DRAFT

Minutes of the Bi-Monthly Meeting of Knaith Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Monday 9t November 2026 @ 6.30pm

Present: Councillor D. Belton (Chairman)
Councillor A. Morphet
Councillor A. Coulson
Councillor S. Ryves
Councillor R. Cawkwell
Councillor L. Kent
Mrs E. Coulson (Clerk)

01/11/26. Co-Option of Parish Councillors

Following a proposal by Councillor Belton with all current councillors in favour, it was ***resolved*** that Mrs Rebecca Cawkwell be co-opted to the Parish Council.
Following a proposal by Councillor Belton with all current councillors in favour, it was ***resolved*** that Mrs Liza Kent be co-opted to the Parish Council.
Both signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office.
The Clerk informed them that they must complete and return their Register of Interests form within 28 days.
The Chairman welcomed them both onto the Council.

Public Time

1. Councillor Ryves – Received a request with regards the Parish Council setting up a WhatsApp Channel. Councillor Ryves has researched this and the key points are:

- One way traffic – Admin post updates to followers, while followers cannot reply or message admin directly.
- Follower lists and phone numbers are hidden from other followers.
- Admin cannot see followers' phone numbers or full profiles.
- Once set up it will create a QR code for people to scan so they can follow. This can be included in the next Newsletter.
- Would be ideal as most people have WhatsApp and it is an effective way for residents to engage and keep up to date with events etc.

The Channel could show:

- Updates
- Reminders of upcoming meetings
- Polls
- Events

It was proposed by Councillor Morphet that this be created as a Community WhatsApp Channel and trialled for 3 months, to be reviewed in the meeting proposed 8th March 2027. This was seconded by Councillor Coulson.
Councillor Ryves to set the channel up and add The Clerk as admin. ***Action SR***
Clerk to draft a privacy policy with regards the channel and distribute for approval before the channel goes live. ***Action EC***

2. A resident in Knaith contacted the Clerk with regards the verges outside of there property. They were concerned:

- The grass verge directly outside there house requires mowing which fills their green bin.
- They feel the position of the verge on the corner can be dangerous when vehicles come round the corner.
- The verge/bushes on the A156 are overgrown and requires cutting.

The resident questioned how the Parish precept is spent. The Clerk informed them that there is no budget in the precept for verge cutting within the parish and that other parishes pay extra in their precept for the county council to cut the verges.
The council discussed the residents' concerns, and it was proposed that Councillor Morphet visit the resident and a formal response from the Chairman be issued. ***Action TM, DB and EC.***

2/11/26. Apologies for absence
Councillor Bowdler and District Councillor Bailey both sent apologies which were accepted.

3/11/26. 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.

4/11/26. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting on 14th September 2026
The minutes have been circulated, with a slight amendment to Agenda Item 04/09/26 – Salt Bag. 'Will' change to 'Mr Stanser'. It was then proposed by Councillor Ryves that they are a true record, which was seconded by Councillor Morphet, and ***resolved*** to sign as a true record.

5/11/26. Clerk's report on Outstanding Matters

Question from Parishioner
A Parishioner who resides in Heynings Close emailed me as follows:

"I am emailing with regards to the play park consultation. It doesn't say anywhere on the information about where this proposed playground would be. You may not be able to answer that at this stage. We are very concerned that it may be on the land right next to our house which we would be very much opposed this. "

I emailed the resident and assured them that the land in Heynings Close has been ruled as not suitable for any proposed play park, as discussed and agreed at the Meeting 6th July 2026.

6/11/26. Correspondence

- General Correspondence – List circulated.

To be noted

a. The Clerk will request a Revised Electoral Register 2026-27. ***Action EC***
b. District Councillor Bailey - Blue plaque - Festival of Memory.

7/11//26. Financial Matters

1. Financial Statement – With payments totalling £1,447.64 and £0 in receipts it was ***resolved*** that the Chairman would sign the statement for the record.
2. Precept/Budget Consideration.
   Declaration of Interest
   Councillor Belton declared an interest as he cuts the grass on the footpath and the grass cutting of Parish land in Heynings Close is done by his Brother-In-Law. He will not be part of the discussions with regards these payments.

   The budget and Precept estimate have been circulated.

   It was proposed by Councillor Morphet that the grants and Grass Cutting payments be increased by 5% (rounded) for the year April 27 to March 28. This was agreed by all councillors' present (excluding Cllr. Belton) ***Resolved*** to be increased.

