

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Parrock View, 358 High Road, Newton-in-the-Isle, PE13 5HS

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Clerk: Dave Gibbs

To Members of the Public and Press

8 April 2026

You are invited to attend a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
to be held in Christchurch Community Centre
for the purpose of transacting the following business.

On Monday 13 April 2026 at 7.30pm

**Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council
at its Public Time from 7.35pm to 7.50pm**

Yours truly

Dave Gibbs

(Clerk/Proper Officer)

AGENDA

**Members are reminded that they need to declare any personal or prejudicial interest
and reason before an item discussed at this meeting, under the
Model Code of Conduct Order 2001 No 3576**

213/25-26 Apologies for Absence

To receive and consider apologies from those members not present

214/25-26 Chairman's Announcements

To receive such announcements as the Chairman may wish to make to the
Council

215/25-26 Public Time

To receive representations from members of the public regarding issues pertinent
to the Council

216/25-26 Confirmation of Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9 March

217/25-26 Matters Outstanding

- a) Fenland District Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- b) Public defibrillators
- c) Parking outside Townley School
- d) Overhanging vegetation
- e) Townley School heat pump
- f) Former Memorial Hall site
- g) Sewage treatment plant at The Croft

218/25-26 Police Report

To receive a report on policing matters in the area since the last meeting

219/25-26 County & District Councillors Reports

To receive reports from Cllrs Fisher, Galbraith, Roy and Summers

220/25-26 Clerk's Report

To receive a report on meetings attended and correspondence received

221/25-26 Members and Residents Issues

To consider any matters raised by Members of the Council and local residents

a) Music Festival funding

222/25-26 Recreation Ground

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting

223/25-26 Nature Park Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting

224/25-26 Village Centre Regeneration Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting

225/25-26 Clarion Garden Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting

226/25-26 Green Lane Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting

227/25-26 Highways

To finalise the arrangements for the public consultation on the 2025/26 Local Highway Improvements project for Wayside Estate

228/25-26 Finance

To consider and resolve on the following matters:

a) To receive an updated financial statement for the period to the end of March

b) To note the following sums received:

NatWest Bank (interest).....	£	18.24
Barclays Bank (interest).....	£	68.39

c) To approve the following payments:

Clerk salary and home office allowance.....	£	398.15
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd (play equipment repairs).....	£	1,830.36
CAPALC Ltd (subscription).....	£	455.99

d) To consider a draft of the 3-year plan

e) To consider submitting an application to the Whitemill Environment Fund

229/25-26 Annual Parish Meeting

To receive an update on arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting

230/25-26 Public Time

To receive comments and suggestions from members of the public

231/25-26 Matters for Next Meeting

To discuss future agenda items from Councillors

232/25-26 Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the Annual Meeting of the Council as Monday 11 May

CHRISTCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council held in the Community Centre on Monday 9 March 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs A Sparrow (Chairman), J Bliss, B Burfield, Cllr J Hayes, S Potter, Cllr D Roy (FDC)
D Gibbs (Clerk), two parishioners

191/25-26 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs R Feeney and J Hughes, Cllr S Fisher (CCC), Cllr M Summers (FDC)

192/25-26 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

193/25-26 Public Time

Two street lights not working were reported again. The Clerk will contact the District Council again.

194/25-26 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 February were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

195/25-26 Matters Outstanding

- a) Fenland District Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan - The Clerk has handed some background information on the Norfolk signal mapping project to Cllr Roy.
- b) Public defibrillators - Cllr Sparrow is awaiting confirmation regarding the defibrillator at Bridge Farm. The cabinet at the former Farmer's Boy needs to be removed to avoid confusion as it no longer contains a defibrillator. Cllr Sparrow will arrange removal. Cllr Sparrow has spoken to Mr Sutton who has confirmed that he will be able to provide a permanent location for a defibrillator as part of the new development in Padgetts Road.
- c) Parking outside Townley School - Awaiting the forthcoming consultation on the Wayside Estate Local Highway Improvement scheme.
- d) Overhanging vegetation - The majority of residents contacted have taken action to address concerns. A second letter will be delivered to the remaining properties.

196/25-26 Police Report

Nothing to report. PC Foster-Bentham has attended events at the Community Centre.

