

MINUTES

**Orston Parish Council meeting
Wednesday 30th July 2025 at 7pm in the Village Hall**



Present	Actions
Cllrs	Gerry McMahon (GM), Harry Batchford (HB), Paul Brandon (PB) Cllr Linda Shirt (LS), Angela Probert (AP), Jo Napper(JN) Astrid Moules (AM)
Also in Attendance Public	Wendy Wakefield (WW) Clerk, BCllr Chris Grocock; CCllr Stephen Pearson (SP) 6 Members of the public (MOP) in attendance
1.	Apologies for Absence: None
2.	Declarations of Interest: None
3.	Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 th May 2025 - Approved
4.	Correspondence/Complaints ❖ None
5.	Open Session for Members of the Public: Issues regarding speeding and road safety on both Station Road and Smite Lane were discussed at length. MOPs felt that nothing is being done by NCC/Via in spite of several accidents (including 1 fatality on Breedon's Corner) and the safety campaign undertaken by Bob Clark & OPC. It was suggested that the police should monitor more regularly as a deterrent. SP stated that he understood the issues and would check to see if this was possible. He also agreed to contact VIA and update GM before the next meeting which he is unable to attend. GM/HB agreed to collate a list of all accidents in the village to send to him. AP suggested a reminder to villagers about safe driving.
	SP
	GM/ HB
	HB also mentioned that as a safety issue, the sign at Smite crossroads needs moving. CG will follow this up
	CG
	Tony Benton mentioned the state of the roads locally and especially the many potholes on Longmoor lane. He was asked to report these through the NCC website. SP also agreed to follow this up.
	SP
	Tony Benton asked about provisions for newcomers to the village. JN explained current procedures and explained that he would address this again at future meetings.
	Ann Ferrier/Peter Reid mentioned their planning application but were informed that it had been discussed at the previous meeting and comments submitted at that time.
	Jules Humpheson mentioned the overload on the sewers in the village and suggested that the main pump regularly gets blocked. He asked how we move forward with this. GM asked SP to work with Josh Wells and try to ascertain capacity limits. CG will look to Severn Trent for clarification on thresholds whereby they will comment on planning applications and ask for their help with existing issues.
	SP
	CG

6. **Planning:**
- ❖ **Applications (previously circulated):**
25/01171/OUT – Mrs & Mrs W Gunn – 4 dwellings with gardens & parking – Dovecote Farm, Church Street, Orston. NG13 9NS - **No objection in principle**, however there are some real concerns regarding provision for water, sewage & flood management. As such a condition would need to be in place ensuring effective mitigation measures are enacted in full.
 - ❖ **Decisions (previously circulated):**
25/00861/FUL – Katherine Krogulec – Encase stained glass – The Old Chapel, Orston- Councillors noted **Permission Granted**
 - ❖ **Late Applications Received: N/A**
 - ❖ **Other Information (Previously circulated): None**
7. **Finance:**
- a) **Clerk's report – Financial statements including 'Budget' and 'Bank' reports previously circulated.**
 April to June as expected. Funds currently healthy and as per forecast.
 NJC pay award for public servants has been announced at 3.2%. This is effective from April 2025. Back pay and new increment (SCP21) will be paid in August as per clerk's contract. This has already been budgeted for.
 - b) **Expense Requests/Payments** – Payments totalling £1124.83 were discussed and approved **for June 2025**, and £1168.94 **for July 2025**.
 - c) **Income other than interest** – None
8. **Orston Community Groups** updates/reports etc..
Church – Meeting re heritage lottery fund are taking place with others who have made successful bids. A very successful classical music evening was enjoyed at the church recently.
Village Hall – The search for fundraising opportunities continues to enable storage solutions in the car park.
9. **County/Borough Councillor Reports:**
SP shared details of the Community Development Fund and other NCC issues.
CG Spoke about local government reorganisation and suggested that a boundary review may be needed. He advised councillors to attend the 'Town & Parish forum' in October. WW has sent details to all councillors who should let her know if they want to attend. **GM All Cllrs**
10. **Parish Councillor Reports (items not already on the agenda) –**
HB – Had received a complaint about noise from officials with their loud car radios during the recent cycle race. Due to the timings (after 8am and daytime only) it was suggested that residents approach these people should they have a problem.
AM – Received concerns from a resident about new development on the paddocks on Smite Lane. It was established that these were under the jurisdiction of Thoroton and that AM would contact the Chair at Thoroton to share concerns. **AM**
11. **Matters for Consideration:**
- a) **Neighbourhood Plan (CG)** - The constitution has been very laborious but is now ready to sign. GM completed this on behalf of OPC and CG will share with the other councils involved. When done the group will be able to move forward. **CG**
 - b) **Accidents Smite Lane/Longmoor Lane** – See item 5
 - c) **Village Maintenance (PB)** – Would like to get quotes for the replacement of the circular seat on Hill Top. All present agreed. The memorial on Loughbon needs updating, the Grafters will look at ways to improve this area. Parking on the verge in front of the Church is becoming a problem, PB will look at signage solutions for this. The renovation of the Gibson Bridge and development of the spa will be next on the Grafter's list. **PB PB**
 - d) **Community Flood Signage Scheme update(HB)** – HB, Will Gunn & Dez Wakefield attended training for 2 hours on the 7th June. Paul Robinson has agreed to help with this

and will hopefully attend a future training session. HB will organise. HB is currently liaising with Josh Wells and will ensure that all details are shared with him as soon as possible. **HB**

- e) **Defibrillator (WW)** – WW shared that Nick Hammond/Village Hall (as guardians of the defibrillator) had been reimbursed for a new set of pads as previously agreed due to lack of Village Hall funds.

12. Next Meeting Wednesday 30th September 2025 **7pm** - Village Hall

Apologies from JN and LS who will be away and SP.

13. Closure of the Meeting 8.25pm

Signed Date

Signed Date