

**Minutes of Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe Parish Council  
Ordinary General Meeting held at Wadenhoe Village Hall on Monday  
March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 7.00pm.**

**Please note all minutes are Draft and are approved at the next meeting.**

In attendance: Richard Lea (RL, Chair), Carew Treffgarne, (CT), Karen Pollock (KP), Gill Williams (GW), Richard Jones (RJ), John Gent (JG), Carolyn Corker (CC), Councillor Wendy Brackenbury, North Northants Council (WB), and Jonathan Ward-Langman (JBW-L, Clerk).

- 108. Public Forum:** No members of the public attended.
- 109. Apologies** Jon Jones (JJ), Kevin Lee (KL)
- 110. Declarations of interest:** JG asked if he should declare an interest regarding item 113., NE/25/00135/VAR. However, it was felt that this was unnecessary as the charity he is involved with no longer has a financial interest in the land.
- 111. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**  
Approved, subject to a minor amendment to item 97 (see attached). Proposed RL, seconded RJ, unanimous.
- 112. Matters Arising from the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**
- **Wadenhoe noticeboard.** GW reported; now repaired.
  - **Pilton noticeboard.** CT reported; work complete. Awaiting invoice. (*Action Clerk*).
  - **Update on proposal to repaint the Wadenhoe War Memorial** Work to be completed when weather is better. KP monitoring. (*Action KP*).
  - **Pilton defibrillator.** JJ has identified provider. Agreed to proceed, providing JJ is able to complete the project. Funding agreed (JJ seeking grants in addition). (Proposed RL, seconded CT, unanimous) (*Action JJ*).
  - **Traffic issues, (Item 100, diversions from A605 when closed and weight limits on bridges)** CT reported that she had liaised with Sarah Barnwell (NNC). No obvious solution identified.
- 113. Planning Applications (Clerk)**
- **NE/24/01127/FUL and NE/24/01128/LBC 16 Main Street Wadenhoe Peterborough PE8 5SX.** The Parish Council indicated in February that it wished to withdraw its objections to applications NE/24/01127/FUL & NE/24/01128/LBC in response to the revised drawings submitted. This was confirmed, (Proposed CC, seconded GW, unanimous) (*Action Clerk*).
  - **NE/25/00135/VAR** Variation of condition 14 (Access arrangements) to allow for the condition to be re-worded, relating to NE/21/00742/FUL. **Land To Rear of Cemetery Stoke Doyle Road Oundle.** Council agreed unanimously to reiterate its previous objections as the condition was imposed on highway safety grounds and the only reason put forward for change was financial. (Proposed RL, seconded KP, unanimous). (*Action Clerk*).
  - **NE/24/00838/PIP** Permission in Principle (Stage 1) for up to 7 dwellings through the reuse of the farm buildings. Land Adjacent Manor House Wadenhoe Road Stoke Doyle. Council agreed unanimously to reiterate its previous objections and express concern about reference to 'stage one' and number of dwellings. (*Action Clerk*).
  - **NE/25/00250/TCA/ Tree Work in Conservation Area. T1; Sycamore - repollard** due to central cavity in lower trunk. **34 Church Street Wadenhoe Peterborough PE8 5ST.** Council agreed that it had no objections. (Proposed CT, seconded CC, unanimous). (*Action Clerk*).

114. **Appointment of paths warden.** RL confirmed that Dave Philips has agreed to act as Paths Warden for all three villages. GW to ask Dave on how to feedback on this work to Parish Council via Clerk. (*Action GW, Clerk*).
115. **Request to locate memorial bench in Wadenhoe.** CC and Clerk reported that approach has been made to Wadenhoe Trust. (*Action Clerk*).
116. **Dog waste and litter bins** RL reported. Emptying resumed in Stoke Doyle, but not Wadenhoe. Discussion: it was suggested that the Parish council owns the Stoke Doyle bin and the Wadenhoe Trust one in Wadenhoe. Councillor Brackenbury asked for photos to be uploaded via Street Doctor. Clerk to re-send details to Councillor Brackenbury. (*Action Clerk/ Councillor Brackenbury*).
117. **Domestic bin collection.** GW reported that recycling bins have been left unemptied in Wadenhoe: many residents affected on numerous occasions since Christmas; query whether rules have changed regarding items that can be accepted. Confirmed that this was not affecting Pilton or Stoke Doyle. Councillor Brackenbury to raise with NNC Environmental Services. (*Action Councillor Brackenbury*).
118. **Highways matters.**
- KP reported need for road signage to warn drivers from direction of Aldwinckle of turning farm, Wadenhoe Lodge and Tom Tom's corner and the turning at the Oundle end of Wadenhoe into village. KP to raise with NNC Highways via Street Doctor. (*Action KP*).
  - CT reported on traffic calming proposals for Pilton. Meeting with Sarah Barnwell had been successful: signs to be straightened; new signs to be erected warning of pedestrians on bridge. It was agreed that village gateways might be helpful; CT to approach Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner (OPFCC) regarding grant scheme which re-opens in April. Council supported (Proposed KP, seconded GW, unanimous). (*Action CT*).
  - JG suggested moving speed signs for Stoke Doyle in view of development. (*Action Clerk*).
119. **Bridge safety.** GW reported; discussed responsibility for safety of the bridges in the lower meadows. One is responsibility of NNC, one of the Environment Agency. Bridges are surveyed regularly, and warning signs are in place. Agreed it was difficult to reduce inherent risk further. *Agreed NFA*.
120. **Draft Environment Policy** GW and CT reported. Strategy presented (see attached, Annex B,) and discussed. Strategy adopted; to be published and reviewed in three years, with feedback to PC. (Proposed CC, seconded JG, unanimous). (*Action Clerk*).
121. **Celebrations for 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day (May 2025)** CT reported; Wadenhoe Trust and Village Hall may decide to hold an event. (*Agreed NFA PC*).
122. **Finance report.** Clerk presented report, (see Annex A, below). *Accounts approved and agreed to transfer £4,000 to new Business Reserve Account. New arrangements approved; Clerk as RFO to manage transfer of funds between accounts. (Unanimous).* (*Action Clerk*).
123. **Payments.** Approved, (Proposed GW, seconded RL, unanimous) as follows (*Action Clerk*):

