

WEST WRATTING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to West Wrating Parish Council

Monday 12th January 2026

DRAFT MINUTES

Held on Monday 12th January 2026 in West Wrating Village Hall at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Cllr S Chandler (Chairman), Cllr Ryder, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. McKenna, Cllr. L Chandler, Cllr. O'Donovan.

Also Present: Cameron Biggs (Clerk), Cllr. Henry Batchelor

Members of the Public: 2

120126/1 Chairman's Welcome

120126/2 Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

120126/3 To receive declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary Interest

No interests were declared.

120126/4 Open forum for public participation

An update was received from the paths officer. It was noted that ploughing this year may have narrowed certain paths somewhat and this has been raised with the farmer.

120126/5 Minutes of previous meeting(s)

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025.

120126/6 Council Business

- (a) It was resolved to defer the co-option of applicants for the vacant councillor seat. An informal gathering will be organised prior to the March meeting when a meet and greet can be held.

Action for Clerk and Chair to arrange an informal meeting.

- (b) A discussion was held regarding budget planning for FY26/27.
(c) It was resolved to approve an earmarked reserve in FY26/27 of £10,000 from council funds, in addition to donations received.

Action for clerk to prepare statement of accounts for donations to Kingsway Legal Fund so far.

- (d) It was resolved to approve the precept request for FY26/27 at £14,729 (3%)
(e) It was resolved to sign the new version of the lease to D'Abo Tennis Club.
(f) An update was received from the clerk re. a donation to The Chestnut Tree pub for the purchase of an additional defibrillator.¹
(g) To discuss council communications
(i) It was resolved to move this to a private session at the end of the meeting.

120126/7 Finance

- (a) It was resolved to make payments as per the below

17/11/2025	Atkins Dellow (WWVH Title Transfer final payment)	£228.40
17/11/2025	Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Donation	£25.00
28/11/2025	Richard Buxton Solicitors	£15,243.80
28/11/2025	ICO (this is a duplicate payment which has since been returned)	£52.00

¹ awaiting quote from electrician for the phone box supply and provision of a free session and Defib training going into Challenge.

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28/11/2025	C Biggs Salary November less PAYE	£222.10
30/11/2025	Service Charge	£6.00
1/12/25	ICO DD	£47.00
29/12/25	C Biggs Salary December less PAYE	£222.50
29/12/25	Defib Warehouse	£113.94
29/12/25	William Knowelden Garden Services	£210.00
31/12/25	Service Charge	£6.00

(b) Monies received were noted as below

15/12/25	ICO Duplicate payment refund	£52.00
31/12/25	Interest on savings account	£419.32
02/01/2026	D'Abo Tennis Club lease payment	£25.00

(c) The summary of bank balances as at 2nd January 2026 was noted.

Current Account: £10,801.12

High Interest Account: £71,586.27

Total: £82,387.39

120126/8 Planning

- (a) An update was received from the Planning Committee
- (b) To receive planning application decisions and tree works as per the below, these will be discussed at a meeting of the planning committee.
 - (i) **Reference 25/04865/FUL** Change of use of residential annexe to holiday let accommodation, including minor external alterations and revised access arrangements.
Site address: 29 The Common West Wrating Cambridgeshire CB21 5LR
- (c) To consider planning applications received below.
 - (i) **Reference 26/0024/TTCA**
Proposal: T1 Ash. Cat 2/3 ash dieback. Armillaria sp on base. Within falling distance of property. Fell and remove
T2 Beech. Armillaria sp on base. Crown reduce upper canopy by up to 2m to reduce lever arm effect on rootball. Shape reduction into remaining canopy leaving tree approximately 20m in height.
T3. Horsechestnut. Crown raise lower limbs over drive by up to 2m to create clearance. Crown reduce SE aspect by up to 2m to increase clearance from property.
Site address: 61 High Street West Wrating Cambridgeshire
 - (ii) **Reference: 25/03400/HFUL (No comments from PC)**
Proposal: Installation of first floor side balcony and replacement of window with door.
Public Access Link:
<https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/03400/HFUL>
Site address: Valley Farm House Valley Farm Road West Wrating

120126/9 Kingsway Solar Farm

- (a) An update was received from the chair on the KSCA
 - (i) The legal steering committee will meet with Pippa Heylings MP imminently.

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It was resolved to move agenda point 120126/13 to this section of the meeting.

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120126/10 West Wratting Sports Pavilion Club

- (a) An update was received on progress from the SPC Committee in suggesting a new structure and legal entity.
 - (i) It was noted that the establishment of a CIC is now being investigated.
- (b) It was resolved to approve an event request at the recreation ground as below -
 - (i) Private member function on Saturday 21st February 2026 evening

Action for Clerk to inform Club secretary.

120126/11 Small assets

- (a) An update was received
 - (i) It was noted that the paediatric defibrillator pads have been replaced.
 - (ii) It was noted that there is an issue with the paint finish peeling from the top of the village pump, and a quotation will be sought for the repairs.

120126/12 Road safety, highways and footpaths

- (a) It was resolved to cease the PC contribution towards maintaining and operating the shared Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS).²

Action for clerk to inform Mr Hall.

- (b) An update from the working group was received and it was noted that Cllr. Batchelor will once again chase the county council on progress with the greatly delayed LHI grant.
- (c) An update was received on footpaths in the public section of the meeting.

120126/13 District & County Councillors' reports

- (a) The reports were received as above.

*It was resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press for discussions regarding agenda point **120126/6/g** because publicity might be prejudicial to the nature of the discussion.*

120126/14 Date of next meeting & matters for future consideration

- (a) The next meeting will be Monday 9th March at 7.30pm.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 21.55pm.

² We were recently asked by the person who has for some years been coordinating shared ownership of a Moveable (or Mobile) Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) whether West Wratting PC wanted to continue to contribute to that ownership and use the sign. The person (non-councillor) who leads our Road Safety and Highways working group and the Speedwatch team recommended that WWPC tells the organiser that we are no longer interested in using or part owning the shared sign. This decision needs to be ratified at the forthcoming PC meeting by a vote from councillors.

Here's the background to that recommendation.

The unit is old and has technical problems. The Bluetooth wireless link is unreliable and frustrating to use, requiring multiple "connect" sessions to complete a configuration. The application only runs on old versions of Windows (pre version 11 I think). Upgrade costs are high - too expensive for most villages. Most villages like ours now have their own signs, so interest in sharing has waned. Our own MVAS signs were chosen in part for their ease of use and excellent customer support. The Speedwatch team uses the village signs together with a portable sign supplied by the Police. The shared sign can only be used in one place - the 30mph at the beginning of the High Street. We could purchase a bracket to use at that location for the village signs.