

Minutes of a Meeting of Horbling Parish Council held on Wednesday, 24th June 2026 at 6.30pm in the Meeting Room, Horbling

Present: Cllr G Stonestreet
Cllr S Walker
Cllr D Blandford
Cllr K Hyland
Cllr G Davis
Cllr A Tagg

Parish Clerk: Mr I Sismey

Cllr Stonestreet welcomed everyone to the meeting especially the two new Council members Gary Davis and Andy Tagg.

2177.692.26 Apologies for absence and acceptance of reasons given.

Cllr C Scott had sent his apologies along with SKDC Councillor M Turner.

Proposed Cllr K Hyland, Seconded Cllr D Blandford

RESOLVED: To accept the reasons for apologies for absence from Cllr's Scott and Turner.

2178.692.26 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

Cllr Davis asked for an explanation of this item and the clerk informed the members that A **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest** is a formal disclosure of any financial or business interest that could influence—or be seen to influence—your impartiality in a decision-making role.

2179.692.26 To ask if members of the public, resident or employed within this Parish, have any intention to speak under any agenda items of this meeting.

There was one member of the public present, but they did not wish to speak.

2180.692.26 To adopt the notes of the meeting held on the 15th May 2026 as a true record and to resolve for the chair to sign them.

Proposed Cllr D Blandford Seconded Cllr K Hyland

RESOLVED: For the chair to sign the notes of the meeting held on the 15th May 2026 as a true record.

2181.693.26 To fill Councillor Vacancies by Co-Option

The clerk explained that Co-option is the process by which local parish or town councils appoint a new councillor without holding an election. This occurs when a "casual vacancy" (e.g., a resignation, death, or disqualification) arises and local electors do not call for a formal by-election.

The clerk informed all present that the Council had fulfilled its obligation to the local residents by advertising the two positions and giving all concerned the ability to apply. Six candidates had come forward and 5 of the candidates were interviewed 1 of the candidates had withdrawn prior to the interviewing stage.

The following individuals were nominated as follows:

Mr G Davis

Proposed Cllr D Blandford Seconded Cllr K Hyland

RESOLVED: Following a unanimous vote Mr Davis was Co-Opted as a Parish Councillor.

Mr Davis duly signed his declaration of office.

Mr A Tagg

Proposed Cllr G Stonestreet Seconded Cllr S Walker

RESOLVED: Following a unanimous vote Mr Tagg was Co-Opted as a Parish Councillor.

Mr Tagg duly signed his declaration of office.

2182.693.26 To receive reports, if any, by District/County Councillors or representatives on other Organisations.

Although Cllr M Turner (SKDC) was unable to make the meeting he sent in the following report:

1) **GDPR Update** – There is no real news. The government is still dithering with an update expected soon. They will need to get their skates on in order to complete the necessary legislation before next May's elections. Just to throw a spanner in the works a new Prime Minister might scrap the whole scheme altogether.

2) **Depot News** – With the new waste depot now fully open in Grantham and fully functional the Council has managed to lease the old site to a large industrial contractor.

3) **Cabinet** – There has been a slight shuffle in the cabinet with a Deepings Independent Councillor (Bridget Ley) who steps up from the Finance and Economics Scrutiny Committee which she chaired to Cabinet member with responsibility for Finance.

4) **Wharf Road Car Park, Grantham** – For those of you that use this car park for shopping etc in Grantham it will be closing temporarily for a major refurbishment soon.

5) **HMOs** – New HMOs are becoming an issue in SKDC towns as SERCO on behalf of the government have been purchasing a large number of these to house Asylum seekers. Whilst not directly affecting Toller ward which I represent it is important to note that we as a district currently house 301 applicants.

6) **SKDC Community Fund** – This fund has been doubled in size since the ending of the UKSPF scheme and all local organisations and Parish and Town Councils should look to apply for funding as ap. There is a simple guide and form on the SKDC website. Please apply as all applications have to be approved by ward members.

CORRESPONDENCE

2183.694.26 The clerk produced a list of correspondence for the members to receive.

The clerk informed the members that should they wish to inspect any item of correspondence then they should contact him direct.

