllr E McDonald provided an update from NNC, including responding to concerns raised about the condition of local roads.</p>
15.09.78	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>No apologies were received in advance of the meeting; however, apologies were subsequently received from Cllr Briden.</p>
15.09.79	<p>Minutes of previous meeting</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th September 2025</p>
15.09.80	<p>Finance Matters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) It was RESOLVED to approve the payments listed in Addendum A b) Payments and receipts were noted for September, October, November and December c) Bank Balances were noted as at 31/12/2025, Current Account balance was £13,294.11 and Savings Account balance was £21,770.28 d) Payment to Northants CALC was approved for this years audit upfront. e) It was approved to make Cllr J Turner and Cllr H Chambers signatories and approvers on the bank

	<p>Budget and Precept for 2026/27</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the Precept and Budget for 2026/27. The approved precept was £17,472.00, More information on agreed expenditure can be found on the Parish Councils website at www.deeneanddeenethorpe-pc.gov.uk</p>
15.09.81	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>No updates on the open planning applications.</p>
15.09.82	<p>Highways and Village Maintenance</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that authority be delegated to Cllr Whatling and Cllr Turner, working with the Clerk, to approve the grass cutting contractor for 2026/27. The formal appointment will be made by Council at the March meeting.</p>
15.09.83	<p>Official reports</p> <p>he Clerk reported on the correspondence received and confirmed that email correspondence will continue to be circulated to Councillors as it is received.</p>
15.09.84	<p>There were no updates on the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner meetings</p>
	<p>Grant Applications</p> <p>No formal grant application had been received for approval.</p>
	<p>North Northamptonshire Rural Grants</p> <p>was RESOLVED there was still appetite to receive the Rural Grants that had been rewarded to the Parish Council.</p>
	<p>A43 Speeding</p> <p>It was agreed that the Clerk would provide an up-to-date report at the next meeting.</p>
	<p>Clerk Salary and Pay award</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the Clerks pay award and SCP increase, inline with Local Government Pay award 2025/26. This increase means the Clerk will be paid LC2-19, which is £16.62ph</p>
	<p>Roles and Responsibilities</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to make the following appointments to roles and responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Police Liaison Representative – Cover will be shared between the Chair, Clerk, and Councillors. B. Defibrillator Lead – The Estate will monitor the defibrillator in Deene, and Councillors will monitor the defibrillator in Deenethorpe. C. Northants CALC Representative – The Clerk will keep all Councillors updated on any correspondence. D. Speed Limit Signs – Deenethorpe – [Responsibility/Details to be confirmed]. E. Maintenance and Update of Notice Boards – The Estate will update the noticeboard in Deene, and the Chair will update the noticeboard in Deenethorpe.
	<p>Update on meeting with representatives from Grounds Rules Festival</p> <p>Cllr Jo Turner reported on the recent meeting with representatives from Grounds Rules Festival.</p>
	<p>Licence Application – 25/02091/LAPNEW Ground Rules Festival in The Grounds of Deen Park, Deene, NN17 3EW</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to request that NNC decline the licence application in its current format. Councillors acknowledged that events are important for the financial sustainability of estates, such as Deene Estate, but strongly objected to the current application. The reasons for this objection are as follows:</p>

	<p>A. Noise and Operating Hours – The proposed finish time of 4:00 am is considered unacceptable. Councillors recommended a more suitable finish time of 10:00 pm on Friday and Saturday, and 8:00 pm on Sunday. While it is appreciated that these times may be unlikely, a finish time of 12:00 midnight on Friday and Saturday, and 10:00 pm on Sunday would be more agreeable.</p> <p>B. Noise Management and Control – Adequate measures must be in place to manage and control noise levels.</p> <p>C. Crime, Antisocial Behaviour, and Parking – Concerns were raised regarding potential crime, antisocial behaviour, and parking issues associated with the event.</p> <p>D. Community Liaison and Post-Event Review – Clear arrangements for community liaison and post-event review must be confirmed.</p>
	<p>Meeting closed 8:45</p>