



**Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
to be held on Monday 12 October 2026 at 7.30pm**

To Members of the Public and Press

7 October 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.

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

Dave Gibbs

Parish Clerk

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**

090/26-27 Apologies for Absence

To receive and consider apologies from those not present.

091/26-27 Chairman's Announcements

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

092/26-27 Public Time

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

093/26-27 Confirmation of Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14 September.

094/26-27 Matters Outstanding

- a) Parking outside Townley School
- b) Streetlight PC3 Crown Road
- c) Support Fenland survey
- d) Crown Drove signage
- e) Tiger T7 bus route
- f) Fly-tipped asbestos in Green Lane
- g) Christchurch History website
- h) Waste in Euximoor Drove

095/26-27 Police Report

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

096/26-27 County & District Councillors Reports

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

097/26-27 Clerk's Report

To receive a report on meetings attended and correspondence received.

098/26-27 Members and Residents Issues

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

- a) Withdrawal of local health services.
- b) Santa Run

099/26-27 Recreation Ground

To receive a report on matters relating to the Recreation Ground and play equipment.

100/26-27 Nature Park Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

101/26-27 Village Centre Regeneration Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

102/26-27 Clarion Garden Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

103/26-27 Green Lane Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

104/26-27 Highways

- a) To receive a report from Cllr Feeney on matters relating to the condition of the local roads network.
- b) To receive an update from the Clerk on the 2025/26 Local Highway Improvements project for Wayside Estate.
- c) To receive a report from the Clerk on the outcome of the 2026/27 Local Highway Improvements application for Crown Road.

105/26-27 Finance

To consider and resolve on the following matters:

- a) To receive an updated financial statement for the period to the end of September.
- b) To note the External Auditor's report and conclusion of audit.
- c) To note the following sums received:

Barclays Bank (interest).....	£	71.10
Fenland District Council (precept).....	£	16,100.00
NatWest Bank (interest).....	£	16.89

- d) To note the following sum paid by debit card:

Street Solutions Ltd (signs).....	£	164.92
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- e) To approve the following payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance	£	409.97
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106/26-27 Three-Year Plan

To confirm the date for the next meeting of the Projects Working Group.

107/26-27 Matters for Next Meeting

To discuss future agenda items from Councillors.

108/26-27 Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Council as Monday 9 November.



**Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
held in the Community Centre on Monday 14 September 2026 at 7.30pm**

Present Cllrs J Hughes (in the Chair), R Feeney, J Hayes, S Potter, Cllr D Roy (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), one parishioner

069/26-27 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs J Bliss, B Burfield, A Sparrow, Cllr S Fisher (CCC), Cllr C Galbraith (CCC), Cllr M Summers (FDC)

070/26-27 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman read a statement from Cllr Sparrow regarding damage to the traffic bollard at the junction of Church Road and Padgetts Lane. The damage was caused by a goods vehicle turning in the junction, but it is not clear where the vehicle came from or was going to. The damage has been reported to Cambridgeshire Highways in the usual way.

071/26-27 Public Time

No matters raised.

072/26-27 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on 13 July were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

073/26-27 Matters Outstanding

- a) Parking outside Townley School - No update.
- b) Streetlight PC3 Crown Road - The light is still not working.
- c) Support Fenland survey - Members discussed the final draft for the survey. The survey will be distributed online and on paper where required. It was agreed that completed forms could be returned to the Community Centre. Cllr Feeney will confirm whether the Dun Cow is also available as a drop-off point. The survey will be advertised on the Council's website, Facebook and notice boards.
- d) Crown Drove signage - The signs have been ordered.
- e) Tiger T7 to Manea Station - The future of the route is unclear.
- f) Fly-tipped asbestos in Green Lane - The Clerk has asked the District Council to investigate.

074/26-27 Police Report

The Clerk reported that there had been a spate of overnight thefts of cars with keyless ignition from owners' driveways. Two stolen cars have also been dumped and burned out in recent weeks.

075/26-27 County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Roy confirmed that the Government has delayed the decision on Local Government Reorganisation for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Normal district and parish elections will take place in May 2027. All District Councillors have been asked to attend a seminar on the new planning reforms announced by the Government. Anglian Water attended the Overview and Scrutiny Panel's recent meeting. Anglian Water are not a statutory consultee on planning applications, so the committee has made a recommendation to the Secretary of State that all water companies should become statutory consultees.

District Council members will be attending a bi-monthly meeting with the Fens Reservoir project team to monitor progress. The target date for the completion of the project is now around 2035. Recent reports highlight services being withdrawn from Doddington and North Cambridgeshire Hospitals and now the Queen Elizabeth Hospital as well. Residents are invited to attend a Healthwatch public meeting on 8 October at the Queen Mary Centre in Wisbech from 10.00 to 12.30 where they can pose questions to NHS representatives.

076/26-27 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on meetings attended and correspondence received, including meetings with Clarion Housing Group regarding the Upwell Road Garden project and with Cambridgeshire ACRE and Accent Housing regarding the affordable housing scheme. Correspondence included traffic orders for closures of Euximoor Drove from 22-29 September and the Ha'penny Toll Road from 23-30 September, both for highway repairs, another unspecified closure of Euximoor Drove for water main renewal, a County Council workshop on developing community flood plans, an invitation to the District Council Chairman's Charity Coffee Morning, the new food waste collection has started, CAPALC planning training on 5 or 28 October and Cambridgeshire ACRE's AGM on 7 October.

077/26-27 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Cllr Feeney expressed concern about the emerging plans for local healthcare provision. Members agreed to monitor announcements and to consider responding formally at the appropriate time.
- b) Cllr Hayes raised the issue of the lime trees on the south side of the Recreation Ground backing onto Wayside Estate, one of which is in close proximity to her home. Members agreed that the tree could be removed if a suitable replacement tree was planted.
- c) Cllr Hayes reported ongoing issues with tenants of a property in Crown Road, with the Police being called on at least one occasion.
- d) The Community Centre Management Committee has reported undulations appearing in the hall floor. Further investigation is required.
- e) Cllr Hughes reported that the Community Centre solar panels had not been registered under the feed-in tariff scheme. Registration is now in progress with Octopus Energy.
- f) A resident has asked about access to the information previously held on the Christchurch History website. Members discussed options for the creation of a new site.
- g) A resident has reported two waste tips in Euximoor Drove. The Clerk will investigate and endeavour to identify the site owners.

078/26-27 Recreation Ground

Cllr Hayes noted the improvements with the renovated equipment in the under 5s enclosure.

079/26-27 Nature Park Project

The Clerk reported that Cllr Sparrow had spoken to the contractor. The grass has germinated and become established. The contractor has offered to carry out the first cut. There is a significant quantity of inherited weed seed and further use of herbicides may be required.

080/26-27 Village Centre Project

Discussions with Highways are ongoing. The area is looking untidy with extensive weed growth.

081/26-27 Clarion Garden Project

Following the recent meeting to confirm the details of the project, Clarion Housing Group will prepare a simple lease agreement. Work may now commence on the site with no further consent required.

New fences and gates have been installed on either side of the bin sheds, but Clarion will investigate whether a public right of way exists between Nos 8 and 9.

082/26-27 Green Lane Project

Bollards to protect the verge have been made and will be installed once suitable locations have been agreed with residents. The Clerk is investigating land ownership with a view to installing a bench.

083/26-27 Planning

Members considered the following applications:

- a) F/YR26/0618/TRTPO - Works to 2 x Conifer trees covered by TPO 08/2001 - Rallingham Hall, Mumbys Drove, Three Holes

They resolved to offer no objection.

- b) F/YR26/0642/F - The siting 1 x mobile home for use as annex ancillary to existing dwelling - Hackney Cottage, Padgetts Road, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

- c) F/YR26/0655/F - Erect a porch to front and first-floor extension to side of existing dwelling - Kestrel, Crown Road, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

The Clerk advised Members that the application for the Dun Cow public house is still being assessed, with concerns expressed by the Tree Officer.

084/26-27 Highways

- a) Cllr Feeney reported that he will be attending the coroner's inquest into the death of his friend in a motor cycle accident.
- b) Wayside Estate Local Highway Improvement project 2025/26 - no update.

085/26-27 Finance

- a) The management accounts as at 31.8.26 showed income of £18,975.65 and expenditure of £17,753.65, resulting in a surplus of £1,222.00 and total funds held of £53,192.74.
- b) Members noted the 2026/27 Local Government pay settlement resulting in an increase of 3.26% in the Clerk's salary.
- c) Members approved the renewal of the Council's insurance policy due on 1 October.
- d) Members noted the following sum received since the last meeting:

NatWest Bank (interest).....	£ 37.22
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- e) Members noted the following sum paid by direct debit:

HMRC (tax and national insurance)	£ 334.64
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- f) Members ratified the following cheque issued since the last meeting:

C Hamilton (tree work).....	£ 725.00
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- g) Members approved the following payments:

Clerk salary and home office allowance (including backpay)	£ 867.22
Fenland District Council (street lighting).....	£ 3,668.22
CAS Insurance Services Ltd (insurance renewal).....	£ 2,611.60
Recreation Ground (room hire).....	£ 10.00

086/26-27 Consultations

- a) Fenland District Council - Dog Control Public Spaces Protection Order. Members considered the proposals and agreed that no response was required.
- b) Cambridgeshire County Council - Rights of Way Improvement Plan. Members were invited to submit their comments to the Clerk.