A) *For Information only – to be received en bloc*

- a) **RSN – Newsletters 20.05.2026**
- b) **LALC – Enews 22.05.2026**
- c) **SKDC Planning Lists 18 – 22.05.2026**
- d) **RSN – Newsletters 25.05.2026**
- e) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin 21.05.2026**
- f) **SKDC Planning Lists 25 – 29.05.2026**
- g) **RSN Weekly Newsletter**
- h) **NALC – Chief Executives Bulletin 04.06.2026**
- i) **LALC – Enews 05.06.2026**
- j) **SKDC Planning Lists 05.06.2026**
- k) **LCC – Town & Parish Newsletter May 2026**
- l) **SKDC Planning Lists 12.05.2026**
- m) **RSN – Newsletters 17.06.2026**

B) *Items for discussion*

a) Recreation Ground

The clerk reminded members that although they had discussed the project being promoted by Billingborough Parish Council no formal response had been suggested.

The clerk confirmed that he had checked out the ownership of the land and was able to confirm that Billingborough Parish Council had infact purchased 8 Acres, which included the Recreation Ground land, some years ago from Crown Estates.

The clerk was of the opinion that a formal response should be forthcoming from Horbling Parish Council.

b) Lincs Reservoir Project

The clerk had reported on this on various occasions and to clarify the timescale to all concerned he included in the pack for the meeting the diagram of the timeline for the project. This confirmed that if all was to go to plan the construction of the reservoir would start in 2029 with the reservoir coming on line in 2039.

c) Proposed Development of a mainstream SEND Hub at Pointon/Donington

The clerk wanted to make the members aware of the above initiative at both local schools as it may be of interest to local parents.

d) Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

The clerk informed members that he had included this item for members information.

e) Lincolnshire Bus Information

f) SKDC Funding Grants

Members were already aware of the funding stream and this was also included in SKDC Cllr M Turners report to the Council. The clerk confirmed that it is the Parish Council's intention to make an application to the community fund for funds to refurbish the Spring Wells. Cllr Tagg asked whether the pot of money would disappear following the Local Government

reorganisation. The clerk responded that this was a possibility but unknown at this point in time. The clerk continued that of more interest would be the return of the Prosperity Grants that had not been notified at this point in time. The prosperity Grants had operated for the past two years and had replaced European Money that had disappeared and the size of the pot initiated by Central Government was much bigger. Cllr Tagg's concern was that once the decision re reorganisation had been made in July would that see the end of the current Grants. The clerk was of the opinion that this would not be the case as it would take at least 12 months for the changes to take effect. It was generally agreed that making an application was a priority.

Proposed Cllr G Davis, Seconded Cllr G Stonestreet
RESOLVED: To receive the above items en bloc

2184.696.26 Highways

Cllr Stonestreet had raised the following issues:

1) Broken signage in the village and cited two examples:

- a) Church Lane – No through Road sign that had been reversed into. The clerk informed members that this matter had been reported to Lincolnshire County Council.
- b) Sandygate Lane – Broken road sign – this has been reported to SKDC although this has been temporarily mended. It was suggested that perhaps the road sign could be mounted on the wall that it stands in front off but all were aware that this would need the permission of the property owner.

2) Finger Post

Cllr Stonestreet posed the question as to whether a finger post pointing to the meeting room could be added to the post on the main road. This matter has been raised with Lincolnshire County Council.

3) Milestone

Cllr Stonestreet raised the issue of the 'milestone' that was proving contentious and wished to know if a letter should be sent from the Parish Council. It was agreed that this was a good idea and that Cllr Stonestreet should ensure that all members are able to see the letter before it is sent. The clerk was concerned that members should make themselves satisfied that the milestone was in fact definitely outside the curtilage of the property owner before sending the letter.

Proposed K Hyland, Seconded D Blandford
RESOLVED: To receive the above information.

2185.697.26 Planning

The clerk informed members that only one application had been received and had been added to the agenda as sent. However, this application had been withdrawn by the applicant immediately prior to the meeting

Application No: S26/0889

Proposal: Removal of Glasshouse

Location: Horbling Hall, Horbling

2186.697.26 Newsletter

Cllr Stonestreet had produced the Spring edition of the Parish newsletter and this had been distributed to all residents. The members were of the opinion that the newsletter was extremely well written and served as a great communication tool with the local residents.

Cllr Stonestreet informed members that he would be working on the summer edition with the intention that it is ready for distribution the 1st week of August after Horbling Day which is to take place on the 26th July. It was felt that a piece should be incorporated explaining the newly established 'Community Champion' initiative.

