

Wyton on the Hill Parish Council

Parish Clerk – Ms Nykki Webber, 2 Anderson Drive, St Ives, Cambs. PE27 6AF
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A meeting of Wyton on the Hill Parish Council was held on Tuesday 10th February 2026 at 7.00pm at: Wyton on the Hill Primary School. Wyton on the Hill. Cambs.

Present: Councillor Rebecca Waclawyj, Councillor David Keane, Councillor Aaron Saddler and Councillor Martin Gill.

In Attendance: Ms. N. Webber (Clerk), Tony Savage (Caretaker) and Gill Angel (MOD) plus 3 member of the public.

MINUTES

333-02/26 Councillor Waclawyj chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

334-02/26 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Apologies have been received from Councillor Bladen as she is working nights.
Councillor Keane proposed acceptance of these apologies, and this was seconded by Councillor Gill.
Apologies have been received from Councillor Looker as he had a prior family engagement.
Councillor Gill proposed acceptance of these apologies, and this was seconded by Councillor Saddler.
Apologies have been received from Councillor Pammenter as she was working late.
Councillor Keane proposed acceptance of these apologies, and this was seconded by Councillor Saddler.

335-02/26 To receive declarations of interest.

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Wyton on the Hill Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011. There were no declarations of interest.

336-02/26 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13th January 2025.

The minutes of the meeting of Wyton on the Hill Parish Council held on 13th January 2025 had been circulated in advance following their informal approval by the Councillor Waclawyj in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. Councillor Gill proposed acceptance of the minutes and Councillor Keane seconded the proposal. All were in favour, and it was resolved to do so. Councillor Waclawyj signed the minutes.

337-02/26 Public participation.

To allow up to 10 minutes (2 minutes per person) for any members of the public and councillors declaring the existence and nature of a prejudicial interest to address the meeting in relation to the business on this agenda. A MOP asked about the planning application and Councillor Keane mentioned this was a later agenda item.

338-02/26 Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting:

- Huntingdonshire Neighbourhood Watch Association
Jo Hall attended the meeting and introduced herself and Janet who is the MSA. As an organisation they work closely with the local police. On the day of the meeting, they have been at a coffee with a cop meeting in St Ives which will be similar to our Bobby and a brew meeting. The neighbourhood watch scheme is all about bringing the community together. The next stage for WOTH will be to bring the stakeholders together. The nursery is 100% behind them and they would like to get very involved with the parish council. They asked if we would help fund some street signs – they are £4 each or 3 for £10. This will be on the next agenda. The council asked if they could let us know how many signs they think would be needed. Permissions would have to be sought from the stakeholders, and the MOD may also purchase some signs.
- SID Update and purchase of posts update – the clerk has chased again, and Councillor Keane will also chase.
- Election 2026 – There will be an election on 7th May. Councillors Keane and Gill will be standing again.

- Bobby and a brew update – Jo Hall updated the council on how this works for them and the council are keen to get something similar on the estate. The clerk will contact Sergeant Andy Caruana. Jo Hall can pass on the details.

339-02/26 To discuss any updates for events and activities on Station.

Gill Angel attended the meeting. There is not much going on at the moment. The Police and Crime Commissioner has carried out a survey as to when people want to meet the police. They are encouraging people to call 101 and not the guard room for any issues on the estate. Some of the roads will be resurfaced in February and letters will be going out to all on Oxford, Churchill and Hampshire. Copies will be sent to the clerk to advertise.

340-02/26 To receive an update from the Estate Caretaker.

Tony Savage attended the meeting and reported that in the skip at the back of Norfolk Road, all the rubbish blows everywhere when it is windy. There is also a lot more dog fouling in the same area at the moment. The clerk is to remind people on social media to please pick up after their dogs.

341-02/26 To receive an update from the local District Councillor/s on matters at HDC.

Councillor Keane reported the following:

HDC Council Meetings

Special Council 14th January

Huntingdonshire District Council held a Special Council meeting at One Leisure, St Ives, to consider matters arising from the government's Local Government Reorganisation process, specifically whether the Council had the capacity to carry out the District Council elections while meeting the government's LGR timetable.

A substantive motion was brought forward confirming that the Council was able to proceed with the scheduled District Council elections on Thursday 7 May. The motion was supported by speeches from across the chamber, and I spoke in favour, drawing on the officer's report and the fundamental role elections play in our democratic process.

Following debate, the motion was carried with near-unanimous support. One member of the joint administration abstained; no members voted against.