197/25-26 County & District Councillors Reports

Cllr Roy reminded Members about the Scoping Consultation and the Call for Sites for the new Local Plan. The Community Safety Partnership has launched a public survey. The Great British Spring Clean will take place from 13 to 29 March. A new committee has been established for the Whitemill Community Fund and a constitution agreed. The first meeting will take place in June.

198/25-26 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on correspondence received, including traffic orders for the

closures of Euximoor Drove from 6-9 April, Crown Road from 8-14 April, Wayside Estate from 13-16 April, The Hill from 15-17 April, and Poulterers Drove from 16-20 April. Adult cycle training sessions provided by the District Council, Cambridgeshire ACRE's Energy and Water for Community Buildings webinar, Annual Conference and Village Halls Week, an enquiry from E.ON regarding the sewage treatment plant in The Croft and an enquiry about demand for a mobile grocery van.

Members were unable to assist with the enquiry from E.ON and offered their support for the grocery van.

199/25-26 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Townley School air source heat pumps - The County Council is aware of the noise problem and is monitoring the noise levels. Members agreed to continue to apply pressure to implement an acceptable solution.
- b) Potholes on Upwell Road opposite Fen View and at the junction with Halfpenny Toll Road - The Clerk confirmed that the defects had been reported and were awaiting repair.
- c) Former Memorial Hall site - It appears that the site is to be sold at auction. The Clerk will clarify details.

200/25-26 Recreation Ground

The grass cutting season has started, with the first cut completed. An RSPCA clothing bank will be delivered to the car park shortly. Upwell Town Youth Football Club will be bringing a number of their junior teams to Christchurch.

201/25-26 Nature Park Project

Cllr Sparrow reported that there has been no progress on site as the contractor awaits more suitable weather.

202/25-26 Village Centre Regeneration Project

Cllr Sparrow circulated some 3D visuals based on the discussions of the working group to be used for the public consultation. It was agreed that these would be shared with residents at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk will discuss these with highway officers to seek informal feedback.

203/25-26 Clarion Garden Project

There has been no progress on the project. The Clerk will contact Clarion Housing Group to discuss the next steps.

204/25-26 Green Lane Project

Members discussed options for the delivery of the project. The Clerk advised them that there has been no contact with the Probation Service since December. Members agreed to progress the cutting back of the trees and other vegetation on the dyke side and asked the Clerk to issue tender documentation.

205/25-26 Village Skip

The Clerk reported that his conversations with skip companies had raised several issues that impacted upon the feasibility of the Skip Day. No local companies can offer delivery and collection at weekends, so the skip would need to be *in situ* for at least three days. The list of banned items is extensive and the Council would be responsible for the safe disposal of any banned material before the skip could be collected.

Members agreed that the planned day should not go ahead and that other options could be explored, including bringing one of the District Council's Rapid Response vans to the village for a day.

206/25-26 Highways

Local Highway Improvements 2025/26 - Wayside Estate - The Clerk circulated drawings showing several options for positioning the one-way signage. Members discussed the need for larger vehicles to access Townley School and agreed that one-way traffic from the junction of Crown Road and Crown Avenue to the junction of Wayside Estate and Upwell Road was the preferred option.

207/25-26 Finance

- a) The management accounts as at 28.2.26 showed income of £39,093.83 and expenditure of £21,900.98, resulting in a surplus of £17,192.85 and total funds held of £55,218.39.
- b) Members noted the following sums received since the last meeting:
- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| NatWest Bank (interest)..... | £ | 17.40 |
| HMRC (VAT refund)..... | £ | 3,275.04 |
- c) Members approved the following accounts for payment:
- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------|---|----------|
| Clerk salary and home office allowance..... | £ | 398.15 |
| Clerk expenses..... | £ | 197.52 |
| Nurture Landscapes Ltd (grass cutting)..... | £ | 2,626.81 |
| Cambridgeshire ACRE (subscription)..... | £ | 74.50 |
| CPRE (subscription)..... | £ | 36.00 |
- d) Members met to consider the format and content of a 3-year plan. The majority of the plan will involve the projects currently in progress. A draft document will be presented to the next meeting for discussion.

208/25-26 Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk confirmed that Lizzie Bruce from the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust will speak about the Welney Wetland Centre. Cllr Sparrow confirmed that Alison Waters had agreed to provide cakes and biscuits.