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FINANCIAL REPORT

2187.697.26 Approval of Treasurers Report for the period to 31st May 2026

The clerk presented the Income and expenditure statement and Balance Sheet for the period to 31st May 2026.

The clerk explained that to add clarity to the figures the accounts were split into two categories 'Parish' and 'Plough' to enable members and other users to see the way that the monies were spent and that Income from the Plough should be reinvested into the structure of the building. The statements prepared by the clerk showed an overall position of a surplus of £ 7,104.33.

This position is split:

Parish	Surplus £6,654.71
Plough	Surplus £ 449.62

The Parish Council balance sheet was also presented to the Council that showed cleared cash balances of £57,772.59.

The clerk informed members that the above figures showed distinctively that the precept claimed via Council Tax was used solely for Parish associated purposes and that the 'Plough Inn' was self-financing.

Proposed Cllr D Blandford, Seconded Cllr A Tagg

RESOLVED: To approve the Treasurers report and accounts for the period to 31st May 2026.

2188.698.26 Approval of Payments since last meeting

The Clerk presented a schedule of payments to the members that totalled £2,761.91.

05/05/2026	Clear Insurance	1,683.30
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Horbling Parish Council all risk Insurance premium for the year 2026/2027

26/05/2026	EON	41.81
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Electricity Supply for the Meeting Room.

20/05/2026	N Ballard	917.00
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Works completed to the Plough Inn

27/04/2026	Dales Doins	120.00
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Monthly payment to Dales Doins during grass cutting season.

Proposed Cllr G Stonestreet, Seconded Cllr K Hyland

RESOLVED: To Approve the payments schedule as listed

2189.698.26 Grants

Grant Applications had been received from:

- a) St Andrews PCC for a contribution to the maintenance of the churchyard.

Proposed Cllr G Stonestreet, Seconded Cllr K Hyland

RESOLVED: To Approve a grant of £1200.00 to the PCC

- b) Horbloomington Marvellous for a contribution to this year's competition.

Proposed Cllr G Stonestreet, seconded Cllr K Hyland

RESOLVED: To Approve a grant of £100.00 for the event

2190.699.26 Bank Mandate

The clerk explained that the Mandate could only be changed by the outgoing Councillors who were signatories and he would make contact with them to ensure that the changes were effected.

2191.699.26 The Meeting Room

- 1) Key safe – This was a suggestion by Cllr Scott and has been acted upon already and the key safe is on the wall just round to the left of the door as you exit the building. The combination will be changed monthly and will allow users easier access.
- 2) Charges for Hire – Currently charged at £10 per session which is AM or PM. It was agreed that this was not an onerous charge and it was agreed that the charge should increase by 50% and incorporate three sessions.
AM - £15.00, PM- £15.00, Evening £15.00
- 3) Decoration – It was agreed that the Meeting Room would benefit from internal decoration. It was agreed that the members could achieve this themselves on an agreed day. The clerk agreed to obtain some sample colours in the grey range.

Proposed Cllr G Stonestreet, Seconded Cllr D Blandford
RESOLVED: To receive the above information

2192.699.26 The Plough Inn

The clerk had incorporated a little bit of history about the Plough in the information packs for the meeting.

The clerk explained that currently there was two main issues:

- 1) Car Park repairs – still chasing the original contractor but a competitive quote is being obtained for this work.
- 2) Damp Proofing work – Sarah Kitchen (Batemans) is holding talks with South Kesteven District Council with regard to these works and expects to have the results of these talks in the near future. Once these works have been agreed then Sarah Kitchen will talk to the Parish Council about the toilet refurbishment and also the pub sign.

Proposed G Stonestreet, Seconded D Blandford

RESOLVED: To receive the above information and action the points mentioned.

2193.700.26 Amenities

1) Clock on the Old Post Office Farm

The clerk reported to members that the clock that sits unworking on the building that used to be the old Post Office had been incorporated in the wall as a community facility. To this end the Parish Council in 1991 agreed to finance its upkeep with a regular supply of batteries to ensure that anyone who passes would know the correct time.

It was discussed by the members who were of the opinion that the residents were probably not aware of the clock's history. The Chair, G Stonestreet, agreed to make contact with the owners to see if they would be happy for the Parish Council to continue the tradition of supplying the necessary consumables to keep the clock working.

