

Farthingstone Parish Council

Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting of Farthingstone Parish Council

Minutes of FPC Meeting Monday 21 September 2026

Min No		Action
32/26	Attendance: Peter Stanton (PS), Stewart Summers (SS) John Acres (JA) Debbie Mason (DM) (Parish Clerk) Members of the public: Susan Castle Apologies: Richard Russell (RR), Sarah Skinner (SJS), Ward Councillor Alison Eastwood	
33/26	Minutes of meeting 20 July 2026: Agreed and signed by PS as a correct record.	
34/26	Matters arising not listed elsewhere Golf Club Development: PS noted that the access road is getting significantly damaged due to the large construction lorries. He also noted that the service car park is higher than anticipated and may be visible from parts of the village. The latest update meeting with Sam Edwards is planned for 14 October. It was agreed to suggest that Sam issue an update to the village. Road repairs: - JA summarised the response received from our letter to the new West Northants CEO expressing our concerns about road repairs generally and specifically the Everdon Road. It was agreed that the response was inadequate and agreed that JA and DM should draft a short reply and copy it to the Council Leader. - PS reported that an on-site meeting had been arranged with WNC regarding the provision of new road signs warning about pedestrians on the hill from the Golf Club entrance up into the village. - DM reported that the missing kerbstones opposite the Church had been reported via 'Fix my Street' and the 'expected completion date' is 21 October. - JA agreed to represent the village on the 'Highways Representative Scheme' proposed by WNC.	PS/DM JA/DM PS/DM JA
35/26	Public Forum: No additional comments	
36/26	Finance: Payments/receipts: DM circulated the latest report for the year to date. She noted that a subsequent payment of £120 had been made for virus protection for the next 2 years. New electricity contract: DM said that the new 3 year contract (with 'Valda Energy') had started at the beginning of August. The costs have increased (for example, the monthly charge for July was £25 but the new charge for August was £43). However she noted that this is still a major reduction from last year (August cost £91) due to a combination of more LED lamps and switching off lamps overnight. Knightley Trust: DM reported that the remaining funds in the Trust account (approximately £140) had been agreed by Paul Heygate, as the remaining Trustee, to spend on repairing the cemetery noticeboard (see below). The Trust is currently being wound up.	DM
37/26	Police Liaison: SS reported that the police are carrying out 'Operation Spotlight' over the next 12 months which will focus on 4 key areas: young drivers, speed & distraction, powered 2 wheels plus drugs & drink. He also noted that the police are looking to recruit more community support officers. It was noted that an electric bike had been seen travelling at dangerously high speed along the Everdon Road.	SS
38/26	Cemetery Matters: DM reported that the Cemetery noticeboard has been substantially re-built and will shortly be re-erected. Thanks are due to particularly Malcolm Coulson for his donation of time and huge skill in carrying out the work and also to Paul Heygate who donated the material costs not covered by the Knightley Trust fund (approximately £219). A letter of thanks will be sent to both. Thanks also to Tony Millyard for his technical help and to PS for digging of new postholes.	DM
39/26	Planning matters: JA reported latest developments – to summarise: WNC Local Plan: The final draft was recently reported to Committee at WNC; then the Council decided to abandon it in order to start afresh; then the Government	JA

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	instructed WNC to carry on with the prepared draft so as not to take up additional time. 2. Village map: It was noted that the above plan includes maps showing the proposed outline for planning purposes of every village in WNC. The map for Farthingstone is as submitted many years ago (and for example doesn't include the site in 3. below as within the 'village confines'). This will be formally recorded once the Local Plan is finally approved. 3. Site on Weedon Road behind 'The Nutshell' (Application no. 2026/0273/FULL): Responses to the planning application have been submitted by Highways and Ecology (see WNC's planning portal) but have not as yet been addressed by the applicant. There is no further news on when the application will be submitted to Committee. 4. Site on Weedon Road behind No. 3 New Cottages (Application no. 2026/2331/RM): This application has now been agreed. The approval letter contains various conditions.	
40/26	Updating policies & procedures: No updates completed this time.	DM
41/26	Correspondence: An invitation has been received to attend the WNC Annual Parish Conference on 26 November. A place will be booked and offered to SJS – if unable to attend then JA will go.	DM
42/26	AOB: - CPRE: It was agreed that we would continue to pay for CPRE membership for another year. - Mowing: PS reported that R D Landscapes have maintained costs this year (helped by the slow grass growth) but have indicated that they will need to put up costs next year. - Church: PS proposed organising a working party to both re-lay gravestones (a few flat ones need lowering to aid mowing as previously agreed) and reduce the cobwebs in the Church. Sunday 25 October was proposed at 10.00 – subject to checking with the PCC.	DM PS/DM
	Date of next meeting: Monday 16 November 2026 (NB Meeting sets the budget for 2027/8)	

Signed as a true record:

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Date: