

# FLORE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE BRODIE LODGE PAVILLION ON 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2026 at 7.30 pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Mr Anthony Betts, Mrs Hayley Cox, Mrs Hayley Davies, Mr Geoff Fellows, Mr Tom Higginson, Mrs Joy Rippon, Mr Nigel Strang, Mr John Thomason  
3 Members of the public present  
Unitary Cllr Mr Phil Bignell

**Acceptance of Apologies for absence:** Cllrs Mrs Joy Rippon, Mr Nigel Strang. **Unitary Cllr Mrs Debra King**  
Meeting Chair – Cllr Mr Tom Higginson, Chair of Parish Council

- 3087.0** **Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct, regarding business tabled for discussion.** Nothing declared.
- 3088.0** **Public Forum:** for parishioners and reports by Unitary Councillors
- Unitary Cllr Bignell updated meeting on his conversations to undertake work to the Bypass; Noted that there were issues in the river at Kislingbury; car park provisions for blue badge holders in Northampton had been sorted.
  - Resident mentioned that there were lots of HGVs on the High Street and what could be done about them. Cllr Fellows advised that there is only around 5% now compared to before the bypass; some sat navs send foreign trucks this way and that it would be impractical and extremely costly to put HGV restrictions in place for the village
  - Resident asked when the grass would be cut on the memorial garden area. Clerk to investigate why it hasn't been cut and let him know.
- 3089.0** **To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026.** The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting.
- 3090.0** **Outstanding items - updates** (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)
- Flood Warden. Ditches at Brockhall Road/John Campbell Close area are Orbit's responsibility to clear, not WNC, Clerk to put note in their letter to WNC. Cllr Thomason has received information on the recent survey for the Millennium Hall drains which would be sent to the Flood Team at WNC. Clearing a bigger drainage site at Nether Lane would not make too much difference and the draft Community Resilience Plan has been received and will need to be populated.
  - Solar Farm. Noted that they will begin to lay an access to the site but no decision has been made yet as to whether the main solar farm will go ahead or not
  - Bypass. Noted that road markings (directional arrows) can be added. Signs advising of number of collisions is not agreed as expensive to maintain
- 3091.0** **GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE**
- 3091.1 High Street. High Street group are working on plans to use the remaining S106 money. Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July whereby the group will work out exactly what could be achieved.
- 3091.2 Dog Bin on Memorial Garden area. **Resolved:** Clerk to speak to Norse to see whether they would empty another bin in the village if one was installed. If agreed, CIL money to be spent to purchase the bin. Clerk
- 3091.3 Bus Shelter – Bricketts Lane. Agreed to look at this again next year.
- 3091.4 Fingerpost. A quote to repair the fingerpost (Flore/Brockhall which WNC will not repair). Work will include straightening the post, filling the large cracks and re-painting. The two signs are anticipated to be repaired, cleaned and reinstated but this will depend on what condition they are in once removed. If unrepairable, two new sections of hard wood will be used as replacements. Both will be finished as the old sign was and bolted into place. Cost £845 + £120 if two new signs needed. **Resolved:** To accept the quote and get the fingerpost returned to how it looked previously. Clerk
- 3091.5 Adoption of land off Brockhall Road (Orbit Development). Cllr Davies has confirmed that the street lights are all now working and spec for the lights has been received. **Resolved:** The Council are happy to take over the street lighting once the road is confirmed adopted by West Northants Council. Clerk
- 3091.6 Footpath Diversion Order. Noted that the Footpath Diversion Order for EU1/~EU7 has been sent for consultation. The Parish Council is supportive and has no objections to this new Order. Clerk

**3092.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- 3092.1 Finance update. It was reported that as at 30<sup>TH</sup> June the Council had £65,892.59 in the bank account.  
Income: WNC Grass cutting contribution £1348.33. Earmarked reserves currently £22,901.65 with general reserves being £26,000. CIL spend nil. There were no matters arising. Figures accepted.
- 3092.2 Audit: Noted that PKF will be responding with a 'matters' regarding audit papers not being displayed on the website. These papers were displayed correctly. They were removed in October and should have been replaced with certificate of completion. This was there but not in right place.
- 3092.2 Internal Control. Cllr Betts advised that all was present and correct.

**3093.0 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

|                                                             |                                    |                |               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Invoices Paid in June, declared on June minutes</b>      |                                    | <b>3718.31</b> | <b>216.00</b> |
| <b>Invoices received after meeting (pre-agreed)</b>         |                                    |                |               |
| SSE                                                         | Street lighting                    | 88.50          | 4.21          |
|                                                             | <b>Sub total</b>                   | <b>88.50</b>   | <b>4.21</b>   |
|                                                             | <b>Month total</b>                 | <b>3806.81</b> | <b>220.21</b> |
| <b>July payments</b>                                        |                                    |                |               |
| <b>To whom paid</b>                                         | <b>Reason</b>                      | <b>Total</b>   | <b>VAT</b>    |
| Halkett                                                     | Salary£831.43/Office rent £17      | 848.43         | 0             |
| HMRC                                                        | PAYE                               | 301.13         | 0             |
| Design to Print                                             | Messenger                          | 195.00         | 0             |
| LC Hedging & Grass                                          | Verge Grass cutting                | 1380.00        | 230.00        |
| Cuttlefish                                                  | Domain renewal/email account       | 132.00         | 22.00         |
| M Freeman                                                   | Playing field/church grass cutting | 528.00         | 88.00         |
| Unity Trust                                                 | Bank charges                       | 7.00           | 0             |
|                                                             | <b>monthly spend to date</b>       | <b>3391.56</b> | <b>340.00</b> |
| Awaiting pre-agreed invoices expected and agreed at meeting |                                    |                |               |
| SSE                                                         | Street lighting                    | 77.72          | 3.70          |
|                                                             | <b>Total monthly spend</b>         | <b>3469.28</b> | <b>343.70</b> |

**3095.0 REPORTS FROM VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS**

- 3095.1 Brodie Lodge. Recent car boot extremely well attended.
- 3095.2 Millennium Hall. Nothing to report
- 3095.3 Commonwealth Flags: Nothing to report
- 3095.4 Charities: Nothing to report.

**3096.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- EDF Update on Solar Farm. 3090
- WNC Update on signage for bypass. 3090
- Resident request to regulate the HGVs on the High Street. 3091.1
- Contractor Quote to repair fingerpost. 3091.4
- WNC Request that Flore PC is happy to take over the street lighting on John Campbell Close
- WNC Footpath Diversion Order. 3091.6
- PKF Audit response. 3092.2

NCALC Updates  
WNC Town & Parish Briefing  
NCALC training sessions (new Cllrs to look at Off to a Flying Start course)  
ACRE Bulletin  
WNC Media updates

**3097.0 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA PUBLISHED**

- NCLAC AGM 3 October – Cllr Fellows registered to attend

**Items for inclusion on next meeting's agenda.**

Flood Warden, Climate Group, High Street work updates (if anything to report)

