

Overthorpe Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Overthorpe Parish Council held at **The Parish Meeting Room, Middleton Cheney, OX17 2LR on Wednesday 17th December 2025 at 7pm**

Present: Cllr S Baylis, Cllr R Randall, Cllr P Cavanagh, Cllr G Hughes, Cllr J Frayne, Clerk.

In attendance: 0 members of the public.

30) Apologies – None.

31) Declaration of any interests on items on the agenda – None.

32) Public Participation session – None.

33) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 29.09.2025 – The minutes were proposed, agreed, and duly signed.

34) Matters arising

- a) Update re concerns raised about the VAS post at east end of the village which appears to be falling over – West Northants Council (WNC) have put it on their list for repair but it is low priority so should be done within 26 weeks.
- b) Update re replacement of the damaged village sign – The Overthorpe sign is no longer there but it is not known who has removed it. A resident has e-mailed the Chairman raising concerns about the trough underneath the sign not being maintained and asking what will be done with that if the sign is moved. The Chairman advised that due to the weight of the trough, and how firmly it is in the ground it will not be removed, and due to its location it is not safe for anyone to maintain any plants in it.
- c) Update re repositioning the 30mph sign on Overthorpe Hill (western approach to village) and removal of existing signage/fallen tree – As item 34b.
- d) Update re potential to implement traffic calming through the village through the use of cameras – Cllr Randall was advised by Helen Howard at WNC that the project will go into the list with other areas that are considering ANPR cameras and that Helen would get back to Cllr Randall when there was an update. A notice came out recently from WNC giving details of areas in Northampton that have been chosen to have ANPR with no mention of Overthorpe so **Cllr Randall** has been chasing this to try to find out why Overthorpe hasn't been considered. He is receiving no response so **will continue to chase and will escalate to District Councillors and the Parish Liaison co-ordinator.**
- e) Update re appointing a Climate & Nature Champion to represent the council in matters relating to the climate, nature, and the environment – No volunteers have come forward so the Clerk will get all communication regarding the role.

35) Recent Broadband outage and how the Parish Council (PC) can help residents get compensation from their ISPs – The claims should be automatic through the ISP scheme. Residents should use the following link to check if their provider is part of the scheme - <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-and-broadband/service-quality/automatic-compensation-need-know>. If the provider is not part of the scheme then residents will need to contact their provider directly. At the time of the broadband outage there was a fire on one of the poles but as the road was closed the fire engine was parked up and the crew spent 30 minutes looking for the fire. This is a reminder that it is useful for residents to know what the 'what3words' are for their property and keep a note of them for emergencies as properties with just a name can be harder to find. Details can be found at [what3words.com](https://www.what3words.com).

36) West Northants Council Local Plan to 2043 – Concerns were raised about the consultation document including the legend being difficult to read with the hatching marks being so fine/faint, and it is impossible for those who are colour blind to differentiate between them. It would also be useful to have all of the legend types shown on the map, whereas for some reason Overthorpe only has the

Conservation Area marked on the map. **Clerk to make WNC aware of these concerns to see if they can improve the consultation document.**

37) Grass cutting

- a) To consider offer from WNC for the Parish Council (PC) to take on responsibility for cutting the grass verges in the parish for an annual reimbursement of £219.47 – Proposed and agreed. **Clerk to complete paperwork to accept the offer.**
- b) To consider quote of £100 from the existing contractor to cut all verges within the 30mph limit of the village – It was proposed and agreed to accept this quote. **Clerk to instruct contractor to cut all verges within the 20mph limit at the same time as cutting the crossroads.**

38) To consider whether to purchase only adult pads for the defibrillator (£70) or also purchase paediatric pads (adults pads can be used on paediatric cases – age under 8) (£90) – It was proposed and agreed to purchase both adult and paediatric pads. Clerk to order the pads for delivery to Cllr Cavanagh. Clerk to check the defib agreement to see if any payment for the electricity is due

39) Finance

- a) Approval of the bank statement balances as at 11.12.25 of £177.75 and £24,249.52 – Cllr Cavanagh confirmed the balances stated are correct.
- b) To confirm completion of the second (Jul to Sep) quarterly financial check for the 2025-26 financial year - Cllr Hughes confirmed the check has been completed and all was found to be in order.
- c) To consider making the annual contribution of £385 to Warkworth PCC to help with their grass cutting costs – Proposed and agreed. **Clerk to make payment.**
- d) To note the increase in banking fees with Unity Bank to £7 per month from February 2026 – Noted.
- e) To approve the budget and resulting precept for the 26-27 financial year – After discussion it was proposed and agreed to set a budget of £8,748 resulting in a precept of £6,362 with the difference being funded by underspend in the 25-26 financial year. **Clerk to submit precept demand.**
- f) To note payments made since last meeting under delegated powers: Proposed and agreed.

30.09.25	Unity Trust Bank	Account fee	£6.00
28.10.25	Parish Online	Annual subscription to mapping software	£38.40
28.10.25	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Oct	£201.05
28.10.25	HMRC	Tax Oct	£49.60
31.10.25	NEST	Pension Oct	£21.79
28.10.25	Complete Ground Management	Grass cutting September	£120.00
28.10.25	Middleton Cheney Parish Council	Room hire - 29th September	£20.00
28.11.25	Npower	Streetlighting Sep 25	£32.57
28.11.25	Npower	Streetlighting Oct 25	£40.62
28.11.25	Royal British Legion	Poppy Wreath donation	£70.00
28.11.25	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Nov	£201.05
28.11.25	HMRC	Tax Nov	£49.60
02.12.25	NEST	Pension Nov	£21.79
31.10.25	Unity Trust Bank	Account fee	£6.00
30.11.25	Unity Trust Bank	Account fee	£6.00

- g) To note receipts received since the last meeting: Noted.

30.09.25	Unity Trust Bank	Interest	£127.93
09.10.25	WNC	Precept	£3,283.00

- h) To approve the following payments not yet made: Proposed and agreed.

Npower	Streetlighting Nov 25	£45.48
Complete Ground Management	Grass cutting 5th Nov	£120.00
Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Dec	£201.25
HMRC	Tax Dec	£49.40
NEST	Pension Dec	£21.79

40) Planning applications received by West Northants Council - None

41) Planning decisions received from West Northants Council – None

42) Appeal decisions received

APP/C3105/W/24/3352512 - OS Parcel 7921 South Of Huscote Farm And North West Of County Boundary, Daventry Road, Banbury. Outline planning application for the construction of up to 140,000 sqm of employment floorspace (use class B8) with ancillary offices and facilities and servicing and infrastructure including new site accesses. Internal roads and footpaths, landscaping including earthworks to create development platforms and bunds, drainage features and other associated works including demolition of the existing farmhouse. **Appeal dismissed.**

43) To agree meeting dates for 2026 – Proposed dates are 3rd March, 19th May, 15th September, and 14th December 2026 – Proposed and agreed. Clerk to book meeting venue.

Meeting closed @ 8:05pm

Date of next meeting – 3rd March 2026

Signed..... Date.....