MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHILTON PARISH COUNCIL

held at Whilton Village Hall on WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2026 – 7:30pm

Attendance: Parish Councillors – M Hampson, A Lee, B Lewis, J Melling, R Smith (Chairman) and Sue Porter (Clerk)

1. OPENING PROCEDURES

1.1 Acceptance of Apologies – J Bunce, A Gilbert, D Lister (WNC)
1.2 Declarations of Interest – Personal & Prejudicial – B Lewis – Village Hall

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on **WEDNESDAY 8th JULY 2026 –** The minutes were approved by R Smith as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by M Hampson and all voted in favour. These will be signed and dated by the Chairman.

3. PUBLIC TIME – Nil

4. WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORT (Daniel Lister) – No report received.

5. THE SPINNEY

5.1 Risk Assessments – A minor incident in The Spinney has resulted in signage being required to identify and warn of trip hazards. Wording of these will be agreed and then these will be ordered from Nordis. A working party is planned. The required frequency of the site inspections will be investigated.

6. VILLAGE HALL – A search for the Conveyancing Document and Title Deeds at Nat West, Northampton have not found anything deposited with Whilton Parish Council.
The back wall in the attic room has been plastered and lead fixed to the chimney. The usual activities; pop up pub, quiz night and art club are all booked.

7. HIGHWAYS

7.1 Brington Lane – Hedge Trimming – The farming tenants will be asked to make sure this is undertaken on the road side, and not just the field side, this autumn.
7.2 Brington Lane – The running water issue will be monitored. No problems currently.
7.3 HGV Overnight Parking – The problem appears to have been resolved, although this will be monitored.

8. BUSINESS

8.1 Street Lighting Upgrade Programme – The next two lamps are due to be upgraded in Main Street within the next week, following this then the next two lamps will be ordered.
8.2 New Barns – Following advice received from the planning enforcement officer at WNC, there are no planning permissions required, all is under permitted development.
8.3 Community Speedwatch 2026 – The campaign will be underway shortly.
8.4 Red Telephone Box – The quote to replace the phone box door and refit the glazing panel, with vents, was received from Paul Boor for the sum of £786.00. All voted in favour to proceed.
8.5 A5 - Highway Safety Update - This is an ongoing challenge. D Lister (WNC) has requested that the A5 Safety Study Area be expanded to cover Weedon through to Kilsby.

8.6 Project 508 - Request for support with a Northamptonshire Rural Road Safety Initiative (Maidwell & Draughton Residents) - The details were discussed regarding the HGV's, speeding vehicles, rat run traffic etc. and the questionnaire completed by B Lewis was approved with confirmation that the PC support their project. B Lewis will continue to pursue a mobile speed camera van regular visit for Whilton Locks. Helen Howard (WNC Highways) has suggested the PC write to the OPFCC about the unique situation in the Locks, with the proposal for purchase of 'Average Speed Mobile Cameras' as this is the only traffic calming solution available for the area.
8.7 WNC Parish Conference – Thursday 26th November 10am-1pm – The Forum, Towcester – Noted.
8.8 Stronger Together Conference – Friday 2nd October 9:30am-3pm – Icon Innovation Centre, Daventry – M Hampson will be in attendance on the day.
8.9 Street Lamp Poppies – It was approved by all that 20 poppies will be ordered for the village and Whilton Locks, at a cost of £5.00 per poppy.
8.10 Defibrillator – Information Cards – The Chairman will send the original template to M Hampson so a quote can be obtained from the printers.
8.11 Anglian Water Sewage Works – There were odour concerns from residents following cake offloading, along with equipment issues. The Chairman complained, and this appears to now be resolved.
8.12 Neighbourhood Connectivity Plan – B Lewis will make some initial enquiries of how to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan and accept an offer of a Teams meeting with the Planning Policy offer.
A meeting with H Howard (WNC Highways) has produced the following information; the footway linking Whilton and Whilton Locks would be a significant infrastructure project with the Local Transport Planning (LTP). Criteria for this needs to be LTP based and reference made to their targets. Reference needs to be made of the possible footfall so the value for money (VFM) can be assessed. B Lewis to produce the relevant footage. Highways will undertake a 'light feasibility study' of this proposal and provide an outline costing.
8.13 Meeting with Alan Burns (WNC Parish Liaison Officer)/Barry Lewis – As per Item 8.12
8.14 NCALC – Annual Conference – 3rd October 2026 – Fully booked.

9. FINANCE

R Smith proposed that the following accounts be approved, seconded by M Hampson and all voted in favour;

9.1 Income/Expenditure Update & Bank Reconciliation's from August & September 2026

9.2 Accounts paid (July-September 2026):

Online	S Porter	Clerk's Salary July 26	£ 366.14	LGA 1972 s112
		Clerk's Expenses July 26	£ 24.00	LGA 1972 s112
Online	S Porter	Clerk's Salary August 26	£ 346.66	LGA 1972 s112
		Clerk's Expenses August 26	£ 24.00	LGA 1972 s112
		St John's Donation	£ 50.00	LGA 1972 s111
Online	Anglian Water	Allotments April-June 26	£ 24.83	SHAA 1908
Online	N Power	Street Lighting April-June 26	£ 270.65	PCA 1957 S3
Online	HMRC	PAYE 2026/27 Q1	£ 258.42	LGA 1972 S112
Online	Parish Online	Annual Website Fee	£ 378.00	LGA 1972 S111

9.3 Payments Received (July-September 2026)

Nat West	Interest – July 2026	£	15.08

Current Bank Balances (as of 31/08/2026):

Current Account	£	333.85
Reserve Account	£	19,809.96
TOTAL	**£**	**20,143.81**

Meeting Closed: 8:23pm