Clerk's Salary (October 2024) <b>n.b. payment overlooked as there was no meeting in December.</b>	£210.89
Clerk's Salary (January 2025)	£220.31
Clerk's Salary (February 2025)	£220.31
Clerk's expenses 2024-25	£188.20
Clerk's Salary (March 2025) <b>n.b. payment agreed although item not included on the agenda to ensure payment in correct financial year.</b>	£220.11
John Essam payroll services	£15.30
Fine Lines Ltd. Wadenhoe Village Sign	£485.00

124. **New arrangements for website and ICT** Clerk reported; website content to be fully migrated during April. Old website to be closed. Clerk will use new “.gov.uk” email addresses for all Councillor correspondence in future. (*Action Clerk*)

125. **Report only**

- **Request for permanent 20mph speed limit in Wadenhoe.** CC to send updated report to Clerk. (*Action CC/Clerk*)
- **Town and Parish Strategic meeting.** CC reported; meeting was useful.
- **Meeting with Emma Arkley re localised planning.** CC reported; meeting was useful. Discussion re Neighbourhood Plan. CC suggested that a Neighbourhood Plan should be considered as the Village Design Statement will no longer have the same status in future. CC to prepare scoping document. (*Action CC*).
- **Meeting with Highways re Pilton Road verge.** CC reported that meeting has been arranged. (*Action CC*).
- **Monthly Town Council 'Approach to Devolution of Services' meeting.** Clerk reported that this had been cancelled.

126. **2025-25 Meeting dates.** Discussed and agreed:

- **Ordinary General Meetings to be confirmed at Council AGM in May 2025.**
- **Annual General Meeting Monday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7.00p.m.**
- **Annual Parish Meeting (Assembly) Monday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6.30p.m. (immediately before PC AGM).**

127. **Next meeting (AGM): Monday May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 7.00pm at Wadenhoe Village Hall.**

**The meeting closed at 9.00p.m.**

Jonathan Ward-Langman, Parish Clerk [clerk@piltonstokedoylewadenhoe-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@piltonstokedoylewadenhoe-pc.gov.uk) March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Annex A Pilton, Stoke Doyle and Wadenhoe Parish Council Finance Report March 2025

1. I have produced a financial report showing income and expenditure against the 2024-25 budget (see below). Current year expenditure is included for quarters 1, 2 and 3. The budget for 2025-26 and financial forecast for the next three years is also included.
2. **Parish Council Financial position 2024-25**
  - a. The Council will probably end the year with a small deficit (i.e. a reduction in reserves) largely due to purchase of a defibrillator and the payment of audit fees for 2023-24 in the current year. However, the Council's reserves should remain very healthy (more than 100% of annual turnover).
  - b. I intend to reclaim VAT payments for the current year (2024-25) and possibly earlier years; these are not included as forecast income because payments are recorded net of VAT. The process for reclaiming VAT online can be complicated.
3. **New Banking arrangements:**
  - a. The Parish Council has now closed its NatWest accounts and transferred all funds to the new Unity Bank current account.
  - b. With effect from this month, the procedure for payments and other transactions will be:
    - i. All transactions to be approved at a Parish Council meeting before process.
    - ii. Clerk to set up payment online.
    - iii. One of the Councillors with permission to authorise online to do so to instigate payment.
  - c. The balance of the current account on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, was £8,550.69.
  - d. The Council also holds an instant access savings account. It would be sensible to transfer £4,000 from the current account to this savings account.
4. **Recommendations:**
  - a. **To transfer £4,000 from the current account to the savings account.**



**Pilton, Stoke Doyle and Wadenhoe Parish Council Budget report 2024-28**

<b>2024-25</b>				<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>	
	<b>Actual to Q3 incl. (Dec. 2024)</b>	<b>Full year forecast</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Draft Budget</b>	<b>Forecast Draft Budget</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>£7,425.02</b>	<b>£7,425.02</b>		£7,172.00	£7,393.25	£7,392.11	
<b>Receipts</b>							
<b>Precept</b>	£6,250.00	£6,250.00		£6,250.00	£6,250.00	£6,250.00	
<b>Other grants and payments</b>	£325.00	£325.00		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
<b>Interest on reserves</b>	£5.59	£11.00		£11.00	£11.00	£11.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£6,580.59</b>	<b>£6,586.00</b>		<b>£6,261.00</b>	<b>£6,261.00</b>	<b>£6,261.00</b>	
<b>Payments</b>							
Clerk's salary & PAYE	£1,786.36	£2,700.00	Incl. payments to previous clerk	£3,369.75	£3,437.14	£3,505.90	Assumes inflation 2%
Payroll	£101.40	£170.00		£175.00	£180.00	£190.00	
Office costs	£335.59	£360.00		£100.00	£200.00	£200.00	
Insurance	£389.00	£390.00		£450.00	£480.00	£500.00	Assumes increase to cover defibrillators etc.
NCALC	£227.04	£228.00		£250.00	£250.00	£260.00	
Audit	£352.68	£355.00	Includes payment for 2023-4 & 2024-25	£200.00	£250.00	£250.00	
ICO	£40.00	£40.00		£45.00	£45.00	£50.00	
External Audit	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Training	£0.00	£0.00		£20.00	£20.00	£20.00	
Website & email accounts	£551.95	£552.00		£250.00	£325.00	£350.00	
General maintenance	£0.00	£0.00		£100.00	£120.00	£150.00	
Village Hall hire	£0.00	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Grants	£450.00	£450.00		£450.00	£450.00	£450.00	
Misc	£1,147.00	£1,500.00	Defibrillator purchase & CPRE Subs	£200.00	£250.00	£275.00	
Contested election	£0.00	£0.00		£500.00	£250.00	£250.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£5,381.02</b>	<b>£6,745.00</b>		<b>£6,109.75</b>	<b>£6,257.14</b>	<b>£6,450.90</b>	
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£8,624.59</b>	<b>£7,266.02</b>		<b>£7,323.25</b>	<b>£7,397.11</b>	<b>£7,202.21</b>	

## **Annex B: PILTON, STOKE DOYLE & WADENHOE**

### **ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

The aim of the PSDW's Environment Policy is to enhance biodiversity by protecting and restoring habitats for native and endemic species within Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe.

The policy follows the Government's 2021 Environment Act and 25 Year Environment Plan (2023), which aim to halt the decline of species, improve the natural environment and tackle climate change.

#### **KEY TARGETS**

1. To make Pilton, Stoke Doyle and Wadenhoe a better place for nature and local people, recognising that improving the environment promotes better health and wellbeing.
2. To fully map biodiversity assets across the three parishes so that we have a baseline against which we can measure plant and animal species recovery.
3. To create and restore habitats for priority species under threat in order to build resilience to climate change.
4. To protect and enhance the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) spaces such as the Wadenhoe Marsh and other designated reserve areas such as St Rumbald's Churchyard Local Wildlife Site.
5. To encourage regenerative farming practices to improve soil quality and address the problem of water pollution in the River Nene and its tributaries.
6. To support and expand carbon sequestration measures through wetland and hedgerow management and woodland regeneration.
7. To encourage the active participation of the community in expanding biodiversity within domestic gardens, green spaces, agricultural and forestry land.

#### **HOW WE ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES**

- Create a Nature Recovery Plan to map biodiversity and establish a baseline against which we can measure species recovery. This will be done in partnership with the local community, wildlife groups and charities, farmers and the North Northamptonshire Council in order to ensure that projects complement one another across and beyond parish boundaries.

- Set up a Nature Recovery Group of key members for each parish community with relevant experience and expertise.
- Identify viable projects and decide how they can be achieved.
- Map existing SSSIs, local wildlife reserves and designated green spaces with a view to identifying new ones.

### **PARISH COUNCIL BIODIVERSITY DUTY**

1. The PSDW, when commenting on planning applications, will support site and building design that benefits biodiversity through the conservation and integration of existing habitats or ideally the creation of new habitats.
2. The PSDW will include strategies in support of biodiversity and nature recovery within its Village Design Statement/Neighbourhood Plan.
3. The PSDW will continue to involve the community in action to promote biodiversity. This would include tree planting, management of wildlife sites, monitoring and management of invasive species (e.g. Giant Hemlock Dropwort, Himalayan Balsam, Giant Hogweed) that threaten nature recovery.
4. The PSDW will continue to monitor the quality of the River Nene, channels and backwaters so that fish spawning and riparian habitats can flourish.
5. PSDW will, where possible, raise public awareness of biodiversity issues through communication information on its website.