2) Flower Troughs

This item had been discussed at previous meetings and put to one side due to various impracticalities associated with their management.

Cllr Stonestreet informed the members that a member of the church had shown keen interest in maintaining them. Cllr Blandford was concerned that they would possibly be vandalised with the current trend of anti-social behaviour.

Cllr Davis had produced a mock up of what a flower trough would look like at the entrance to Horbling, Cllr Stonestreet was concerned that it would be difficult to erect one at the Billingborough Entrance due to a Dyke running along side the grass verge.

It was decided and agreed that Cllr Davis should progress the initiative by collecting details of the size of the probable planter for future discussion.

Cllr Davis also raised the question of purchasing and erecting more ornate Village signs similar to those purchased by Billingborough. The clerk informed members that he would organise a quote with examples ready for the Parish Council's next meeting.

3) Coffee Mornings

Cllr Stonestreet informed the meeting that the first Coffee Morning would take place on Friday 3rd July 2026 and then fortnightly after that.

The clerk volunteered to ensure that all the necessary provisions would be available for the coffee morning ready for the event.

A new hot water urn was already in the kitchen and the clerk would provide: Coffee, Tea, Milk, Sugar, Sweeteners, Biscuits.

The event would run from 10.00am-12.00noon.

Cllr Blandford suggested that it might be a good idea to run a book exchange during Coffee Mornings which would give an added advantage to running the coffee mornings. Cllr Blandford continued that she would organise a bookcase to house any donated books.

Discussion also covered the possibility of the coffee morning turning into a warm hub during the winter months.

Cllr Hyland agreed to assist with the coffee morning on the 3rd July.

4) Spring Wells

The chair reported that the Spring Well had undergone some vandalism around about a week ago. The chair continued that he had reported the issue to the Police and received a crime No.

Following receipt of the crime no. the Police rang Cllr Stonestreet to confirm that the matter had been escalated and that he was to expect a visit from the Police.

The clerk informed members that to assist with issues of Anti-Social behaviour SKDC had in force a neighbourhood team that would get involved in these matters and they may be of some help.

Cllr Stonestreet continued that if the Spring Well was in good repair it would mean that it would be difficult for the offenders to take up the flagstones. This led to the discussion moving to the need for a grant application being made to SKDC to help with refurbishment costs.

5) Noticeboard on the High Street

The noticeboard sits on a residents gate that leads on to the High Street and Cllr Stonestreet had been in conversation with the resident and they had agreed that it should be repaired and not replaced.

Following discussion with the resident Cllr Stonestreet had requested a quote from N Ballard to repair the notice board that amounted to £450.00. It was agreed that N Ballard should go ahead with the work as soon as he is able.

6) Horbling Day

This item had previously been discussed and the date of 26th July 2026 agreed. Cllr Stonestreet had asked the Plough to provide a quote for a Buffet which was £1.50 per head.

Other attractions for the day would be a bake a cake competition, Childrens Colouring Competition and Horbling Community Champion.

The clerk agreed to print the invitations for the event that would go to every household in the village.

It was further agreed to hold a short meeting on the 1st July to firm up the arrangements for Horbling Day.

Proposed G Davis, Seconded G Stonestreet

RESOLVED: To receive the above information and action the points as listed

2194.702.26 Speedwatch

Cllr Tagg informed the members that he would be down loading the data in a couple of weeks time and then would be able to complete a full report. This item will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr Stonestreet questioned the static speed signs and the hedging around the area. The clerk informed the members that the responsible party would be Lincolnshire County Council. The clerk was asked by the members to contact LCC with regards to clearing the growth around the signs.

2195.702.26 To discuss any such information which the chair may legally bring to the Councils attention.

The clerk informed members that he had been contacted by the organiser of 'Horblooming Marvellous' enquiring as to whether the Parish Council would be willing to sponsor the event again this year. The members were in agreement and agreed that this would be added to the agenda for the Parish Council's next meeting.

2196.702.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The following dates were agreed for meetings up to December 2026:

Wednesday 29th July 2026 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd September 2026 6.30pm

Wednesday 7th October 2026 6.30pm

Wednesday 4th November 2026 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd December 2026 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 20.35Hrs

Signed Chair

Date

DRAFT