Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Knaith Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 12th January 2026 @ 6.30pm

Present: Councillor D. Belton (Chairman)
Councillor A. Coulson
Councillor S. Ryves
District Councillor E. Bailey
Mrs E. Coulson (Clerk)

Public Time

District Councillor Bailey – A Tree had fallen over the road on Station road on the first bend on the way to Knaith. This was cleared by members of the public from a nearby house. Would the Parish Council consider sending a gentle letter to the landowner. Explain the incident and ask if they can have the trees checked on the boundary of the woods to try and avoid any further trees falling across the road. The Councillors agreed to contact the landowner, letter to be drafted. ***Action EC***

A parishioner in attendance raised a concern with regards the minutes of 7th August 2025 where said parishioners name and address were published within the minutes. The Clerk addressed the parishioner and apologised that this occurred and that lessons have been learnt from this incident. The resident accepted the apology. They did say that they had not decided if they were going to take the matter any further as they currently have an ongoing complaint submitted with WLDC. The Clerk has been made aware of the complaint by WLDC.
The parishioner also raised concerns about what they believed to be inaccuracies in the minutes in particular the part in the minutes which stated 'However, any disputes over land ownership is an issue between the resident and Highways'. Councillor Coulson confirmed that this was himself who made this comment and that the comment was correct. The parishioner asked the Clerk if she has had formal training in minute taking. The Clerk confirmed that minutes are not a word for word document, but they are a summary of the facts, discussions, outcomes and relevant points. The Clerk also confirmed she has had formal training and has been taking minutes for many years in a professional capacity.
Councillor Coulson acknowledged that lessons have been learnt with regards to names and addresses being published but also clarified that the Clerk produces the minutes and they are subsequently approved by the Council members prior to release to the public.
The parishioner was advised that if they believe there are any inaccuracies with regards the minutes, they should contact the Parish Council.
The parishioner left the meeting at this point.

1/01/26. Apologies for absence

Councillor Bowdler and Morphet both sent apologies. Apologies Accepted.

2/01/26. To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to receive any applications for Dispensation. Members may make declarations at this point but also make them at any point during the meeting.

None Received.

3/01/26. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 10th November 2025

The minutes have been circulated, and it was proposed by Councillor Coulson that they are a true record, which was seconded by Councillor Ryves, and ***resolved*** to sign as a true record.

4/01/26. Clerk's report on Outstanding Matters

Defibrillator

External sign given to Village Hall.

Planning

WL/2025/01223 – Timber Ridge - Planning application for proposed rear extension.
Email from WLDC circulated to Councillors.

Correspondence Actions

- Sports facility survey – Contact Village Hall Committee as this survey is regarding the Village Hall. Emailed Village Hall contact to double check it was okay to pass on his details (which he did) and then subsequently Will Stewart | Research Consultant @ Knight, Kavanagh & Page Ltd who sent the original email confirming whom to contact.
- Martyn's Law – Emailed Village Hall Contact, 'Further to last night's Parish Council meeting, I have been asked by the Councillors to email you with regards Martyn's Law.
  We were contacted by LALC with regards this new Law that has come in 'Martyn's Law' The law was given royal assent on 3 April 2025, meaning Town and Parish Councils should start considering how it might apply to their community spaces.
  The below link explains it in more detail.
  Clear Councils: Understanding Martyn's Law
  I don't know if this applies to the Village Hall or not, but the Parish Council thought it be best just to provide you with the information, we were given from LALC.
  Any queries, please let me know.'

Precept Estimate Submitted 15.11.25

5/01/26. Correspondence

- General Correspondence – List circulated.
- To Complete:
  a. Lincolnshire CC Budget 26-27 consultation. By 27.01.26
  b. Rural Support Network: Delivering The Rural Voice. Questionnaire to be completed by 20.01.26. District Councillor Bailey – This is an important one to complete as rural funding is being cut. As the difficulties that rural areas are facing are not being recognised.

6/01/26. Financial Matters

a. Financial Statement – With payments totalling £717.90 and receipts totalling £1,458.65 it was ***resolved*** that the Chairman would sign the statement for the record.
b. Final Precept/Budget Consideration – The budget has been circulated, and it was proposed by Councillor Coulson that the Final Precept should be kept at a level which does not inflict an increase to the Parish this was seconded by Councillor Ryves with Councillor Belton in agreement. The Clerk will submit the Final Precept to WLDC. ***Action EC***

7/01/26. Solar Farms.
Nothing further to report with regards the local solar projects.
The Clerk will update the website with any updates received. ***Action EC***
District Councillor Bailey asked for feedback from the meeting as she is part of a Community Benefit Fund Strategy. ***Action SB***

8/01/26. Speed Initiatives
Councillor Coulson – I was notified that one of the solar panelled indicators is not working. The status of the machine has been checked and instructions followed to try and resolve the issue, but nothing has worked. Elan City has been contacted, and they have suggested another option which I will try later in the week. They are still under warranty.
Unfortunately, some data was lost as it was not understood that once the data has been downloaded its deleted.
Also, he did contact the police who confirmed they would not use the data collected which is a real disappointment.
District Councillor Bailey – Lea is looking to purchase the same indicators, could Councillor Coulson keep her updated so she can update Lea please. Councillor Coulson agreed. ***Action AC***
Councillor Belton – They Parish speed gun is currently with Upton; I will retrieve this back. ***Action DB***
In addition to the above, a parishioner, who could not attend, would like thew following raising:

a. The speed camera by the village hall is not working – already been discussed/actioned- see above.
b. The mobile speed indicator that it currently sitting at the bridge end if Gainsborough has been out of action for months but in the newsletter, it was stated that this would move between Upton Road

and Station Road. The Parish Council admit this has not been done as per the newsletter and an update from Councillor Bowdler will be sort to see where we are at with this action. ***Action SB***

9/01/26. Neighbourhood Plan

Rolling Agenda Item.

District Councillor Bailey advised that National Planning Policy Frameworks are currently being re-written so it may be worth considering this for other reasons other than the Solar Projects. ***Action March 26 Agenda.***

10/01/26. Councillor Vacancies

The Parish Council currently has 2 vacancies.

Councillor Coulson attended a Councillor Induction/Refresher course which was held by LALC via Zoom. Councillor Ryves asked if he would recommend this, which he said he would as he found it very informative. Councillor Ryves expressed an interest in attending this course also, the Clerk will forward on details of available dates. ***Action EC***

Councillor Belton – Is this a course that all councillors would benefit from? District Councillor Bailey and Councillor Coulson agreed that it would be. It was proposed that the Clerk check the pricing of the course against the annual training cost that LALC offer. ***Action EC***

11/01/26. Village Newsletter

Councillor Ryves has kindly agreed to continue with the Parish Newsletter. She is going to contact the newly opened Stag's Head Pub to see if they would like to be included. The Clerk will forward template and any information on to Councillor Ryves for inclusion. ***Action EC & SR***

12/01/26. Items of information to be noted and if necessary, dealt with at the next meeting.

1. Proposed dates for future meetings:
    a. 09.03.26
    b. 11.05.26 – AGM/Bi-Monthly and Annual Parish Meetings
    c. 13.07.26
    d. 14.09.26
    e. 09.11.26

13/01/26. Date for next meeting

A date was set for the next Bi-Monthly meeting, 9th March 2026 @ 6.30pm

With all business concluded the meeting closed at 7.56pm.

Signed ……. Dated ……