

Draft until signed
Minutes of Dry Drayton Parish Council (DDPC) Meeting
Tuesday 9th June 2026 at 7.00pm, at Dry Drayton Village Hall, High Street, Dry Drayton
CB23 8BS

Present: Cllr S Aldersley (Chair), Cllr J Granger (Councillor), Cllr T Houlihane (Councillor), Cllr E Pyle (Vice-Chair), Cllr C Wright (Councillor), Nigel Hawkes co-opted at Item 5

Clerk: S Etherington-Meech CiLCA (Parish Clerk/RFO)

Attending: Cllr E Murphy (County Councillor), Cllr C Garvie (District Councillor), Cllr R Stobart (County Councillor), 3 members of the public

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence as all councillors present.

2. To confirm Cllr Granger has signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and completed a Register of Interest Form

Cllr Granger signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the clerk and completed a Register of Interest Form.

3. To Accept Parish Councillors Declarations of Interest for Matters on the Agenda

Cllr Aldersley declared a non-pecuniary interest in **Item 9 – To discuss planning matters - a ii** – a neighbour associated with this planning application had spoken to Cllr Aldersley in relation to their planning application.

4. To Agree to hold a Public Forum

A member of the public raised concerns in relation to a water leak where America Barn is being built. Cllr Aldersley advised that the resident should contact Cambridge Water in relation to this matter. Cllr Aldersley will also contact the landowner to make them aware of the leak.

5. To consider applications and co-option for two ordinary vacancies – Nigel Hawkes

The co-option application from Nigel Hawkes was considered and it was RESOLVED ^(Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) to co-opt Nigel Hawkes as a member of DDPC. Nigel Hawkes signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which the clerk counter signed and a Register of Interest form was also completed. Nigel Hawkes did not vote on any matters of the meeting.

6. To Approve the Minutes of Meetings held on Thursday 30th April 2026 and Tuesday 12th May 2026

Amendment made to Item 4 of the minutes from 30th April 2026. Once amendment to 30th April 2026 minutes was made it was RESOLVED ^(Prop Cllr Pyle, 2nd Cllr Wright unanimous) that the minutes of the meetings be approved and signed by the chair as a true and accurate record.

7. Matters Arising from the Minutes, Report of any actions, Resolutions from last meeting & ongoing matters

7.1 Update on outstanding Highways issues (EM) including:

7.1.1 Update from Cllr Murphy in relation to Highways considering of funding private contractor works for the broken handrail on the footpath (works would not include reinstatement of the steps)

Cllr Aldersley advised that he has not heard from Ollie at Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC). RESOLVED ^(Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Granger, unanimous) for works as quoted by the private contractor to be commissioned and wait to see if CCC will reimburse costs.

7.1.2 Update on meeting with Cllr Murphy in relation to why a Report IT log for condition of the dangerous and narrow footpath on Oakington Road has been flagged as closed despite injuries to residents from traffic

Cllr Murphy advised that she has not received any responses from officers at CCC yet and is expecting answers soon to this matter.

7.2 Update on traffic modelling for Scotland Rd travel hub and proposed link for an NMU (RS/EM)

Cllr Stobart advised that he has been in contact with Thomas Fitzpatrick at the Greater Cambridge Partnership. Thomas has confirmed that they are in the final stages, however, there has been a delay with modelling work and traffic modelling was difficult to conduct during the Easter holidays. Until the Secretary of State says yes, they will not be able to progress further, once it does a discussion with the parish council can proceed.

7.3 Investigate with SCDC names on housing list for Dry Drayton (RS)

Cllr Stobart queried this recently so will chase up soon.

7.4 To investigate grant schemes for Dry Drayton Village Hall including the Zero Carbon Communities grant and solar panel incentives (RS)

Cllr Stobart explained that there were emergency repairs that had to be carried out on the flat roof and unfortunately the application would not be possible as it would be retrospective of the works that have been carried out. He confirmed that ZCC have been very encouraging for a solar panel proposal. **Action – Cllr Aldersley to compose an email and copy in Cllr Stobart to assist with village hall application.**

7.5 Update on another resident taking over checking and maintenance of the defibrillator from the current designated person (SCA)

Cllr Aldersley to chase the current person who checks and maintains the defibrillator.

7.6 Update in relation to streetlighting for 'The Drift' and grant funding sources (CG)

No update at present.

7.7 Update on ZCC application for solar powered streetlighting including a Section 171 licence (JG)

There were the following updates:

- Adrian Last at Suffolk Streetlighting needs to speak with his contractor as they have installed a streetlight in Swavesey which is thought to have been on a footpath.
- Cambridgeshire Community Foundation – there could potentially be funding through them but need make sure it is feasible first.
- ZCC grant funding is only held until the beginning of September 2026. Cllr Stobart to enquire as to an extension for the funding with Helen Mason at SCDC.