209/25-26 Policies and Procedures

Members reviewed the following policies and procedures and resolved to re-adopt them:

- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Homeworking Policy
- Expenses Policy

Members considered the following policy and resolved to adopt it:

- Website Accessibility Policy

210/25-26 Public Time

Church Road bollard - Cllr Sparrow confirmed that he has the damaged bollard. The Clerk will speak to highways regarding the repair.

211/25-26 Matters for Next Meeting

None.

212/25-26 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 13 April.

Agenda Item No.	220/25-26	Christchurch Parish Council
Meeting Date	13 April 2026	
Report Title	Clerk's Report	

1. Purpose of Report

To report on meetings attended and correspondence received.

2. Report

Meetings Attended

ACRE Community Buildings Conference - 17 March

Correspondence Received

Cambridgeshire County Council

Roadworks and events bulletins
Traffic order for closure of Crown Road 8-14 April
Traffic order for closure of Wayside Estate 13-16 April
Traffic order for closure of The Hill 15-17 April
Traffic order for closure of Poulter's Drove 16-20 April
Traffic order for closure of Sixteen Foot Bank 4-7 May
Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter
Close Pass Campaign re Highway Code rule 163
Flood Resilience webinar - 29 April

Fenland District Council

The Fenlander newsletter
Whitemill Environment Fund relaunch
Local Plan timetable
St George's Fayre - 26 April
Pride in Place Impact Fund play equipment funding
Wimblington & Stonea Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan consultation

NALC - Events update, Chief Executive's bulletin, legal bulletin

CAPALC - Bulletin, Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme oil grants

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority - Concessionary bus pass scheme

Cambridgeshire ACRE - Staying in Touch newsletter

Queen Elizabeth Hospital - Modernising our hospital newsletter

Anglian Water - Closure of Laddus Drove - 20 April to late June

PKF Littlejohn LLP - External audit instructions

3. Recommendations

Members note the report.

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Christchurch Parish Council - Receipts & Payments Summary as at 31.3.26

Income	Year to Date	Budget	%
FDC Precept	£ 22,200.00	£ 22,200.00	100.00
FDC Concurrent Functions Grant	£ 2,567.00	£ 2,567.00	100.00
Allotment Rents	£ -	£ -	0.00
Allotment Rates	£ -	£ -	0.00
Community Centre	£ -	£ -	0.00
Grants	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00	100.00
Donations	£ 140.00	£ -	#####
Recycling Credits	£ 292.97	£ -	#####
Bank Interest	£ 465.45	£ 450.00	103.43
VAT Refunds	£ 3,275.04	£ 3,275.04	100.00
Miscellaneous	£ 240.00	£ -	#####

Total Income £ 39,180.46 £ 38,492.04 101.79

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary	£ 5,780.95	£ 6,125.00	94.38
Fees	£ 522.00	£ 470.00	111.06
Subscriptions	£ 543.11	£ 590.00	92.05
Admin Expenses	£ 834.43	£ 350.00	238.40
Insurance	£ 2,421.76	£ 1,600.00	151.36
Drainage Rates	£ 107.47	£ 120.00	89.55
Recreation Ground	£ 4,331.56	£ 2,500.00	173.26
Nature Park	£ 1,580.56	£ 9,500.00	16.64
Village Centre	£ -	£ 3,000.00	0.00
Churchyard	£ 245.00	£ 745.00	32.89
Community Centre	£ 166.46	£ 2,000.00	8.32
Street Lights	£ 4,627.65	£ 5,800.00	79.79
Section 137 Payments	£ 1,305.00	£ 1,000.00	130.50
Highways	£ -	£ 4,000.00	0.00
Recoverable VAT	£ 2,236.34	£ 1,750.00	127.79
Tree Works	£ -	£ -	0.00
Miscellaneous	£ 532.97	£ -	#####

Total Expenditure £ 25,235.26 £ 39,550.00 63.81

Summary

Total Income	£ 39,180.46
LESS Total Expenditure	£ 25,235.26

Net Surplus or Deficit £ 13,945.20

Balance Sheet

Balance B/fwd	£ 38,025.54
Surplus or Deficit	£ 13,945.20

Balance C/fwd £ 51,970.74

Represented by

Barclays Community Account	£ 658.23
Barclays Business Premium Account	£ 27,084.56
NatWest Current Account	£ 604.58
NatWest Deposit Account	£ 23,623.37
Cash / Cheques	£ -

£ 51,970.74