087/26-27 Three-Year Plan

The Projects Working Group has not met. A meeting will be arranged shortly.

088/26-27 Matters for Next Meeting

Hospitals and clinics.

089/26-27 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 12 October.

DRAFT



Love it ? Hate it? Shape it?

**What are the best things about Christchurch? What could be better?
Is there enough for you and your family to do?**

Support Fenland, is working in Christchurch to help deliver community projects which improve the lives of local people. These could be anything from new activities to events or ways you improve communication – anything! Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours to complete this survey by completing this questionnaire or by scanning the QR code. You may complete more than one per household. The bigger the response, the better chance we have to get things done.

As a thank you for completing the survey, if you wish, you will be entered into a draw to win one of two £25 vouchers to be spent either at The Dun Cow Public House or on Amazon – your choice. If you have any further comments or questions please contact Community Officer Sarah Hall on 07871 281 565 or email sarah@supportcambridgeshire.org.uk Please note : Data collected may be shared with Statutory Services

1. What are the **best things** about living in Christchurch?

2. What are your **biggest concerns** about living here?

3. Which words **describe Christchurch** – Please circle all that apply

Friendly Safe Fun Quiet Busy Noisy Dull Vibrant Rough
Clean Scruffy Scary Isolated Lonely Sociable Antisocial Relaxed Stuffy
Tolerant Narrow-minded Cliquey Diverse Disconnected Attractive Expensive

4. If your household are currently experiencing any **cost of living pressures**, please circle

Food and groceries	Energy and Utility Bills	Housing costs (rent/mortgage)
Debt or loan repayments	Childcare or caring costs	Council tax and other household bills
Digital access (phone/Internet)		Transport Costs

5. Which **Community events** and groups have you or your household attended in the last year in Christchurch? What did you think of them?

6. How has Christchurch **changed over the last 10 years?** (or since you have lived here)

7. Do you feel there is **enough going on** in Christchurch for you and your household? – Please circle

Yes

A fair amount

Not much

No

Don't know

8. How do you find out **what's going on** in Christchurch?

9. Are there any **new activities** you would like to see?

10. How would you like Christchurch to **improve in the future**, this could be new groups, new or improved buildings, events, clubs, facilities, transport

11. If you would like to be **more involved** in community events please could you give your name and contact details, so that we can contact you.

12. Is there **anything else** you would like to tell us?

If you are completing this form as a paper copy please return it by **13th November 2026** by placing it in the collection box either at The Dun Cow, PE14 9PG , or in the Community Centre, PE14 9LL

If you would like to enter into **the draw** please put your name and contact details below – if you put your details here, we will not contact you for any other reason. **Thank you for taking part.**

Agenda Item No.	097/26-27	 Christchurch Parish Council
Meeting Date	12 October 2026	
Report Title	Clerk's Report	

1. Purpose of Report

To report on correspondence received.

2. Report

Cambridgeshire County Council

Roadworks and events bulletins
Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter

Fenland District Council

Wisbech Street Drinking PSPO renewed
Food waste collection collects 44 tonnes in first week
Future of healthcare provision survey
Council opposes Government plans for 26-bed asylum accommodation in Leverington
Fenland awarded share of £10 million community food programme
Fenland Culture Fund launched
Criminal record and fine for fly-tipper
Travel buddies help residents to travel
Planning national scheme of delegation
Invitation to Community Carol Service

NALC - Events update, Chief Executive's bulletin

CAPALC - Legal bulletin

Support Fenland - Final survey

Cambridgeshire ACRE - Staying in Touch newsletter

Fens Reservoir - Project briefing

Chatteris Wind Farm - Notification

Wildlife Trust BCN - Apple and Harvest Fair

3. Recommendations

Members note the report.

Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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Fenland - LHI Non-Complex Prioritised list 2026/2027

Available Budget	£115,170.91
	Funding allocation
Non-complex	£40,000.00
Complex	£72,884.64
Total	£99,884.64

Scoring Key:

Green denotes applications prioritised for funding

Unallocated budget:	£2,286.27
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Parish	Population	Road Name / Location	Solution	£ Project Cost	£ Applicant contribution	% Applicant Contribution	£ CCC Contribution	£ Cumulative CCC Contribution	Moderated Score	Ranking
Tydd St Giles Parish Council	1268	Junction of Church Lane and Newgate Road in Tydd St Giles	Street lighting	£ 10,000.00	£ 1,000.00	10%	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00	20	1
Christchurch Parish Council	893	B1101 in Coldham	Street lighting	£ 10,000.00	£ 1,000.00	10%	£ 10,000.00	£ 20,000.00	18	2
Gorefield Parish Council	1167	Cattle Dyke	Buffer zone (40mph)	£ 10,000.00	£ 1,000.00	10%	£ 10,000.00	£ 30,000.00	15	3
Chatteris Town Council	11000	Wenny Road	Vehicle overrunning and parking	£ 13,000.00	£ 3,000.00	23%	£ 10,000.00	£ 40,000.00	14	4
Wimblington and Stonea Parish Council	Withdrawn due to already being a funded Road Safety project.									
				£ 43,000.00	£ 6,000.00		£ 40,000.00			

Christchurch Parish Council - Receipts & Payments Summary as at 30.9.26

Income	Year to Date		Budget	%
FDC Precept	£	32,200.00	£ 32,200.00	100.00
FDC Concurrent Functions Grant	£	2,567.00	£ 2,567.00	100.00
Community Centre	£	-	£ -	0.00
Grants	£	-	£ -	0.00
Donations	£	-	£ -	0.00
Recycling Credits	£	125.45	£ -	#####
Bank Interest	£	271.19	£ 400.00	67.80
VAT Refunds	£	-	£ 2,236.34	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	-	£ -	0.00
Total Income	£	35,163.64	£ 37,403.34	94.01

Expenditure				
Clerk's Salary	£	3,128.90	£ 6,300.00	49.67
Fees	£	269.00	£ 530.00	50.75
Subscriptions	£	455.99	£ 590.00	77.29
Admin Expenses	£	1,729.75	£ 1,400.00	123.55
Insurance	£	2,611.60	£ 2,450.00	106.60
Drainage Rates	£	108.27	£ 110.00	98.42
Recreation Ground	£	1,525.30	£ 2,690.00	56.70
Nature Park	£	8,270.00	£ 9,945.00	83.16
Village Centre	£	-	£ 5,000.00	0.00
Churchyard	£	-	£ 1,245.00	0.00
Community Centre	£	-	£ 2,000.00	0.00
Street Lights	£	3,056.85	£ 5,000.00	61.14
Section 137 Payments	£	-	£ -	0.00
Highways	£	862.43	£ 6,000.00	14.37
Recoverable VAT	£	2,934.92	£ 1,750.00	167.71
Tree Works	£	-	£ -	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	125.45	£ -	#####
Total Expenditure	£	25,078.46	£ 45,010.00	55.72

Summary

Total Income	£	35,163.64
LESS Total Expenditure	£	25,078.46
Net Surplus or Deficit	£	10,085.18

Balance Sheet

Balance B/fwd	£	51,970.74
Surplus or Deficit	£	10,085.18
Balance C/fwd	£	62,055.92

Represented by

Barclays Community Account	£	658.23
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	27,232.83
NatWest Current Account	£	16,618.57
NatWest Deposit Account	£	17,546.29
Cash / Cheques	£	-
	£	62,055.92

Section 3 – External Auditor’s Report and Certificate 2025/26

In respect of

Christchurch Parish Council – CA0054

1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2026; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

2 External auditor’s limited assurance opinion 2025/26

Except for the matters reported below, on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review:

- The smaller authority has confirmed that the response to Section 2, Box 11 is incorrect and should be ‘Yes’, as it is not a sole managing trustee.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

None

3 External auditor certificate 2025/26

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

External Auditor Name

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

External Auditor Signature

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

Date

22/09/2026

Christchurch Parish Council

Notice of conclusion of audit Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026

Sections 20(2) and 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014
Section 16 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

1. The audit of accounts for **Christchurch Parish Council** for the year ended 31 March 2026 has been completed and the accounts have been published.
2. The Annual Governance & Accountability Return including the auditor's certificate and opinion is available for inspection and copying by any local government elector of the area of **Christchurch Parish Council** on application to:

D A Gibbs (Clerk & RFO)
358 High Road
Newton-in-the-Isle
Wisbech
PE13 5HS

01945 870083
clerk@christchurchparishcouncil.org.uk

Monday - Friday
9.00 - 5.00

3. Copies will be provided to any local government elector of the area on payment of £ nil for each copy of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return.

Announcement made by: **D A Gibbs**

Date of announcement: 25 September 2026