   They are as follows:

Grant/Annual Cost	**26-27**	**27-28**
Village Hall (Local Government Act 1972, s.133)	660.00	700.00
Citizens Advice (Section 137)	77.00	80.00
St Mary's Church (LGA 1894 / Levelling-up and Regeneration Act 2023	214.50	225.00
Grass Cutting – Footpath 513	99	105.00
Grass Cutting – Heynings Close	127.6	135.00
Total	1,178.10	1,245.00

Councillor Coulson – The speed indicator Warranty runs out at the beginning of next year. A yearly charge of £90 is payable per indicator if we wish to continue to access the support service. It was proposed by Councillor Coulson that these costs be included in the budget/precept. This was agreed by all councillors present. ***Resolved*** to be added.
The Clerk will amend the Precept and submit the Estimate to WLDC. ***Action EC***

On a sidenote, Councillor Coulson questioned whether the Council has visibility of the COSHH certificates for the weed killing that is done in Heynings Court and Close.
Councillor Coulson to contact WLDC to obtain information so the Parish Council can complete its due diligence regarding COSHH. ***Action AC***

8/11/26. Solar Farms
An Invitation to Participate in the Multi-Solar Project Community Liaison Group was received by the Clerk and circulated to Councillors.
As previously agreed, the Parish Council proposed Councillors Bowdler and Morphet to represent the Parish Council in this group.
Councillor Morphet proposed that we clarify the following points:

1. Can two names be accepted to represent the Parish Council
2. Can two councillors attend the meeting proposed on 13th January 2027.

The Clerk will email for clarification. ***Action EC***

9/11/26. Speed Initiatives
Solar Speed Indicators
Councillor Coulson – Speed Data for the bridge indicator has been circulated and shows a further reduction in speeding with only 0.5% of vehicles speeding.
Councillor Belton – The Village Hall Indicator has stopped working again after being re-installed only 3 weeks ago. This time the whole unit, solar panel and batteries have been removed and await collection from Elan City so they can investigate the fault.
It was the view of the Parish Council that either they extend the warranty until the issues are resolved or supply a new unit with a new two-year warranty.
The Clerk will draft an email highlighting issues and requesting the above. ***Action DB & EC***
Councillor Coulson – drafted a guide on how to use the indicator and download the information for Lea Parish Council.

A156 Bends - Knaith
District Councillor Bailey – Requested that a vehicle activated flashing warning sign be placed on the bends of the A156. Which would provide a visible reminder to approaching motorists to check and reduce their speed due to the potential dangers around the bend (vehicles turning and pedestrians crossing). It would be a relatively straightforward measure that could help improve driver awareness, support safer access for residents to the unmarked bus stop and make pedestrians feel more confident crossing the road.
This has been logged by Lincolnshire County Council, and an assessment will be carried out.
Noted that Councillor Bailey has been fighting for road safety on the bends of the A156 in Knaith for many years and thank her for her continued efforts.

10/11/26. Neighbourhood Plan
Councillor Morphet - Community meeting was held 29th November 2026, with three residents in attendance.
The highlights are:

- The cost was discussed, no funding available at the moment.
- We have very little influence at present due to the NSIPs in our Parish.
- Only 3% of the Parish attended, this is not enough to move this project forward.

On hold now and we will monitor it going forward. Rolling Agenda Item.

11/11/26. Planning
WL/2026/00804 - Planning application for proposed change of use of part of ground floor to extend the permitted part-time public house.
Support from the Parish Council was submitted.
Permission granted 23.10.26

12/11/26. Play Park

Councillor Ryves – Had 17 residents return the Play Park Questionnaires

14	Yes
2	Unsure
1	No

Will now arrange for a couple of companies to visit for ideas and to quote. ***Action SR***

Check the owner of the strip of land that runs down the side of the village hall. Clerk to obtain Title Deeds from Land Registry. ***Action EC***

13/11/26. Village Newsletter

Councillor Ryves has kindly agreed to produce a Winter newsletter.
In addition to the regular updates, this will include

- Community WhatsApp Channel
- Christmas Dinner at the pub. Confirm by 01.12.26
- Community Meeting – Neighbourhood Plan
- Play Park Update
- Historical Society – To Start Jan 27.
- Police Contact No's.
- Introduction of the Household Waste Booking System

14/11/26. Items of information to be noted and if necessary, dealt with at the next meeting.

None.

15/11/26. Date for next meeting

A date was set for the next Bi-Monthly meeting 18th January 2027 @ 6.30pm.

With all business concluded the meeting closed at 8.17pm

Signed ……. Dated ……