The Council subsequently formally notified the Secretary of State of its position. This was confirmed in a letter dated 22 January, in which the Secretary of State confirmed that the District Council elections will go ahead as planned.

Local Government Reorganisation Update – 26th January

Members were given an update briefing on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). Now that the District Council elections have been confirmed, the remaining stages of the LGR process are operating to a tight timetable. The Government is currently considering which proposals should proceed to the next stage. Four options were formally submitted to the Secretary of State by councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough:

Option A

This option would replace the existing county and district councils with two large unitary authorities. The northern unitary would cover Peterborough, Fenland and Huntingdonshire. The southern unitary would cover Cambridge City, South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire. All county and district council responsibilities would be absorbed into these two new authorities. This was supported by the administration at Cambridgeshire County Council.

Option B

Proposed the creation of two unitary authorities, with Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council forming a southern unitary, and Peterborough, Fenland, East Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire forming a northern unitary. This option was supported by Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council, reflecting a preference for a "Greater Cambridge" based authority in the south.

Option D

This option was promoted by Peterborough City Council. It proposed the creation of three unitary authorities and involved dividing Huntingdonshire between two of them. Under this model, local parish councils would fall within a middle unitary authority alongside Fenland and East Cambridgeshire. In addition to Peterborough City Council, this option was also supported by Fenland District Council.

Option E

This proposes three unitary authorities while retaining existing district boundaries. A northern unitary would comprise Peterborough, Fenland and East Cambridgeshire. A southern unitary would comprise Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire. Huntingdonshire would become a stand-alone unitary authority based on its current district boundary. As with all options, county and district councils would cease to exist and their functions would transfer to the new unitary authorities. This had cross party but not unanimous support at HDC.

Next Steps

Once the Government confirms which option or options are approved to move forward, there will be a seven-week national public consultation, run by Government. This is the statutory consultation different from earlier engagement exercises, which were undertaken by local councils to inform their own decision-making.

This consultation must conclude before the formal notice of election is issued. With District Council elections scheduled for Thursday 7 May, this means an update from Government is expected within the next two weeks. Once the Government makes a final decision — likely during the summer — preparatory work will begin to establish the new unitary authority or authorities. This will be led by officers from the relevant councils.

- Shadow unitary elections are expected to take place in 2027
- The new authority or authorities would aim to go live on 1 April 2028
- At that point, Cambridgeshire County Council and Huntingdonshire District Council would cease to exist as legal entities, with their functions transferring to the new authority or authorities

Note: Surrey councils are operating on a significantly accelerated timetable compared with all other areas. There, shadow elections will take place in May 2026, with new councils going live on 1 April 2027.

Further background information is available via the Local Government Association: <https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/devolution-and-lgr-hub/devolution-and-local-government-reorganisation-faqs-and-glossary>

Related to Council Work

- January 12th Hemingford Grey Parish Council
- January 13th Wyton on the Hill Parish Council
- January 14th Apologies for the Houghton & Wyton Parish Council – Due to Special Council Meeting HDC on May Elections.
- February 2nd Houghton & Wyton Community Flood Action Group Meeting
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Community Events Attended

- January 4th Wyton on the Hill Christmas light removal
- January 8th Thicket Wood Improvement Group Induction
- January 10th Attending the opening of Hemingford Pavilion Play Park
- January 30th Attended HAWADS Panto Houghton

News Updates

Food Waste Caddies Are Coming

There are 3 caddies a communal one for flats and 2 caddies for homes, there is a 7-litre indoor caddy and a 23-litre outdoor caddy.

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/food-waste/>

Apprenticeship Event – Burgess Hall St. Ives

HDC will host its second annual apprenticeship event, “Unlocking Potential Together - Building Futures Through Apprenticeships,” on 12 February 2026, bringing together local businesses, training providers and education leaders to support SMEs in starting or expanding apprenticeship programmes. Running from 1.30pm to 5.30pm, the event is designed to break down common barriers to apprenticeships and provide practical guidance tailored specifically for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Council Tax Changes on unoccupied homes – April 1st 2026

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/council-tax/discounts-exemptions-disregards-and-premiums/>

£750,000 Community Health and Wealth Building Fund Launched

The Community Health and Wealth Building Strategy is HDC's long-term commitment to tackling the root causes of health inequality by ensuring public investment benefits local people, places and potential. The fund will prioritise projects that improve health outcomes, strengthen community connection and support a fairer, more resilient local economy.