Annual Parish Community Award – September meeting

High Street confirmation of work needed to WNC

Speed Cameras if feedback received

Bricketts Lane bus shelter, polycarbonate sheets – June 2027

**The meeting closed** at 2011 hrs

**FLORE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**PAYMENTS MADE 2026-27**

|                                                | <b>Annual Budget</b> | <b>June</b> | <b>July</b> | <b>Spend to Yr End</b> |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Grass cutting - Playing field                  | <b>1,700.00</b>      | 220.00      | 220.00      | 770.00                 |
| Grass cutting - closed churchyard              | <b>850.00</b>        | 110.00      | 220.00      | 550.00                 |
| Grass cutting - PCC/URC                        | <b>770.00</b>        |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Grass cutting - highway verges                 | <b>8,000.00</b>      | 750.00      | 1,150.00    | 2,900.00               |
| Memorial Garden*                               | <b>1,000.00</b>      |             |             | 180.00                 |
| Trees/wall/memorial- closed churchyard *       | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Biodiversity/Climate Group                     | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 19.99                  |
| General maintenance repairs                    | <b>500.00</b>        |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Lights - energy                                | <b>3,000.00</b>      | 84.29       | 74.02       | 407.28                 |
| Lights - replacement/new*                      | <b>2,600.00</b>      |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Bus shelter - maintenance/materials            | <b>1,000.00</b>      |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Seats/bollards/Gateways/Memorial-replace/maint | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Bins - litter/dog replacements/repairs         | <b>750.00</b>        |             |             | 0.00                   |
| flagpoles *                                    | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Village Sign                                   | <b>3,500.00</b>      | 950.00      |             | 950.00                 |
| planters/plants                                | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Clerk's salary (plus HMRC tax/Ni)              | <b>12,600.00</b>     | 1,039.23    | 1,039.23    | 4,156.92               |
| Employer NI contribution                       | <b>1,000.00</b>      | 93.33       | 93.33       | 373.32                 |
| Clerk's office rent                            | <b>210.00</b>        | 17.00       | 17.00       | 68.00                  |
| Office costs                                   | <b>350.00</b>        |             |             | 87.18                  |
| Office equipment/ Website running*             | <b>150.00</b>        |             | 110.00      | 110.00                 |
| Chairman's allowance                           | <b>200.00</b>        |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Subs - NALC etc                                | <b>1,000.00</b>      |             |             | 660.28                 |
| Training *                                     | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Insurance                                      | <b>850.00</b>        |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Audits                                         | <b>650.00</b>        |             |             | 305.76                 |
| Room hire (Council/Library)                    | <b>700.00</b>        | 120.75      |             | 150.75                 |
| Messenger                                      | <b>1,700.00</b>      | 195.00      | 195.00      | 585.00                 |
| S137 including first aid courses               | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Elections *                                    | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Grants *                                       | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Bank Charges                                   | <b>100.00</b>        | 7.00        | 7.00        | 28.00                  |
| Salix Street light loan repayment              | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Flood projects                                 | <b>0.00</b>          |             |             | 0.00                   |
| Village Projects*                              | <b>1,000.00</b>      |             |             | 0.00                   |

|                                  |                  |                 |                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Contingency                      | 500.00           |                 |                  | 0.00             |
| CIL spend                        | 0.00             |                 |                  | 0.00             |
|                                  |                  |                 |                  |                  |
| <b>Budget total</b>              | <b>44,680.00</b> |                 |                  |                  |
| Use of income                    | 1,000.00         |                 |                  |                  |
| Use of Reserves                  | 0.00             |                 |                  |                  |
| <b>Precept</b>                   | <b>43,680.00</b> |                 |                  |                  |
| <b>Monthly expenditure Net</b>   |                  | <b>3,586.60</b> | <b>3,125.58</b>  | <b>12,302.48</b> |
| VAT                              |                  | 220.21          | 343.70           | 949.91           |
| <b>Total Monthly expenditure</b> |                  | <b>3,806.81</b> | <b>3,469.28</b>  | <b>13,252.39</b> |
| <b>Running total</b>             |                  | <b>9,783.11</b> | <b>13,252.39</b> |                  |

\* Money earmarked for specific item and put into reserves, if not spent in financial year.

Financial Position as at 30th June 2026

### Receipts

|                                              |                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Cloverlea/Purcell/Village Design - Messenger | 400.00           |
| WNC - Precept                                | 21,840.00        |
| Atmos Innovations - Messenger                | 25.00            |
| WNC - Grass cutting                          | 1,348.33         |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>23,613.33</b> |
| Brought forward                              | 52,062.37        |
|                                              | <b>75,675.70</b> |
| Payments to date                             | 9,783.11         |
| <b>Balance in hand</b>                       | <b>65,892.59</b> |
| Uncleared payments                           | 0.00             |
| <b>Reconciliation with banks</b>             |                  |
| <b>Unity Trust current account</b>           | <b>65,892.59</b> |

Notes: \*\* The reserve fund contains the following 'ring-fenced' sums

|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Village Project               | £6,959.00         |
| Memorial Garden               | £714.03           |
| Street light replacements     | £2,590.00         |
| Election expenses reserve     | £1,899.00         |
| Flood projects                | £1,250.00         |
| Closed Churchyard trees       | £3,120.00         |
| Training                      | £544.00           |
| Website                       | £564.50           |
| Office equipment              | £834.00           |
| Grants                        | £1,100.00         |
| Flagpoles                     | £316.96           |
| Seats                         | £1,112.00         |
| Cleaning cart - capital spend | £200.00           |
| CIL - capital spend           | £1,698.16         |
| <b>sub total</b>              | <b>£22,901.65</b> |