



**Minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 12th May 2025 in Weldon Village Hall Annex
starting at 19:00**

Councillors Present	Jane Clowery, John Cooke, Peter Dowsett, Jan Gibson, Angela Page (Chair), Mike Page, Colin Shepard, Anton Vickers
Also Present	Claire Ducker (Clerk) Rural Councillor Eddie McDonald, PCSO Ali Wallace, Owners of Weldon One Stop Shop, 2 representatives from PHPNA and 1 member of the public

Apologies from Cllr Kane Taylor were received and accepted.

25.100 To receive the Chair's Report - Cllr A Page read the Chair's report as follows.

Chair's Report May 2025

After the recent parish elections, Weldon Parish Council (WPC) consists of 10 elected public officials serving your community. WPC is already working to co-opt a new member to the parish council to be a full complement. We look forward to meeting our new Ward councillors - Eddie McDonald & Barry O'Brien, Reform UK, recently elected. Also like to take the opportunity to thank Kevin Watt and Macauley Nicol for their support to Weldon Parish Council over the years.

During this last year, councillors have attended the monthly parish council meetings, completed training, organised various community events, continued to engage with officers of North Northants Council (NNC) and local developers, gained knowledge from the weekly updates, researched issues to deal with the increasing obligations placed on parish councils to make fair decisions. This is alongside answering your questions raised and listening to all the views of this community.

This corporate body, Weldon Parish Council is ably supported by our part time Clerk, Claire Ducker, who has settled in well to the role. Thank you Claire.

I would like to thank all the councillors for their time and passion they give to our community. It can be a difficult role to balance knowing some of the pressures and issues placed on WPC.

Like municipal councils WPC has devised and set the future budget. Not an easy task when we know that the Government has been tightening the purse



strings. Unitary Council have been told to increase the council tax to pay for their increased costs. That has a knock on effect for parish councils!

WPC is very aware of the rising costs for everyone. As you will see in your Council Tax letter received in March that our request for funds has decreased by 0.8% from last year.

WPC have ensured there are sufficient funds for our ongoing projects, like the A43 safe crossing, for any contingencies and to cover a parish council election. Salaries, Administration and Support are the main areas for any parish council to function properly, along with communications.

WPC has worked hard to gain good working relationships with NNC Planning to ensure that at an early stage S106 contributions from a Developer are earmarked to be used for the benefit of your community. WPC discusses regularly with NNC Highways on how to make roads safer. The main project, and one you often ask about, is a safe crossing on the A43. WPC are getting closer and hope Urban & Civic can accept our request to provide a foot path on PHP Zone 1 side of the crossing, to support the community, as they have shown recently with The Mere Way at one of their other developments in Cambridge, which predominantly provides an off road route for the pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians, connecting a development by a new bridge over the A10.

WPC councillors have successfully won grants to support our community projects. WPC also has the privilege to be able to grant funding to support community groups in their activities for the benefit of this Parish.

From April 2024 to March this year WPC awarded just over £23,000 in grants to following organisations, some of whom have acknowledged the benefit of this support.

- Weldon Cricket Club, 10 benches for use during the popular Weldon Fete in the Summer and other events
- The well attended and essential Weldon Preschool requested funds for equipment and Village Hall costs
- Weldon Village Hall, towards ongoing maintenance for a well-used hub in the community
- Weldon British Legion, replacement posts and gate at the War Memorial
- Weldon Fete, infrastructure and operational costs to help keep this very popular village annual event going
- PHPNA, for their enjoyable Fizzy Fridays events



- Priors Hall Community Centre needed an air conditioning unit in the main hall
- Weldon Park Residents Association, set up and Insurance costs
- St Mary's Parish Church, costs for grass cutting within the graveyard grounds and the popular Little Stars Toddler group
 - *Quotes - The group is a lifeline. New to the area, no family nearby, it has been a place for her to form friendships and a real support network.*
 - *Another Mum realised she wasn't alone, she was able to link up with someone with similar experiences*
- Weldon Congregational Church, funds to help them maintain the grounds grass cutting
- 21st Scouts obtained funds for new gazebos to support their camping activities

Our grants policy along with application forms can be obtained on the Parish Council's website:

<https://weldonparishcouncil.co.uk/polices/> and returned to Claire Ducker, Clerk & RFO to the Parish Council by email scweldonpc@gmail.com

The parish council will continue to serve you by listening to all views and making a fair decision for the benefit of your parish.

It is my privilege to be the Chair for this very active and passionate council. Thank you to the councillors and our Clerk for your support.

Angela Page
Chair of Weldon Parish Council.
May 2025

25.101 To receive comments from the members of the public on the Chairman's Report - No comments were received.

25.102 Election of Chair for 2025/2026 and Declaration of Acceptance to Office
Cllr Shepard proposed that Cllr Angela Page be re-elected as Chair for 2025/2026, Cllr Gibson seconded this proposal, all in favour. Cllr A Page accepted and signed the Declaration of Acceptance to Office

25.103 Election of Vice Chair for 2025/2026
Cllr Gibson proposed that Cllr Dowsett be re-elected as Vice Chair for 2025/2026, Cllr A Page seconded this proposal, all in favour. Cllr Dowsett accepted.

25.104 Co-opting of a new councillor
The Co-option of Jonathan Frohmaier was proposed by Cllr A Page and seconded by Cllr Dowsett, all in favour.



Newly appointed Cllr Frohamier gave a background about himself and how he looks forward to supporting WPC.

25.105 Councillors were reminded the requirement to ensure their Register of Interests is up to date at all times

Cllr A Page informed Councillors that this is now to be completed online, Clerk to send the link to the Councillors to complete.

25.106 To review the Councillor Code of Conduct and to acknowledge the Seven Principles of Public Life

Councillors were reminded to reread through the Code of Conduct and to acknowledge the Seven Principles of Public Life in their Standing Orders folder

25.107 To appoint members to the following Committees:

- **Finance** – Cllrs Cooke, Gibson, A Page and Taylor. Cllr Frohamier was invited to join the next meeting before committing to become a member of this committee
- **HR** – Cllrs Gibson, A Page, Stray and Taylor. Cllr Frohamier was invited to join the next meeting before committing to become a member of this committee
- **Traffic Working Group** – Cllr Dowsett accepted to continue running this working group
- **Planning** - items are to be discussed at Full Council unless they require more discussion, then the Clerk will arrange a meeting via Zoom
- **Communications Working Group** - meetings as and when required - the first meeting will be held after the new website is up and running

The chair will be agreed upon at each of their first meetings and agree to the Terms of Reference

25.108 All councillors completed and signed the following and were witnessed by the Clerk

- Declaration of Acceptance of Office
- Electronic Service of Summons Consent Form
- GDPR Security Compliance Checklist

This being all the business the meeting Cllr A Page closed the meeting at 19:18

Signed <i>APage</i>	Date 2nd June 2025
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