# WISTOW PARISH COUNCIL

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| **MEETING:** | Parish Council Meeting |
| **DATE:** | Tuesday 13th October 2026 |
| **TIME:** | 19:30pm |
| **VENUE:** | Wistow Village Hall, Manor Street, Wistow, Cambs, PE28 2QB (w3w ///passages.surpasses.skate) |
| **MEMBERS PRESENT:** | 6 – Cllr Simms (Chairman), Cllr Cook (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Rice, Cllr Forster, Cllr Pizzie & Cllr Newton. |
| **MEMBERS ABSENT:** | 1 – Cllr Gregory |
| **STAFF PRESENT:** | 1 – Jess Knights, PSLCC – Clerk & RFO |
| **AUTHORITIES PRESENT:** | 1 – District Cllr McIlwain |
| **PUBLIC PRESENT:** | 1 |

## MINUTES

**10/26.01** **WELCOME AND TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The meeting was officially declared open at 7:30pm by the Chairman, Cllr Simms.

**RESOLVED:** No apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gregory and his absence was therefore not approved.

**10/26.02** **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**RESOLVED:** No declarations of interests were received.

**10/26.03** **TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** All approved the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8th September 2026 as a true and accurate record. The minutes were officially signed by the Chairman.

**10/26.04** **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Open: 7:32 pm

**Public 1** explained the background to Wistow Allotments to help the Council when considering any allotment rent increase.



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**RESOLVED:** As there were no further members of the public who wished to speak, the public forum was closed at 7:41pm.

**10/26.05 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

District Cllr Lowe's Report (Appendix 1)

District Cllr McIlwain:

- If the Council are objecting to any planning applications, the Council must attend DMC to make representations.
- District Council meetings are lengthily at present.
- Confirmed he will discuss with County Cllr Martin on next steps regarding unsuccessful LHI bid for 20mph speed limit and road narrowing.

**10/26.06 BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED**
**COUNCIL OPERATIONS**

a) To consider and approve updated Data Protection Policy.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the Policy.

b) To consider and approve updated Publication Scheme & Schedule.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the Scheme & Schedule.

c) To consider and approve updated Training & Development Policy.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the Policy.

d) To consider and approve Reserves Policy.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the Policy.

e) To consider and approve updated Social Media & Communications Policy.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the Policy.

f) To consider and approve next steps on the National Emergency Briefing.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed for Cllr Newton to contact the Three Horse Shoes' Pub to enquire if they would be willing to host the National Emergency Briefing to hopefully increase attendees.

**10/26.07 FINANCIAL**

a) To consider, approve and sign payment list. All invoices have been examined, verified and certified by the RFO prior to submission.
**RESOLVED:** All approved the payment list and invoices which were duly signed by two authorised signatories, Cllr Cook and Cllr Pizzie.

b) To consider, approve and sign bank reconciliation, cash book and summary budget comparison. All financial reports have been verified and certified by the RFO prior to submission.
**RESOLVED:** All approved the documents which were duly signed by the Chairman.

c) To consider version 1 of the 2027-2028 budget calculation prepared by the RFO.



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**RESOLVED:** All agreed to approve the 2027-2028 budget of £34,860.00. The increase of £17.89 per year for Band D (14%) is due to an increase in training, asset replacements and increase to reserves.

d) To consider version 1 of the 2027-2028 precept calculation.
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to approve the 2027-2028 precept of £34,860.00. The band D rate will be £145.67 per year based on the 26-27 tax base pending confirmation from the Chair of Corporate Governance Committee & Section 151 Officer meeting of Huntingdonshire District Council on 17th December 2026.

**10/26.08 AMENITIES & HIGHWAYS**

a) To consider and approve purchase of poppy wreath (report enclosed).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the purchase of the poppy wreath of £26 inclusive.

b) To consider and approve annual allotment increase (report enclosed).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to defer this item to the next agenda pending further information received.

**10/26.09 PLANNING & CONSULTATIONS**

To review and resolve the following applications:

a) HDC's Habitat Regulation Assessment (Reg 19).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the plan.

b) HDC's Pre-submission Local Plan (Reg 19).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the plan.

c) HDC's Sustainability Appraisal (Reg 19).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the plan.

d) Barn Mead Church Street Wistow (ref 26/01741/HHFUL).
**RESOLVED:** All agreed to the approval of the planning application as there are no material considerations applicable.

**10/26.10 CLERK'S REPORT**

**RESOLVED:** All reviewed and accepted the report.

**10/26.11 MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

1. Grant funding application – MAGPAS.
2. Allotment rent.
3. Oaklands playing field – gate repair.

**10/26.12 DATE OF NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

Tuesday 10th November 2026 in Wistow Village Hall, Manor Street, Wistow, Cambs, PE28 2QB at 7.30pm.

**CLOSED: 20:22PM**

**Appendix 1 - District Report - October 2026**

**CAPALC's conference 2026**
It was a real shame there was only ONE representative from all the Councils in Warboys Ward at the Leading Local Change Conference this year.

As Members of CAPALC this is THE meeting to attend and there were many useful topics discussed – including legal updates form NALC and a well-received discussion from Alistair Jones (current tutor with the SLCC on Community Governance courses and MA Leadership, Former Professor at De Montfort University, University Teacher Fellow) on Parish and Town Councils: do they have a future?

Other topics included an update from CPCA Mayor Paul Bristow, Changes in Neighbourhood Planning, Employment Law, and Community Projects – what's happening in Haddenham. Plus all the stalls, which I know the Warboys Environment Group would have found very useful.

**Best Start Family Hubs** launched at Huntingdon Child and Family Centre – where parents, carers, children and young people can access support in one place.

**Cambridge Children' Hospital** www.cambridgechildrens.org.uk/fundraising/
Specialist care addressing rising complexity in children's health needs and reducing the £60m currently spent each year on out-of-area treatment. Fundraising has now reached just over half of the £100m target.

**Crisis & Resilience Fund: Key Info for Parish & Town Councils**
This funding enables districts to support residents facing financial hardship in ways that reflect local priorities and build on what already works well in their communities and will reduce immediate financial pressures and improve access to essential support.

Keep an eye out for district-run initiatives that support residents in hardship — including advice services, outreach activity, community-based financial resilience projects, or targeted support for vulnerable groups. These programmes complement existing parish-level work and align with the Cambridgeshire Poverty Strategy Commission's principle of empowering local areas to respond to their own needs.

**Remembrance Day.** Please share details on Remembrance Day Services with Tommy Kelly - our Armed Forces Covenant Partnership Coordinator.

**Finally… TRAINING**
Training is vital for all Councillors and Clerks (including refresher), and as Members of CAPALC you have access to discounted courses with NALC, Breakthrough Communication, The Parkinson Partnership (finances) and numerous eLearning courses. See the website for more information