

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF WESTON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 14th May 2026
7:30pm at Weston Village Hall

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Cllr Tim Moody (Chair), Cllr Stewart Clifford, Cllr Jacky Jones, Cllr Judith Evans, Cllr James Logan, Cllr Matthew Hale

In Attendance: Kelly Buckle (Clerk), Cllr Steve Jarvis (District and County Councillor) Tracy Westgate (Community Partnership Officer)

Members of Public: None

2026/04/045 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DECLARATION OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Resolved: That Cllr Alistair Schofield be elected as Chairman. Unanimously agreed. Cllr Schofield to sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2026/04/046 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Resolved: That Cllr John Cherry be elected as Vice-Chairman. Unanimously agreed.

2026/04/047 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr Alistair Schofield, Cllr John Cherry and Cllr Steve Ludbrook

2026/04/048 TO AGREE COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) Finance. Cllr Logan.
- b) Planning. Cllr Ludbrook and Cllr Hale.
- c) Recreation Grounds and Sports Facilities. Cllr Schofield.
- d) Village Environment including Footpaths and Maintenance. Cllr Evans and Cllr Cherry.
- e) Highways and Lighting. Cllr Clifford.
- f) Communications and Media. Cllr Jones.
- g) Village Hall Committee Representative. Cllr Clifford and Cllr Jones.

2026/04/049 TO AGREE DATES AND START TIMES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Resolved: To continue to hold Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 1930. Unanimously agreed.

2026/04/050 TO REVIEW THE FOLLOWING POLICES

- a) WPC Standing Orders. No changes required.
- b) WPC Code of Conduct. No changes required,
- c) WPC Financial Regulations. No changes required.

2026/04/051 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Cllr Jarvis reported the following:

- a) Road closure in Weston due to blocked sewage works.
- b) 20mph Limits (Weston Village). Highways suggestions on where the 30mph limit should end and the 20mph limit should start at various points in the village. There will be a public consultation on the proposed boundaries by HCC.

Tracy Westgate reported the following:

- a) District and County Councillors Surgery. To be held on the last Saturday of each month outside Baldock Tesco (10.30- 12pm).
- b) Baldock and Villages Forum. Monday 15th June at Baldock Community Hub / Centre (1930). There will be a guest speaker from NHC Planning to discuss the Local Plan.

2026/04/052 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.

2026/04/053 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2026 were approved and duly authorised by the Chairman.

2026/04/054 PLANNING

- a) Council will discuss all planning applications relevant to the Parish. As at the date of this Agenda, the following applications have been received:
 - 26/00054/FPH Juniper Cottage, Damask Green Road SG4 7DA. No objection.
 - 26/00074/LBC Juniper Cottage, Damask Green Road SG4 7DA. No objection.
- b) NHC Decision Notices. None.
- c) NHC Notice of Intention to begin a review of the Local Plan. In accordance with Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, NHC gives notice that it is preparing a new Local Plan that will cover the administrative area of North Hertfordshire. Key dates include (i) Scoping Consultation 11 May - 28 June 2026, (ii) Proposed Plan Consultation 26 October 2027 - 4 January 2028, and (iii) Plan Adoption January 2029. Deferred to the June Meeting.

2026/04/055 2025/2026 ANNUAL GENERAL ACCOUNTING RETURN. Deferred to the next Meeting.

2026/04/056 FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

- a) Income and Expenditure since the last Meeting. Attached at Appendix 1.
- b) Public Works Loan for Village Hall Roof Replacement. The Village Hall Committee to write a business case for presentation to the public. To be placed on Weston social media and village noticeboards and responses invited. Deadline for responses Friday 6th June.

2026/04/057 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT including FOOTPATHS and MAINTENANCE

- a) Damage to verge in Hitchin Road. Council agreed a Budget of £200 for a replacement stone to protect the verge.
- b) Reported Items (ALL)

2026/04/058 RECREATION GROUNDS and SPORTS FACILITIES

- a) Refurbishment of the Basketball Equipment. No action taken.
- b) Reported Items (ALL). Cllr Evans has washed the wildflower board.

2026/04/059 HIGHWAYS and LIGHTING

- a) 20mph Village Speed Limit. To place on the next Agenda a discussion to extend the request for 20mph limit(s) to Halls Green.
- b) Reported Items (ALL). Cllr Clifford reported leaks on Hitchin Road.

2026/04/060 MATTERS ARISING to be placed on the next Agenda.

- a) Hedge cutting

2026/04/061 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- a) Thursday 11th June 2026 at 7.30pm
- b) Thursday 9th July 2026 at 7.30pm
- c) Thursday 13th August 2026 at 7.30pm

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:56

Signed.......... Chairman

Date: 11th June 2026