

GUILSBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Guilsborough Parish Council held at Guilsborough Village Hall, The Green, Guilsborough on Monday 13th April 2026 at 7.18p.m.

In Attendance:

Councillors: Cllr Anthony Hart (Chair of the meeting), Cllr David O'Neil, Cllr Lisa Phillips, Cllr Ian Miller, Cllr Sarah Harris, & Cllr Caroline Smith.

Others: Ciara Wanstall (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Christine Ware (Ward Cllr) & Cllr Sarah Edwards

53.2026 – Public Forum

No one present.

54.2026 – Apologies for absence and acceptance of any apologies

Cllr Ware and Cllr Edwards gave their apologies. These were accepted.

55.2026 - Declarations of Interest on agenda items only

There were no declarations of interest to report.

56.2026 – Resolution to consider written requests for dispensations on agenda items

None received.

57.2026 – Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 23rd March 2026

***Resolved:** to accept the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of the Council on 23rd March 2026 as true and accurate records. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.*

Action: Chairman

58.2026 – Matters arising (for information only)

- Annual Parish Event to be held at the Village Hall on Sunday 19th April from 1.30 – 4.30pm.
- Treeworks around the parish were to take place on 10th but this had to be postponed. Now taking place on 13th and 22nd April.
- Update from Cllr Ware re Bus Subsidy 59/60 –
 - WNC contribution to the bus service is around £80k.
 - The following parishes contribute: Marston Trussell, Sibbertoft, Clipston, Welford, Naseby, Cold Ashby, Thornby, Creaton, Spratton, Guilsborough and Brixworth
 - Changes have been made to the route of 59/60 so it no longer goes through Brixworth but now routes through the Bramptons. As such the Bramptons should be contributing for this service this coming year.
 - Recently Brixworth PC deal with the administration of raising invoices for each Parish.
 - 26/27 contribution expected around the same time next year.

- Parish contributions to bus subsidies go back to 2018 and the calculation was made on a council tax basis for each village adjusted by the number of days service received.
- Cllr Ware will request the latest passenger numbers and will forward them to the Clerk.

Resolved: to note the Parish Council do not commit to the bus subsidy for service 59/60 for the year 2026/27. The Council request the recent passenger numbers and propose to hold a parish wide consultation on current and future use of bus service 59/60. The Council ask the Clerk to enquire with Cllr Ware when Parish Councils have to formally note their acceptance, as no approach was made to the Council last year and the expenditure has not been budgeted for. The Council request copies of any evidence of their previous commitment to the scheme, noting the terms for future commitment. **Action: Clerk**

The Council are to consider other options such as the Haddon Hopper and WNC's dial a ride.

- Mowing increase from £69.75 to £77.33 (Maximow)

Resolved: to accept Maximow's price increase to £77.33 per cut for 26/27 and note to the Clerk the previous tender process wasn't that long ago.

- Wicksteed has carried out the surface repairs under the swings

59.2026 – No Planning Applications for comment or updates to report

Nothing to report.

60.2026 - Council to consider a quote of £950 + VAT for a Reinstatement Cost Assessment of the Cob Barn by Cardinus Risk Management

Resolved: to check with the insurance company how often they require a reinstatement cost assessment. If every 3 years, then the Clerk is to obtain 2 more quotes. **Action: Clerk**

61.2026 - Parking Issues – double yellow lines, off road parking, electric charging points

Resolved: to ask the Clerk to prepare a draft letter to parishioners about possible proposals to Highways on a number of aspects; safety concerns on the corner of The Green and Nortoft, verge parking and parking on pavements. The letter should request parishioner feedback on possible proposals such as, but not limited to, installing double yellow lines on the sweeping corner at the junction of the Green and Nortoft and making the Green (from the Nortoft junction) one way. The draft letter and maps of the proposals are to be brought to the next Council meeting and further communication lines such as utilising the website/social media to be agreed. Once agreed, copies of the letters should be posted to residents directly affected i.e. from Hillside to Elm Tree Cottage, as well as Sunnyside and Tracy's shop.

Action: Clerk

Resolved: to ask the Clerk to write to NCALC enquiring if they have any feedback from other parish councils who have experienced cars parking on pavements where they have no other option, what research have said councils undertaken and what are the proposed legal responsibilities around parking in proposed devolution bill. **Action: Clerk**

Resolved: to take no further action in respect of electric charging points. Following a detailed discussion, the feasibility of a historic village posed many issues.

62.2026 – Councillor Reports

a) Playground – Chairman

The Chairman reported a visual inspection was undertaken and no work was required.

The Clerk reported an update from Playdale “The additional cost of reinstatement—which includes topsoil, seed, and additional labour—will be £1,500. They are available to return to the site on Saturday 16th May, at which time they would complete all the installation work and ground reinstatement.” Note - There is no breakdown of how this sum is arrived at and one will need to be sought.

The Chairman reported Dave Wooldridge has made direct contact with Playdale expressing his dissatisfaction that installation is not yet complete some 10 weeks on. Noting it is unacceptable for Playdale to make an additional charge for work to correct their poor management of the site.