7.8 To respond to email received in relation to a mobile grocery service (SCA)

Cllr Aldersley replied and included Dry Drayton Village Hall Management Committee in his email; they have agreed at their latest meeting to liaise with the person directly.

7.9 Update from Speedwatch for obtaining confirmation that the poles for MVAS are safe and secure for mounting

Speedwatch advised that an engineer attended and found fault with a circuit board, however they believe it can be fixed if we can get a new circuit board. In relation to the parish council purchasing an MVAS Speedwatch were advised that this needs to be done through the Highways team via an LHI application. Cllr Aldersley has sent this matter to Cllr Murphy for investigation.

7.10 Enquire with SCDC as to frequency of emptying the bin at the High Street bus stop (SEM)

SCDC confirmed that the bin is normally serviced weekly on a Wednesday. Additional collections incur an extra charge of at least £4 per visit. **RESOLVED** (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) to request the bins are emptied bi-weekly at £4 per visit.

7.11 Send access by permission letter in relation to parish council land in front of Blackgate House (SEM)

The clerk confirmed that a 'Right of Easement' letter has been sent.

8. To Accept a Report from County and District Councillors

See www.drydraytonpc.org.uk for reports.

Cllr Stobart highlighted that a neighbourhood plan could capture the essence of what communities want and if formulated the right way could be good defence against proposals.

Cllr Murphy highlighted that the more parishes could do together would be helpful. Cllr Granger suggested that Peter Freemant should be invited to the Boxworth Gateway forum on 25th June 2026.

9. To Discuss Planning Matters

a. Applications received for consideration

- i. **26/01263/OUT – Land South of St Neots Road, Hardwick - Outline application for the development of up to 138 residential dwellings along with associated infrastructure including provision of new site access, internal access roads, parking, drainage, public open space, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements and other associated works with all matters reserved except for the primary point of access onto St Neots Road – extension for comments granted to 10th June 2026**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Granger, unanimous) to object to this application for the following reasons:

- The impact of site access to the neighbouring junction and associated traffic safety issues.
- There needs to consideration as to how the layout of the busway would integrate into the site.
- The proximity to East West Rail (EWR) must be considered as it would skirt the development and it does not make sense to put houses next to a railway.
- Housing density along that area is inappropriate.

- ii. **26/01961/FUL - Land To The South Of The Corner Of Scotland Road And Park Street Dry Drayton Cambridgeshire - Installation of a field access gate and associated crossover on Scotland Road – comments by 19th June 2026**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Wright, 2nd Cllr Granger, unanimous) to object to this application for the following reasons:

- This application is for access to mow the field. However, this access is not necessary as the field is currently maintained once a year through another route to the field.
- Grounds of safety – the proposal is unsafe and hazardous as the access would be on a dangerous part of the road where there are traffic issues.
- There has been a sequence of applications for this site and a previous application rejected.
- This lies outside the Village Development Framework.

b. Decisions received from South Cambs District Council

- i. **26/01475/PRIOR - Scotland Farm Scotland Road Dry Drayton - Extension to existing agricultural spray storage building - Application withdrawn**
- ii. **26/01107/PRIOR - Scotland Farm Scotland Road Dry Drayton - Partial change of use of an existing agricultural building to a Storage or Distribution (Class B8) – Prior Approval Given**
- iii. **26/00584/HFUL/26/00585/LBC - 2 Old Rectory Drive Dry Drayton – application permitted for works to be carried out**

10. Matters for discussion/correspondence received

- 10.1 **For information - Resurfacing on the A428 westbound between Girton Interchange (A14 junction 31) and Cambourne - Thursday 11 June 2026 between 8pm and 6am**
- 10.2 **To discuss engagement with support of local MP in relation to logistics planning impacts (Cllr Wright)**
Cllr Wright put this forward as an idea. Cllr Wright to contact Ian Sollom MP.
- 10.3 **To discuss the noticeable increase in dog waste on paths in the village (Cllr Wright)**
Action – Cllr Aldersley to raise this matter in the next village newsletter.
- 10.4 **To provide an update on the Oakington Road Non-Motorised User path following a meeting with County and District Councillors**
Cllr Aldersley circulated notes to the councillors following the meeting.
- 10.5 **For information - Bourn Airfield's Open Day on Sunday 7 June 2026, taking place from 11:00 to 15:00 at Broadway, Bourn, Cambridge, CB23 2TA**

- 10.6 To discuss and review strimmer training manual and user declaration form and to consider requesting that the person who has the strimmer keeps the footpaths clear of anything low growing**
The Chairman moved this item for discussion under Item 11.1.
- 10.7 For information - Northwest & West Community Forum, to be held on 11 June 2026 at Darwin Green Community Rooms or online**
- 10.8 For information – Anglian Water together with Cambridge Water have started trial trenching investigations across sections of the proposed pipeline route**
- 10.9 For information - The Hedge & the Hog: Helping Wildlife One Verge at a Time (Weds 17th June 7 - 8pm)**
- 10.10 To discuss whether to opt out of weed spraying in the village**
RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Granger, 2nd Cllr Houlihane, unanimous) to remain in the weed spraying programme and not opt out.

