

Parish Council of Waresley-cum-Tetworth

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 8 September 2025

8pm at Waresley Village Hall

Present: Councillors Richard Jerman, Eleanor Jack, Joshua Morris-Lowe, County Councillor Sarah Caine, the Clerk Rod Kerr.

Also Present were David Taine, Craig Safford, Kevin Jones, Natalie & John Coward, Neville & Charmian Chapman, Ian & Karen Hawthorne. Phil and Claire Tily, Dave Standring

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Parish Councillor Jonanthan Hutton & District Councillor James Catmur

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: None were received.

3. Minutes

The Minutes from previous meetings (26 June & 7 July 2025) had been circulated and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Reports from the District & County Councillors:

County councillor Sarah Caine reported that the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) is uncertain and may increase costs. Various options for council mergers are being considered.

Highways issues: Recently, there have been a number of flags attached to lampposts & signs around the area – those that have been causing obstructions are being removed; lorry traffic has increased due to diversions; double yellow lines have not helped; awaiting outcome of LHI bid.

Toseland contacted her about creating a municipal Waze account to deprioritise certain routes.

A report from District Councillor James Catmur was read out. He noted that Separate Weekly Food Waste Collections will start in 2026 & new bins will be distributed. Civil parking Enforcement started in Huntingdonshire on 29 August 2025 – all tickets are now enforceable. 16000 Hunts residents who have a postal vote will need to reapply before they expire at the end of January 2026. They are no longer valid indefinitely.

4. Planning

Long Furlong House, 40 Vicarage Road (Ref: 25/01459/PIP):

A Planning in Principle Application for 1-2 dwellings was discussed.

Councillor Jerman though it should be rejected to be consistent with our previous recommendations over a similar application near the site earlier this year. He did not think it was in the village built-up area.

Tilted balance is still being used by the Planning Department – County Councillor Sarah Caine said the policy may end sooner as more applications are reviewed. Councillor Jack thought it appalling that it was used in small villages.

Previous application for 3 buildings was approved with an agricultural tie a number of years ago.

Council would support the new application only if an agricultural tie is included and the bridleway is maintained.

The Council Voted 2 to 1 to reject the plans as they stand but added they would reconsider if an agricultural tie is included.

5. The Duncombe Arms – to confirm Council Approval of Licence Application:

The New premises application had been approved unanimously by the Parish Council by email.

The new landlords were present, aiming to open on 17 September, serving food Wednesday to Sunday.

6. Complaint regarding Waresley Park Estate Event (11 July):

Noise complaints discussed; – Councillor Jerman said the noise levels were unacceptable. He explained that he had been contacted by various members of the village who were very unhappy and upset with the volume of noise and the amount of bass. They asked if this could be added to the PC agenda after the same thing happened in 2024. The Cowards and the Chapmans complained about the noise and the fact that they were unaware of the event taking place. Councillor Jerman said the event finished at 12.05am & not midnight as stated by Waresley Park Estate, this was corroborated by impacted residents. The bass noise is the most unacceptable, but the volume was also deemed to be intrusive and very upsetting for impacted residents. Some areas of the village were affected a lot more than others who were not impacted at all. It was noted that the event was audible in Abbotsley.

Only this event (not the regular live music) caused complaints.

It was suggested that independent sound monitoring be used for future events It was agreed by the PC that the best way to progress was to maintain a positive dialogue with Ben Griggs and rather than swapping emails on the subject to arrange a meeting within the next two months.

7. Highways Matters

The MVAS (speed sign) rotation plan discussed for effectiveness. It was agreed that it should be placed outside the Garden Centre for two thirds of the year and shared between the other sites for the other third. It takes about 25 minutes to move. If our bid for an additional sign is

approved, one will be left permanently outside the Garden Centre and the other rotated between the other two sites.

Road markings and double yellow lines are on the list for future work. This may require a road closure – Councillor Jerman will chase up. The lines around the Cricket Ground entrance need to be repainted. We can ask for the double yellow lines along Gamlingay Road to be removed but it will cost us and have to go through a LHI process and there would be a fee from CCC to come out and cost up the job.

Speed checks and Speedwatch: volunteers needed; evidence gathering encouraged. Councillor Caine will help if we wish to pursue this. Waresley is low on the Pecking List for Police Speed checks – the more evidence we can gather the better.

8. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Phase 2 public engagement survey: The Parish Council commented on the first phase and objected to Option A and preferred Option C. Village feedback was encouraged – Councillor Jack will circulate details on the village email list and respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

9. Tree Works in Old Churchyard

There is a dangerous tree in the old churchyard: contractor approached for remedial work estimated cost £120–£160. Payment of this amount was agreed. Many thanks to our Tree Warden David Morgan.

10. Jubilee Monument Update

Jubilee Monument: most of the work has been done; awaiting conservator's further visits. It is looking very smart now.

11. Finance

- New Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) was confirmed as David Taine. The options for a new bank account will be discussed.

Payments approved:

- Clerk's salary for July to September £180.00
- PAYE to HMRC for the same periods £45,
- Electricity bill for streetlights to NPower £192.81,
- Website renewal fee (paid by the clerk) £30.00
- Proposed by Councillor Jerman & Seconded by Councillor Jack.

12. Any Other Business & Date of Next Meeting

- Councillor Malcolm Gordon has formally resigned after years of service – he was thanked for all his efforts including his work regarding the floral tubs at the entrances to the village, the defibrillator and the Old Churchyard. Councillor Jerman was authorised to purchase a gift for him as a token of our appreciation. A new councillor will be sought. Council to arrange a gift.

- A letter has been received from Mr. B Jones about land access behind Village Hall; he is trying to arrange a meeting with trustees of the hall. It was agreed by the councillors that this was not in their remit to get involved with this – he was thanked for keeping the council updated. There has been some camping on the land – it was noted that this may be limited to 42 days per year. There have been concerns about toilet facilities noted but no complaints have been received and the council are not required to get involved at this stage.
- A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) will be requested for large Ash tree and hedge on Vicarage Road as it may be endangered. David Morgan will organise this.
- The lighting of the Jubilee Lamp will be sorted by the new pub landlords.
- **The Date of the next meeting was agreed for Thursday 30 October 2025.**