



SYWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman Cllr John Amos

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Sywell Parish Council to be held on  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2026 at 7:30pm** at Sywell Village Hall,

**In attendance:** Cllrs John Amos (Chairman), Fiona Ingram, John Shenfield, Nanette Muttock,  
Philip Bletsoe-Brown, Paul, Groom  
Clerk: Maureen Holliday

**73/25 PUBLIC SESSION:** No Attendance

**74/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Vickie Jessop due to adverse weather conditions.

**75/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATION REQUESTS** – Councillors are reminded that if they have either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other interest in any of the agenda items then they should declare the interest and withdraw from the debate or meeting as appropriate. None

**76/25 RESOLVED TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025 and signed by the Chairman.

**77/25 NORTH NORTANTS COUNCILLOR** – Report from Cllr Vicki Jessop

**78/25 CHAIRMAN, CLERK and COUNCILLOR REPORT** on items not on the agenda (verbal).  
The Clerk reported that the road in Park Close has been resurfaced to the satisfaction of the residents.

**79/25 RESOURCES: Resolved** to approve the following (a to g) Documents circulated

- a) **Bank Balances at 3 Jan 2026:** Current Account: £ 5,000.00  
(Traffic Calming Funding) Reserve Account: £ 65,483.24
- b) **Income received since previous meeting:** Interest: 401.94
- c) **Receipts & Payments: Budget Summary, Bank Rec for year to 3 Jan 2026,** circulated
- d) **To approved payments made at and between meetings Appendix 1**
- e) **Council to set budget for 2026/27:** (2025/26 £37,412.00) Council agreed to increase the budget by £1870.6 being 5% of the budget for 2025/26. £39283 for 2026/27.
- f) **Council to set a precept for 2026/27: it was agreed to request a Precept** of £39283
- g) **Assertion 10:** Council reviewed its responsibilities in respect of the new Assertion 10 of the AGAR (Annual Gov. and Accountability Return) and confirmed that it is not a trustee of any Trust Funds.
- h) **Defibrillator:** Lifepak CR Plus due to be discontinued in Feb 2026. Council to discuss purchase of a new machine. Council have submitted a grant application to the British Heart Foundation but received confirmation that it may not be considered as it is for a replacement machine. Members agreed spending up to £1,374 on a new defibrillator and cabinet.

**80/25 PLANNING: Resolution** to agree responses and actions(a – d).

a) **New Applications:**

**25/01804/FUL 56 Overstone Road, Sywell, NN6 0AW:** Demolition of existing first floor accommodation and replacement with new first floor extension. Demolition of existing, conservatory and replacement with new ground floor extension **No Observations**

b) **Awaiting Decision:**

**25/01002/FUL Hayes Lodge Farm, The Farm and Livery, 167 Ecton Lane, Sywell,**  
Erection of Rural Workers Dwelling and Stables, hardstanding for access, parking and turning of vehicles and landscaping. The application was discussed in detail. **No Observations**

c) **Applications Decided:** None

d) **Other Planning Matters:**

**81/25 HIGHWAYS, MOWING AND MAINTENANCE: Resolved** to approve items (i to iv) further action or response.

- i) **Village Sign in Sywell Old Village:** Repairs/repainting of the village sign. A final quotation was provided for discussion on works and agreement. The total sum of £1,260 for labour at £800 and materials at £460. 50% payable in advance. Members resolved to accept the quotation of £1260. The works will be carried out over 3 months with completion by 31 March, 2026

- ii) **November Lengthsman Report from Peter Clayton.** For discussion and action.
- Up until to Christmas Week most of the outstanding Pothole and Drain issues had been answered.
  - One outstanding is a loose Manhole cover which rocks on Wellingborough Road. It is an Anglian Water responsibility and will not be resolved until AW obtain authorisation from NNC.
  - The Bus service has changed slightly with a morning service going from Overstone Leys at 09:05 instead of 09:50 which means if the 0750 from Kettering is on time there is a possible shop at Aldi for one hour instead of two.
  - The speed signs are working well, I have been changing the batteries every week. Usage depends upon the volume of traffic. I have changed the batteries today and they still have plenty of power after the holidays.
  - At peak times exiting and entering Stonelea Road is becoming an issue with blind spots & parking issues.
  - After the cold weather we can expect pothole and drain issues so expect I will be doing more reporting.
- iii) **Street lighting** Update on Street lighting repairs and replacements.  
Streetslight permanently on No 43 in Church Lane Sywell. 102 outside 6 Ecton Lane.  
The Clerk reported that both were reported to E.on in December but holidays will have delayed repair.  
**Replacement lamp post in Sywell Village: Mears Ashby Road.** This lamp is in the process of manufacture and scheduled for Delivery. Estimate - by the end of November. Scheduled to be installed in the first week of January 2026. The Clerk reported that E.on have attended on site to assess the mains installation, discussed and agreed the position with the adjacent homeowner. Power installation works should be carried out within 2 weeks, lamp installation to follow.
- iv) **Speed watch:** Parish Council to consider the purchase of a speed gun at £150 + batteries. To write a letter of confirmation to participate in Community Speed Watch for 2026.  
Cllr Groom explained there is a revised community speed watch programme for 2026. Instead of providing communities with a speed gun for four weeks, it is recommended that Council buy their own speed gun at a subsidised, one-off cost, of £150 direct from the Police. This allows the team to conduct roadside speed monitoring at any time throughout a full eight-month period without the need to return the equipment after one month. The equipment comes with 12-month warranty, no annual calibration. Council agreed to purchase the speed gun and provide a letter of support.

**82/25 ELLIOTT PARK: Resolution** to approve report to council. To be circulated.

- a) **Playground Maintenance Update.** Following the last meeting Cllr Bletsoe-Brown met with the Clerk and Paul Thomas (Lengthsman) to discuss possible solutions to divert/prevent the flow of water from the nearby ditch through the play area and sand pit causing flooding. Council agreed to the recommendation of using rubber drainage matting to provide a base underneath each play equipment seat in the play area which will allow water to drain through. Lengthsman to source and fit the drainage matting.
- b) **Sandpit:** Flooding. The play sand is retaining water; builders sand is unsuitable as a base. Mixing in sharp sand with play sand is a recognised solution for improved drainage. Council agreed to the suggestion of using the rubber drainage matting along with applying and combining sharp sand with the play sand. The Lengthsman requested that 3 x 1tonne bags sand be delivered to the basketball area.
- c) **Additional litter bin).** Council agreed to the purchase of a further litter bin at Elliott Park.  
**Action:** Clerk to order 3 x 1tonne bags of sharp sand and order the litter bin.

**83/25 TRAINING and Advice Sessions: Requests to be submitted. None**

**84/25 URGENT MATTERS FOR REPORT ONLY** Resignation of Cllr Fiona Ingram  
(Notified to the Chairman before the meeting) Cllr Amos reported that Cllr Ingram had resigned due to moving away from Sywell. Clerk to inform North Northants Council.

**85/25 DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING – 12 March 2026 7:30pm, Village Hall, Sywell**

Chairman

Date : 12 March 2026

**Future meetings :** 2026: 14 May, 9 July, 10 Sept, 12 Nov

**Appendix 1: Payments and Direct Debits since last meeting**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>VAT</u>
05-Nov-25	NORTHANTS CALC	4871, 4092	83	-246.00	-41.00
06-Nov-25	TOMATO ENERGY	13263799460	84	-21.45	-1.02
24-Nov-25	ICO	ZA150963	86	-47.00	
24-Nov-25	GIGACLEAR PLC	C301522	87	-36.00	-6.00
24-Nov-25	E.ON	18265921 601881057	88	-942.60	-39.60
25-Nov-25	Cloudy Group Ltd	630 TRAINING	89	-48.00	-8.00
25-Nov-25	BLETSONE-BROWN LTD	5585	90	-185.40	-30.90
30-Nov-25	Service Charge		92	-6.00	
02-Dec-25	GOCARDLESS/Securifire	1963 CCTV	93	-31.86	-5.31
04-Dec-25	RBL Brixworth	Donation Sywell	94	-150.00	
04-Dec-25	Autela Payroll Services	Payroll Services	95	-87.00	-14.50
04-Dec-25	Paul Thomas	Elliott Materials	96	-79.00	
04-Dec-25	Paul Thomas	Elliott Oct Sept	97	-374.14	
19-Dec-25	Minuteman	Signs 54581	98	-105.60	-17.60
19-Dec-25	Office Needs Direct	Bin Fixings	100	-72.54	-12.09
19-Dec-25	E.ON	6018809614	101	-73.80	-12.30
19-Dec-25	Sywell & (O)	Mowing	102	-360.00	
19-Dec-25	Valeria Medici Direct Debit (GIGACLEAR PLC)	Sign Refurb Sywell	103	-630.00	
23-Dec-25		C301522	104	-36.00	-6.00
31-Dec-25	Service Charge		106	-6.00	
03-Jan-26	GOCARDLESS/Securifire	CCTV	107	-31.86	-5.31
				<b>-703.86</b>	<b>-11.31</b>