11. Allotments

- 11.1 To provide an update on any matters in relation to the allotments**
Cllr Wright confirmed that he now has possession of the strimmer and there is a waiting list with several volunteers to use it. Cllr Wright is going to nominate a plot holder to keep hold of it and advise that the holder keeps paths clear.
- 11.2 To review draft tenancy agreement circulated by Cllr Wright**
The draft tenancy agreement was circulated prior to the meeting and discussed during the meeting and some amendments made. **Action – Cllr Wright is to send a copy for review and advice to the National Allotment Society.**
- 11.3 To advise of end of tenancy for current plot holder from end of September 2026**
Action - Speak to Les Waters and put note round that one plot is available now and then another in October.

12. Consultations

- 12.1 East West Rail – Spring Consultation 2026 – Final route-wide consultation from 14th April 26 - 9th June 26 – feedback form to be completed following collation of councillor comments**
It was agreed that comments have already been submitted, and no further comments are required.

13. Finance and Policy

- a. To accept account review to date and bank reconciliation**
RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) to accept the accounts and bank reconciliation (See Appendix 1).
- b. To advise of payments received between 1st May 2026 – 31st May 2026 – no payments received**
- c. Payments made between 1st May 2026 to 31st May 2026**
- i. Dry Drayton Village Hall – Hall Hire for 14th April 2026 - £27.00
 - ii. Pristine Windows – Bus Shelter cleaning on 30th April 2026 - £135.00
 - iii. CAPALC – Code of Conduct Training for 4 councillors - £180.00
 - iv. CAPALC – Finance Training for Cllr Aldersley - £35.00
 - v. Brookfield Groundcare – Grass Cut 2 of 10 - £360.00
 - vi. Staff Costs – Period 1 & 2 - £959.91
 - vii. HMRC – Staff Tax & NI for Period 2 - £74.25
 - viii. Dry Drayton Village Hall – Hall Hire for 9th June 2026 - £27.00
 - ix. VisionICT Ltd - Hosting & Support for website and emails - £427.61
 - x. Unity Trust Bank – Service Charge for April 2026 - £7.00
- d. Payments to hand and scheduled payments**
RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Houlihane, unanimous) that all payments to hand are paid. Councillors to authorise online payments.
- i. Brookfield Groundcare – Grass Cut 3 of 10 - £360.00 (26/06/26)
 - ii. LGS Services - £204.00

e. To receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2025/26

The Annual Internal Audit Report for 2025/26 was received and noted by the councillors, no actions were required.

f. To consider and approve the Year-end accounts for 2025/26

The Year-end accounts for 2025/26 were considered and approved (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous).

g. To consider, approve and sign The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the AGAR)

The Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26 (Section 1 of the AGAR) was presented and read to councillors by S Etherington-Meech. The assembled Council members answered accordingly and RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) that the Annual Governance Statement be approved. S Etherington-Meech (Responsible Financial Officer) and Cllr Aldersley (Chair) signed and dated the statement.

h. To consider, approve and sign the Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the AGAR)

The Accounting Statements for 2025/26 (Section 2 of the AGAR) were presented by S Etherington-Meech (Responsible Financial Officer). RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Pyle, 2nd Houlihan, unanimous) to approve the Accounting Statement for 2025/26. Cllr Aldersley (Chair) signed and dated The Accounting Statements

i. To review meeting dates up to the next Annual Parish Council Meeting in 2027

Meeting dates were reviewed and agreed and will be published on the parish council website.

14. To accept notices and matter for the next agenda

15. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7.00pm at Dry Drayton Village Hall

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

No items to be discussed that exclude the public and press

Meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed.....Chair

Date.....

Appendix 1

DRY DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL May 2026 Bank Reconciliation

	£
Unity Trust Current Account on 30 th April 2026	£1,997.82
Unity Trust Instant Access account 30 th April 2026	£75,179.06
Total:	£77,176.88
<u>Less</u> payments presented from 1 st May 2026 to 31 st May 2026 <i>9 online payments, 1 direct debit, 1 standing order, 1 bank fee</i>	£2,232.77
<u>Plus</u> , receipts presented from 1 st May 2026 to 31 st May 2026 <i>No receipts and no interest payments received</i>	£0.00
Closing Unity Trust Current account on 31 st May 2026	£2,265.05
Closing Unity Trust Savings account on 31 st May 2026	£72,679.06
Total:	£74,944.11
<u>Less outstanding payments not yet subtracted</u>	
Balance carried forward on 31st May 2026	£ 74,944.11
<u>Notes:</u> As of March 2026, outstanding Section 106 monies to be spent:	
Traffic Calming - £45,125.00 (held by Highways)	

Sarah Etherington-Meech

RFO

7th June 2026