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/news/huntingdonshire-launches-750-000-community-health-and-wealth-building-fund-following-successful-pilot/>

Garden Waste Subscription

Subscriptions for the Garden Waste Collection Service will open in December 2025 for the 2026–2027 service year, running from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. The annual cost is £57.50 for one bin, with additional bins charged at £30 each (up to three extra). Residents paying by card will need to renew when subscriptions open, while Direct Debit subscriptions will renew automatically. Residents are encouraged to renew early to ensure uninterrupted collections from April 2026.

<https://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins-waste/garden-waste-subscription-service/>

342-02/26 Notification of planning items:

25/00616/OUT – Land East of Houghton Hill Farm

Councillor Keane reported that this is the next step in the planning to develop the field at the bottom of Sawtry Way, which also goes alongside Garner Drive. At the moment it is outline planning and there have been archaeological surveys undertaken recently. A large transport assessment document has also gone in. They have taken out the roundabout at the top of Houghton Hill but the land for access for a roundabout has still been set out. Councillor Keane met with other local County councillors and all agreed it is not a good application in its current form. It is in the local plan as a possible site and at present we are in tilted balance. The A14 improvement plan is connected to this. The council have been asked to feedback their thoughts by 26th February before the improvement plan in March. Councillor Keane proposed we object to this plan in its current format and write to HDC outlining our reasons. Councillor Gill seconded this and all councillors agreed and were in favour. The clerk will send the letter of objection off by 26th February 2026.

343-02/26 Finance

343-02/26.2 To approve accounts for payment: 10th February 2025

Date	Ref. No.	Payee	Description	Amount
10/02/26	331096829	HMRC	PAYE (Month 10)	£213.19
10/02/26	109655405	Mr A Savage	Caretaker Services (Jan 2025)	£271.32
10/02/26	109655405	Mr A Savage	Caretaker mileage expenses – Jan 2025	£9.00
10/02/26	867056690	Ms N Webber	Parish Clerk/RFO Services. 30 hours, Jan 2025	£475.50
10/02/26	867056690	Ms N Webber	Working from home allowance and expenses Jan 25	£26.00
10/02/26	691458471	Enviroplantcare	Maintenance of the front of the estate – Jan 2025	£110.00
10/02/26	410635986	CCC	January Stay and Play	£135.00
10/02/26	701157350	WOTH Primary School	Room hire Sept – Dec 2025	£72.00

344-02/26 Finance

344-02/26.1 To approve accounts to be paid on 10th February 2026

The Chair approved and signed the invoices.

Balance on accounts:

Current: £6,142,72

Instant: £40,514.50

Payments to go out of current account: £1,312.01

344-02/26.2 To note any income received: None was received

344-02/26.3 To authorise bank reconciliations dated 10th February 2026

Councillor Waclawj approved and signed the bank reconciliations for the above.

345-02/26 Personnel matters

345-02/26.1 To receive an update from Ms Webber (Clerk).

The clerk said thank you to all the councillors for the thoughtful flowers and support on her recent bereavement. The clerk has received the forms for adding cyber protection onto the insurance policy. The clerk would like to get another 2 signatories onto the banking – this will be at the March meeting. The clerk and a few councillors mentioned receiving spam emails from the Chair and advised people if they received one not to open it and delete straight away.

The stay and play figures for January were:

Date	Adults	Children	Total
7/1/26	7	11	18
14/1/26	5	8	13
21/1/26	6	6	12
28/1/26	6	7	13
Total	24	32	

346-02/26

Correspondence and Communications

An email has been received from Jo Hall regarding the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme
 An email has been received from Charlotte Cramp of the police regarding the recent meeting.
 An email has been received from CAPALC – asking to contact NALC if their council are aware of areas with unadopted amenities.
 An email has been received from HDC regarding community energy groups and potential sites for energy projects.
 An email has been received from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority on improving transport accessibility and sharing details of local dial-a-ride schemes.
 An email has been received from HDC on Town and Parish Elections in May 2026
 An email has been received from HDC on the local government organisation.

347-02/26

To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising.

No decisions can be made under this item.
 The council discussed Easter and the possibility of an easter competition within the school and possible window displays around the estate. This is to be added to the March agenda.

348-02/26

Matters for future consideration.

No decisions can be made under this item.
 There we no matters for future consideration.

349-02/26

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th March 2026

Close of meeting 20.12