

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting of the Duddington-With-Fineshade Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Thursday 8th October 2026 commencing at 7:30pm.

Present:

Mrs S Parsons Chairman
Mrs S Hackett
Mr R Holder
Mrs M Scott
Mr J Waldock

Mr R Reed - Clerk

There were no residents in attendance.

2026/070 Apologies for absence

Cllrs. Mr Maunder Taylor, Ms S Fowler and Mr S Hunt. NNC Cllr. Simon Fairhall had also sent his apologies. These were accepted.

2026/071 Declarations of interest

Nothing on agenda items

2026/072 Public Time

No issues had been raised by residents.

2026/073 Police Matters

Cllr. Mrs Hackett had recently attended the NCALC Conference and the Police and Crime commissioner's meeting. She reported on these and discussed the level of policing in the Oundle division.

2026/074 To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13.08.26

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th August 2026, copies of which had previously been circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr. Mr. Holder and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Hackett. It was resolved that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of that meeting.

2026/075 Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

2026/076 Highway Issues

At the recent Cluster meeting, (see below), it was noted that Kier proposed arranging walkabout meetings with parish councils to look at highway issues.

2026/077 Estate Matters

There was no report of Estate matters.

2026/078 Playground

No issues had been reported.

2026/079 Community Governance Review Stage 2 Consultation

The report following Stage 1 Consultation has been published on North Northants website. The Clerk has looked at this and Duddington with Fineshade is listed with others as having no change - as the Parish Council submitted. There are no amendments to boundaries. Danny Moody of NCALC did contact the Clerk to suggest that consideration could be given to reducing the number of councillors. However, the Clerk pointed out that the parish is formed of two wards and with a number of members having business interests that on occasion prevent them attending meetings, the council meetings can sometimes only just be quorate.

2026/080 Cluster Meeting 28.09.26

Cllrs. Mrs Parsons and Mrs Hackett attended this meeting and gave a report of the discussions. NNC Cllr. Fairhall is to submit his comments. All parishes had concerns over being unable to get responses from NNC. Cllr. Fairhall said that additional planning officers were being appointed. It was noted that future representations over planning applications will have to be supported by relevant policy, legislation, etc.

2026/081 To consider setting aside an area in the cemetery for the interment of ashes where no related grave exists

This arose from a recent request and Cllr Holder proposed that space be made available and this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Hackett. Cllr. Mrs Parsons said that some spaces were still available in the churchyard.

Chairman

Date

2026/082 Correspondence

As per list previously circulated to councillors. Councillors agreed to support Lee Barron MP's support for a Town and Parish portal for queries to NNC. **Action: Clerk**

2026/083 Planning

- a) No applications had been received for consideration.
- b) The following applications had been considered since the last meeting,
26/01384/LAPNEW: Premises licence application, Royal Oak PH. The Parish Council had submitted concerns over potential nuisance caused by the playing of live and broadcast music late in the evenings but had been advised by NNC that this wasn't a valid objection. **26/02365/FUL:** Storage and distribution buildings, Wets Hay Farm, Kings Cliffe. This is outside the parish boundary but there were no objections.
- c) NNC's statement of Licensing Policy Consultation had been circulated to councillors.

2026/084 Finance

- (i) The Clerk presented the current statement of accounts for 2026/27. Since the last meeting, receipts include £2,469.95 VAT reclaim on the Community Account and £5.29 interest on the Business A/C. The current balances stood at: Community A/C £18,088.36, Business A/C £2025.30.
- (ii) To receive the Budget Monitoring Report
- (iii) To receive the bank reconciliation statement to 30th September 2026
- (iv) The following invoices were presented and Cllr. Mrs. S Hackett proposed that payment be made and this was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. M Scott.

Npower Commercial Gas Ltd Streetlight energy £17.91 Cheque No. 101168
Mr. R Reed 2nd quarter salary and expences £1896.76 Cheque No. 101169
HMRC PAYE £598.67 Cheque No. 101170
Nineteen Bookkeeping Ltd. Payroll administration £60.00 Cheque No. 101171

- (v) There was no further financial business

2026/085 Items requiring urgent attention, for information or for the nex4t agenda

Next agenda: Determination of 2027/28 Budget and precept.

Cllr. Mrs Hackett spoke of fly tipping on the Fineshade track which she had reported. Highfields – there are issues over the septic tank system. Cllr. Mrs Parsons to let the Clerk have details so that a letter can be sent to the housing association. **Action: SP/Clerk**
The October community skips are to be arranged with Mick George. Action: Clerk
It was agreed to order the Remembrance Day wreaths direct from the Royal British Legion. Action/Clerk

2026/086 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 8th December 2026 commencing at 7:30pm.

There being no further urgent business the meeting closed at 8:23pm.