

DRAFT

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Duddington-With-Fineshade Parish Council at the Village Hall on Thursday 14th May 2026, commencing at 7;30pm.

Present:

Mrs S Parsons (Chairman)
Mr R Holder
Mrs M Scott
Mrs S Hackett
Mr J Maunder Taylor
Mr J Waldock
Ms S Fowler

Richard Reed – Clerk to the Parish Council

NNC Cllr. Simon Fairhall

There were two residents in attendance

APM/2026/01 Apologies for absence

Cllrs. Mr S Hunt, NNC Cllr. J Humberstone

APM/2026/02 Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 31.03 25

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 31st March 2025, and which had previously been distributed to Members were approved, proposed by Cllr. Mr J Waldock and seconded by Cllr. Mrs S Hackett that these be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

APM/2026/03 Matters arising.

There were no issues arising.

APM/2026/04 Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Chairman presented the Annual Report of the Parish Council and added her thanks to the Clerk for his work, and to Mrs Waldock, the village tree warden. A copy is attached to these minutes.

APM/2026/05 Village Hall Report

There was no Village Hall report, but it was noted that the issues over the roof are ongoing.

APM/2026/06 Matters of general interest or concern that may be raised by residents

There were concerns over the skips and rubble deposited on the highway verge outside Robinswood in Stamford Road. Cllr. Mrs Parsons said she would speak to the owners.

Action: SP

APM/2026/07 Any other business

The Clerk presented the report from NNC Cllr. Humberstone.

NNC Cllr. Fairhall discussed NNC activities, highway maintenance and concerns over large warehouse developments in the area leading to pressures on the infrastructure. Cllr. Maunder Taylor spoke of sewage dumping in the River Welland. Cllr. Mrs Parsons spoke of the difficulty contacting planning officers and the concern that parish councils will no longer be notified of tree work other than TPOs. Cllr. Fairhall responded to these points and spoke of the recent cluster meeting where the same issues were raised by other councils.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Fairhall for his time.

In the absence of any other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7:57pm.

Chairman

Date

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2024-25

The Parish Council has met on six occasions during 2024-25 thus meeting the legal requirement of four meetings a year. The average number of Members attending meetings was five.

The Neighbourhood Plan has now been adopted. The Parish Council expresses its appreciation for the work that Cllr. Hackett undertook to bring this to fruition.

Due to budget issues and changes to methods of working, representatives of Northamptonshire Police no longer routinely attend Parish Council meetings, but details of reported crime can be viewed on the Police website.

As in previous years, the Parish Council has financed two builder's skips at Duddington and one at Fineshade on two occasions during the year and the same arrangements will be in place this year.

Financially, the opening balance of the Parish Council funds was £16775.58. Receipts totalled £12853.34, which included £2824.25 VAT refund. Payments totalled £9150.50. These are provisional figures at the moment as the final year-end outturn is awaited. The internal audit of the 2024-25 accounts will be carried out by NCALC following the retirement of Mr Ian Arnott.

The Parish Council has continued to consider planning applications in its role as a statutory consultee and submitted its views to North Northamptonshire Council.

Finally, councillors are pleased to acknowledge with thanks the work and efforts of our North Northamptonshire Council representatives. Thanks also to Adam Farnsworth for Estate Matters and also the many others who contribute to the well-being of the Parish.

Chairman

Date