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Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting on: Thursday 17th July 2025 commencing at 7.30pm. Meeting to held at Brampton Primary School.

Minutes taken by Sarah Stock, Clerk to the Council.

Apologies received: Cllrs Stephen Crane, Margaret Green, Lynda Smith.

Attending: Cllr Mick Macmain, Tanya Speakman, Paul Paterson, Robin Green. WNC Councillor Charles Morton.

2025/039 Declarations of Interest. No declarations reported.

2025/040 Public Session. Chairman invited Cllr Morton to address the council. No issues raised.

Verbal Updates (no decisions will be made on items in this section of the agenda)

- Residents to report to the clerk company name & registration of overweight vehicles using Harlestone Road. No reports received to date. Monitoring.
- Caravan on Holdenby Road. Information passed to Sgt Kev Lombis. Monitoring.
- Pathway along Back Lane needs clearing to improve accessibility. Clerk wrote to the homeowner, and it has been cleared. Item Closed.
- Convex mirror at junction of Back Lane/Jack's Lane purchased & fitted. Item Closed.
- Speed camera signs purchased and fitted. Item Closed.
- Cllr TS provided update on Community Speedwatch. 14 volunteers, 10 are registered and have completed the training. All volunteers will be trained by end of July. CSW equipment will be available later in the year.
- Part of Brampton Lane/Pitsford Road will be closed 11-12th September for Kier to clear vegetation.
- Ten Cottages, Harlestone Rd - fence removal. Councillor Green explained the problems which had been on-going since 2018 causing access and safety problems to pedestrians. The temporary fence is now acting as a trellis for briars at face height. Sam Williams (SW) (Althorp) attended a Parish Council meeting this year and agreed to remove the temporary fence. Clerk confirmed email correspondence between Althorp Estate and Council, SW agreed to chase the Althorp foresters again. The fence is on highways land. Matter has been referred by the Clerk to Highways regulatory department for enforcement. Monitoring.

2025/041 To approve minutes from: 19th June 2025. Approved.

2025/042 Bank reconciliation and YTD budget vs Expenditure review.

Council accepted the bank reconciliation and the budget analysis provided with the agenda.

2024/25 Opening balance:	£37,541	
YTD Income	£21,226	
YTD expenditure (Inc. VAT)		£11,924
Online Balance		
Current Account (Unity 20415701)	£5,166	
Reserve Account (Unity 20415714)	£43,979	
Payments Pending		£1,583

Contact: The Clerk, 9 Lower Harlestone, Northamptonshire, NN7 4EW.
email: theclerk@churchwithchapelbrampton-pc.gov.uk

YTD Balance (less pending payments)	£47,562
2024/25 Unclaimed VAT YTD	£954

Council noted that Office Expenses is overbudget by e£900 because the website invoice was received after 2024/25 YE. Council resolved to reallocate £1000 from election expenses.

2025/043 Accounts for Payment. Council approved invoices for payment.

Payee	Invoice #	Invoice Date	Amount Due (Inc. VAT)	VAT
(DD) Unity Trust Bank	Statement 49	30.6.25	£6.00	
HMRC	267PE00168558/03	28.6.25	£19.24	
(SO) Sarah Stock	July	28.6.25	£545.30	
(SO) Noah Finney	July	28.6.25	£60.00	
(SO) HMRC	267PE00168558/04	28.7.25	£19.24	
Barbara Osborne Business	8058	30.6.25	£75.00	
Northants CALC	INV-4680	27.6.25	£105.60	£17.60
ROSPA Play Safety	89597	26.6.25	£139.20	£23.20
(Exp TS) Wrkplace Depot + 2	GB500G062YS371	30.6.25	£310.32	£51.72
(DD) Yu Energy	2775117	1.7.25	£261.46	£12.45
(DD) Yu Energy	2775118	1.7.25	£32.09	£1.53
(DD) Eon Next	KI-7FD9A6C2-0018	1.7.25	£19.00	£0.90
(DD) Unity Trust Bank	Statement 50	30.7.25	£6.00	
(Exp MM) Hassett Fencing	277784	9.7.25	£25.10	£4.18
HMRC	267PE00168558/05	28.8.25	£19.24	
(SO) Sarah Stock	August	28.8.25	£545.30	
(SO) Noah Finney	August	28.8.25	£60.00	
Northants CALC	INV-4753	11.7.25	£63.60	£10.60
(DD) Unity Trust Bank	Statement 51	30.8.25	£6.00	
Northampton Services	July-006	16.7.25	£1,525.00	
Northampton Services	July-005	16.7.25	£195.00	

2025/044 Playing Field & Pocket Park

Quote received from A&A Landscapes to removing the timber edgings from around the car park perimeter (exclude section to the right side of the gate at the top of the car park) and replacing like for like. Once the new timber is in place, apply 10mm drainage stone behind the timbers. Total cost £3,400. As the quote is over £3000, further quotes will be required before works can be authorised. Cllr MM to organise.

Council noted the RoSPA report for the Playing Field. There are no high-risk items. The report states that often the surface matting does not meet industry standards. Council noted that industry standards have changed since the installation of the equipment and will only replace matting when the equipment is changed.

The following items are medium risk and will be addressed:

- See-saw: encroaching vegetation. School requested to cut hedge.
- Rocker seat: bolts need tightening. Cllr MM to look.

- Basketball: needs sign "Do not climb on the framework or nets" and net needs replacing. Council resolved not to replace the net or add a sign which might serve as a climbing handle.

2025/045 **Chapel Meeting Room.** Windows and new door have been fitted.

2025/046 **Environment (verges, path, trees, and village maintenance)**

- Cllr SC provided email report on Rowan tree on the green in Great Close. The tree is on private land; therefore, council has no obligation or authority to maintain it. Item Closed.
- Harlestone Road Trees: All trees (various owners) need ivy cutting back. Various landowners have been informed and Michael Venton, WNC Tree Conservation Officer Cc'd. Item Closed.
- Council approved expenditure for clearing vegetation from the Sandy Lane SID, signs at entrance to the village. Paul Thomas has quoted £250. Work has been completed. Item Closed.
- Council to consider commissioning a risk assessment tree survey. Last one completed 2019. Council resolved to ask Maurice Fitch to complete the survey.
- Council confirmed that they have requested 280 trees to be planted on the playing field. Cllr MM to circulate order to council.
- Road sweeping: Council noted quote from Yorks Sweepers came in over agreed amount, resolved to go ahead anyway. Cost £650.00

2025/047 **Traffic Calming**

Comments received from Back Lane resident complaining about the speed of traffic. Council can order and fit 20mph signs at cost of £9.27 per sign. Cllr TS to advise how many signs are required.

2025/048 **Planning matters.** No householder applications received.

Barnes Builders (construction team working on Eagles nest). Cllr RG to seek confirmation that at the end of the build the tarmac broken up by the lorries will be repaired.

Council noted the school is building a small extension, approved under delegated authority – therefore is a lawful development. Clerk directed to find out why the council was not consulted or informed.

Date of next meetings: No August meeting. 18th September; 16th October; 20th November, No December meeting.

Meeting closed: 20:30