Resolved: to ask the Clerk to respond to Playdale’s email noting that reinstatement should not affect the installation of the equipment. The Council stress that the installation date should be sooner than 5 weeks away, (16th May) as suggested. The Council’s position is that additional reinstatement costs are not acceptable and they endorse the frustration of Dave Wooldridge who has emailed Playdale directly (copy to be attached). **Action: Clerk**

b) Highways – Cllr Phillips

- WNC and NNC are considering extending their contract with Kier, without public consultation.
- Parishioners are reminded to report potholes on Street Doctor/FixMyStreet.
- Cllr Phillips spoke to the owner of School House Day Care regarding a recent increase in speeding cars on Cold Ashby Road since the nursery opened.
- The Chairman reported an update on the “lost” parking bay on the High Street, as reported last month. WNC confirmed this was purposely done to provide a visibility splay to the neighbour property.

c) Street Lights – Clerk / Cllr Miller

E.ON are facing staff shortages and hope to upgrade the lights by the end of April.

d) Village Trees – Cllr Edwards

Nothing to report.

e) Parish Assets including updates on Speed Awareness Devices – Cllr Miller

Will move the speed device and the 20mph device to Cold Ashby Road, as discussed prior.

Action: Cllr Miler

f) Footpaths and Rights of Way – Cllr Edwards

Nothing to report.

g) Police Liaison – Cllr Harris

Community Beat Bus coming to Guilsborough, by the doctors surgery, on 14th May 2.30-3.30pm.

h) GPFA Liaison – Cllr O’Neil

Nothing to report.

i) School Liaison – Cllr Smith

Nothing to report.

j) Climate and Nature (CAN) Champion – Cllr Smith

Nothing to report.

63.2026 – Feedback on the new Parish Council website

No feedback.

64.2026 – Finance/Legal

a) Note income received and payments made from the last meeting up to 31st March 2026:-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Receipts (£)</u>	<u>Payments (£)</u>
06/03/26	Interest	£127.62	
09/03/26	YU Energy – street light supply		£281.79

b) Note and approve proposed payments for April 2026:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount (£)</u>	<u>VAT (£)</u>
Ciara Wanstall	April 26 salary & expenses	£596.20	n.a
Guilsborough Village Hall	Hall Hire March 26	£20	n.a
Way2Paye	6 April 26 – 5 April 27 Payroll	£125	£25
NCALC	Membership 26-27	£752.35	£63.55
Maximow	GPFA mowing 24/03/26	£75.33	n.a
Village Link	April/May & June/July editions	£70	n.a
Parish Council Website	New website & 26-27 hosting fees	£700	£140
	<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>£2,338.88</u>	<u>£228.55</u>

Note invoice received today from E.ON for £153 + £30.60 VAT in respect of street light maintenance Q4 2025-26.

Resolved: to approve the proposed payments for April 2026.

c) Bank Reconciliation for period ending 31 March 2026

The ICC was satisfied the bank account reconciled with the approved payments.

d) Note 25/26 expenditure against the budget

- Total expenditure for 25/26 was £57,200.91 (not including VAT which can be re-claimed).
 - £42,976.25 of this expenditure was “budget” expenditure.
 - The remaining £14,205.50 was “reserve” expenditure.
- Total budget expenditure of £42,976.25 was against a budget income of £37,920.12 .
 - This meant general reserves were utilised by £5,056.13.
- In accordance with the General Reserves Policy, at 31 March 2026 the General Reserves are £16,970.70 (6 months of net expenditure).
- The balance of the Playground Ring Fenced Fund at 31 March 2026 is £531.40 but £4,341.10 of VAT is to be re-claimed.
- Taking into consideration 25/26 invoices and income due but not yet recieved, ring fenced funds, the 26/27 budget deficit and general reserves there is £6,749.30 of unallocated funds.

Resolved: to action virements of £1,000 to the cob barn fund and £5,749.30 to the playground fund. Clerk to update the Reserves and report at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

e) Note VAT (25-26) re-claim

£5,481.50 to be re-claimed. (£5,557.68 of VAT was recorded in 2025/26 but £95.35 is not being claimed due to either no valid VAT invoice or it was claimed via the 24/25 VAT return).

f) Consideration of increasing the working from home allowance for the Clerk from £25 to £32 per month

The employer pension rates are currently 3% on “qualifying earnings”, which is salary in excess of £520 per month. e.g. £714 – £520 = £194. 3% of £194 = £5.82 employer contribution. The Clerk reported administrative costs to set up a pension scheme would be disproportionate, noting another Council pays £23 per month for an Aviva Pension Scheme. The Clerk proposed the Council could pay her the financial equivalent directly, which would be subject to 20% tax. e.g. £5.82 x 1.2 = £6.98

Resolved: to defer to the next Parish Council meeting.

65.2026 - Items for Village Link – Chairman

Remind parishioners about reporting potholes, the availability of the Haddon Hopper bus, the Police Beat Bus visiting the village and that the remaining street lights will be upgraded shortly.

66.2026 – Note correspondence and items for next Meeting – Monday 11th May 2026

The meeting closed at 20.55pm

Chairman

Date: