

West Walton Parish Council

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 11th August 2026 at 6.00pm in West Walton Village Hall, Mill Road, West Walton, PE14 7EU.

Present Chairman Cllr Nathan Ramm, Vice chairman – Cllr Trevor Harrison
Councillors - John Blyth (arr 6.28pm), Corinne Greatholder, Zoe Harris, Mike Painter, Sheila Rayner and Julian Kirk - Parish Councillor, Borough Councillor and County Councillor (arr 6.28pm).
Rt.Hon. James Wild, MP, Borough Cllr Richard Blunt
Craig Rivett and Andy Neilly – National Grid - EGL 3&4/Grimsby to Walpole/Walpole A Substation Extension
Community Liaison Group representatives.
Six members of the public

In the interests of openness and transparency, councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Council or its committees when they are open to the public. This does not extend to live verbal commentary. Filming, recording and photography will only be permitted from the area designated. No flash photography or additional lighting should be used without prior consent. Anyone wishing to report on the meeting is encouraged to notify the Clerk or Chairman so that they can be afforded reasonable facilities. People under the age of 18 or other members of the public not wishing to be filmed, recorded or photographed should notify the Clerk or Chairman and should sit in the area designated for this purpose. Improper conduct or any disruptive behaviour could result in expulsion from the meeting.
The above statement will be taken as read.

107/26 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hall, Cllr Holden and Cllr Hudson.

108/26 Declarations of Interest of any items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations
None.

109/26 National Grid Upgrade Projects

Craig Rivett and Andy Neilly, representatives from NG (EGL/G2W/Walpole A substation extension projects) attended to discuss the three projects with Parish Council. An explanation was given of the Community Liaison Group – EGL 3&4 has been made the single point of contact for all three projects. A Whatsapp Channel has been set up to publicise updates for the projects. Anyone may sign up and it is anonymous. It is an information only channel so if there are any questions the existing email address is available for this. The website is kept updated. Currently, there are intrusive investigations at both proposed converter station sites, HGV movements have quietened down but will increase again in the autumn with up to 100 movements per day for both projects.

Questions were raised –

- If ground is not suitable what will happen – the design will be altered to accommodate any issues for the foundations.
- Will road signs be multi-lingual- this will be looked into.

The team will consult with parish councils about the road routes. There will be an opportunity to respond via the planning application regarding haul road routes when the application is at the inspection stage. There will be a webinar for Parish Councils on how to respond effectively to the planning consultation.

Questions

- How often will Community Liaison Group meeting be held – this will be on an ad hoc basis
- Have roads been assessed prior to the current intrusive surveys? NCC will look at the road condition and make assessment based on the proposed volume of traffic.

(Cllrs Blyth and Kirk arrived at 6.28pm)

- There have been reports of vehicles driving over private property – EGL advised that this should not happen or cause damage to property.
- Comments were made regarding the legality of the intrusive surveys – EGL assured that KLWNBC Planning Department had been made aware.
- Concerns raised about mud on the road and suggested a one-way system for traffic.
- A copy of the Highway Assessment was requested.
- What is happening about the cable from Walsoken substation to the proposed new Walpole Sub Station.

The whole process from conception to planning inspectorate inspection was explained by Craig Rivett. Also, why undergrounding was not feasible, explained briefly how the transmission of electricity works, and the infrastructure required for Direct Current cables (lower voltage) to converter stations (convert DC to AC) and Alternating Current overhead powerlines for high voltages. Pylons have less infrastructure.

James Wild MP advised anyone who wishes to make any representations at the Planning Inspection must be registered. Craig Rivett and Andy Neilly were thanked for their attendance by the Chairman and departed the meeting at 7.18pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

110/26 Discussion with Rt Hon James Wild MP regarding local parish issues.

1. The Rt Hon James Wild advised that he had been dealing with concerns about energy projects, weather and climate, poor train service into King's Lynn, problems with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn.
2. There was discussion about the progress of the new build at QEHL and the current service offered.
3. There was discussion about the traffic on School Rd, West Walton.
4. Cllr Blunt advised the meeting about the upcoming Local Plan Consultation. *(Cllr Blunt left the meeting at 7.50pm).*

111/26 Public Participation

What are the road works on Salts Road for? The Parish Council had not been advised by NCC of the nature of the works.

112/26 Minutes

1. The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 14th July 2026 having been previously circulated were proposed and seconded as a true record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed.
2. The minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 27th July 2026 having been previously circulated were proposed and seconded as a true record of the meeting. Unanimously agreed.

113/26 Planning Matters - To consider planning applications See Appendix 1. No decisions received this month.

114/26 It was noted that the meeting was running close to 2 hours. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to extend the meeting by 30 minutes.

115/26 Financial Matters

1. To approve payments and to accept receipts – see appendix 2.
 - 1.1 Westcotec Invoice – the CCTV column is loose; it was proposed seconded and agreed to hold back payment until they have visited the site and carried out remedial work.
 - 1.2 Approval for two late received invoices. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept the two late invoices.
 - 1.3 It was proposed, seconded and agreed to make all other payments.
2. To consider Bus shelter refurbishment quote and application for grant funding – deferred to September.
3. To consider K&M Streetlighting Maintenance contract renewal for 1 year £958.80 plus VAT or 3 years fixed at £958.80 plus VAT per annum – it was proposed seconded and agreed to accept a 3-year contract.

116/26 Litter and Dog Bins

1. Update on moving dog bins - two locations for dog bins and litter bin location for St Paul's Rd south approved
2. Stickers and Signs – Cllr Painter has collected them ready to install.
3. Concrete slab bases for litter bins – Cllr Blyth will contact another contractor for a quote.

117/26 Playing Field

1. Update on drain vegetation clearance Quote from Hennelly Trees £1800.00. It was proposed, seconded and agreed to engage Hennelly Trees to carry out the work in w/c 24/8/26.
2. To note any correspondence regarding the equipment project - order for equipment accepted, they will advise dates etc. in due course.

118/26 To receive Villager's Concerns and correspondence received by Chairman and Clerk.
None received.

119/26 Allotments

1. Vacant garden plot allotment on River Road – notice received from one tenant, advertise the plot.
2. Request to alter track – discussed and it was proposed, seconded and agreed to advise the answer is no as the tracks provided varying walking routes.
3. Update on letter sent to tenant to attend to allotment – no response, it was proposed, seconded and agreed to send a notice to quit.

120/26 To receive written Reports from:

1. County and Borough Councillors - report circulated.
2. Village Hall Representative – there has been a small delay due to a requirement for permission to retain a structure within 9 metres of the watercourse (fencing).

Chairman.....

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3. Cemetery, Churchyard & Paddock – nothing to report
4. Jubilee Walk - to receive a written report – broken wooden bridge will be repaired by Mr Crawley.
5. Streetlighting and street furniture – nothing to report
6. Church Liaison – nothing to report
7. Speed Watch – nothing to report
8. Reports/updates of any other ongoing matters
 - 8.1 Settlement of bus shelter insurance claim – there will be a shortfall of £720 in the claim from the repayment from the third-party insurance company to the Parish Council insurers. It was agreed to make a further representation.
 - 8.2 Tawny Owl grass cutting for August – grass isn't growing so will keep tidy and plans one cut for August.

121/26 Next Meetings and Agenda – to receive items for the next agenda and date of next meeting

Date of meeting – Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 6.30pm – Ordinary Parish Council Meeting - in West Walton Village Hall

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 11th August 2026

Appendix 1

Planning Applications for consultation

1. 26/00778/F RETROSPECTIVE: 1 - Storage and Preparation area for produce farmed on site for personal consumption, honey, preserves, vegetables, 2 - Hay barn at Land at E550411 N310691 Harps Hall Road Walton Highway Norfolk. No comment.
2. 26/01209/F Proposed single story extension to dwelling at 13 Spencer Close West Walton Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7EN. Support with no comments

KLWNBC Planning Decisions

None

Appendix 2

Payments List

		Ex VAT	VAT	Inc VAT
West Walton VH	Hall Hire	43.00		43.00
J Smith	Playing Field Gate	80.00		80.00
K&M Streetlighting	Streetlight Maintenance	75.98	15.20	91.18
Kew Grass Care	Jubilee Path	287.00	57.40	344.40
Tawny Owl	Grass Cutting	830.99	166.20	997.19
Norfolk ALC	Website and hosting	72.40	14.48	86.88
Able Engineering	Balance of replacement shelter	3,240.00	648.00	3,888.00
Staff	Wages	449.16		449.16
Staff	Expenses	41.70		41.70
ECS	Microsoft subscription	12.95	2.59	15.54DD
EE	Phone	13.00	2.60	15.60DD
A1 Engraving Ltd	Signs and stickers	158.40	31.68	190.08
English Brothers Ltd	Deck board and batten	4.21	0.84	5.05
<u>Deferred</u>				
Westcotec	CCTV Column	1090.00	218.00	1308.00

Chairman.....

Date.....