

RUSHTON PARISH COUNCIL

1 Chapel Lane,
Rushton,
Kettering,
NN14 1RF



Clerk: Meg Ellis Phone: 07949448871
Email: clerk@rushtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.rushtonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: Rushton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 19th November 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Peter Hooton (Chair), Mike Brightman (Vice Chair), Joy Brightman, Sandy Cruickshank, Yvonne Turner, Peter Palmer, Bill Parker, and Mike Silverstone.

In attendance: Megan Ellis (Clerk/RFO)

59/25	Apologies Apologies received from RPC Councillors Abraham, Smith and NNC Councillors Jim Hakewill and Brian Benneyworth.
60/25	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.
61/25	Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2025 The minutes of the meeting dated 17.09.2025 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
62/25	Local Issues Updates a) Police: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There has been one crime reported within the Parish since Septembers' meeting which was marked as criminal damage.• The Police do not currently have the resources to undertake sporadic school parking checks due to major incidents that have occurred in Kettering and Northampton.• James Vickery is leaving his role in December, and his replacement will start in February. James is going to pass over the Clerk details to the new Officer.• Cllr Parker to question the position of the Desborough Road speed van with our Police rep Brandon Scott. Action: Cllr Parker a) Mick George Landfill/Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr J Brightman contacted Greg from the EA. He was happy with the running of the site and had nothing to report to RPC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr J Brightman spoke with Stephen about the considerable amounts of litter along Oakley Road. The next day, Stephen had arranged for 2 litter pickers to collect the rubbish. Cllr J Brightman thanked them both. <p>a) Speed Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data has recently been pulled from the cameras. • Councillors are happy with the new positioning of the speed camera opposite the Thornhill Arms and are also happy with the 20MPH set speed.
63/25	<p>Public Open Forum None.</p>
64/25	<p>NNC Councillor Updates None.</p>
65/25	<p>Finance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The accounts for the Parish Council and Community Minibus YTD will be circulated to Cllrs before the next meeting ACTION: Clerk Payments listed in the payment schedule were reviewed in the meeting and approved. Permission for additional expenditure before Novembers' meeting (reflected by pre-agreed cost schedule) was approved. 1 additional payment was approved in the meeting: Underspend of grant from NCF for the bus shelter - £1,290.95. The closing October bank balances agreed in the meeting and reviewed before the meeting: RPC account - £21,596.21 Minibus account - £5,771.18 Minibus Savings account - £47,971.21 Feedback has been received from our external auditor (PFK Littlejohn) and shared with RPC Councillors. 3 comments were made by the Auditor and were discussed with the Councillors. Clerk to ensure that going forward the agreed budget and precept values are included in the minutes. The budget for 26/27 was calculated and agreed at £20,641.87. The Precept for 26/27 was agreed at £9,729.84, which is a 2.5% increase on last year. Clerk to send over 26/27 precept value request to NNC. Action: Clerk
66/25	<p>Community Minibus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues/damage or faults. Current mileage 43,512 • Discussions are ongoing for purchasing fold out steps with handrails to help less agile passengers. • The minibus passed its MOT in October. • A few repairs have been undertaken, and a new dash cam has been fitted.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five drivers sat their MIDAS training in October. This cost was approved in Septembers' meeting. • Passenger numbers are varying from Rothwell for the Friday shopping trips. If this service is successful, Rothwell Town Council will be asked to source volunteer drivers.
67/25	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Cruickshank has recently met with Umrah at NNC who has been helpful and supportive. She has given guidance on what the next steps are. • Cllr Cruickshank has written to YourLocale to request editable copies of all our plans/the latest versions that have been produced.
68/25	<p>Recreation Ground</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly inspections continue to take place. • There has been recent mole activity. Unable to be removed until February next year. • The trees have next to the park have overgrown, these were last cut in 2022. Planning permission will need to be sought. Councillors unanimously agreed for Cllr M Brightman to request grant funding from NCF for this work to be undertaken. The expected cost is £3,000. • Cllr M Brightman has written to Gregory Wilcox to outline why RPC feel NNC should still pay to maintain our recreation ground. Cllr M Brightman is waiting for a response before deciding on the next steps.
69/25	<p>Urban Highway Grass Cutting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NNC have sent over contracts to RPC which include proposed costings for Rushton and Pipewell urban highway grass cutting (to commence in the next financial year). • The contract states that grass cutting will take place 3 times each year in both Rushton and Pipewell. • Cllr M Brightman to request more information from NNC before RPC decide. Action: M Brightman & Clerk
70/25	<p>The following documents were reviewed and approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data-Map • Cllr Staff Privacy Notice • Equality and Diversity Policy <p>Clerk to update the website. Action: Clerk</p>
71/25	<p>Planning</p> <p>The following updates were provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NK/2025/0736 Lyndon Thomas Birchfield Springs. No decision as of 7/11/25. • NK/2025/0088 Mr Bentley Glendon House. APPROVED 6/11/25. • NK/2025/0107/0108 Rushton Hall. Extended until 14/11/25. No decision yet. • NK/2024/0301/AOC/0301/2402,2403,2404 I M KELLY

	<p>Weekley wood avenue. 2402 refused, 2403 and 2404 approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NK/2025/0255 (KET/2020/0303) I M KELLY. Awaiting decision. • NK/2025/0261 Prologis. Awaiting decision. • 25/00950/LDP Lee Harris Woodyard cl. Rushton. No decision yet. • 25/00823/NMA Holiday Inn. APPROVED 23/9/25. • 25/00745/TCA R. Patrick Pipewell. in progress 15/8/25 • 25/01467/AOC (NK/2025/0137) T. White Bunkers Hill Farm. Cycle store condition. Decision due 21/11/25. • 25/01466/AOC T. White Bunkers Hill Farm. Access Road. Decision due 21/12/25. • 25/00955/AOC T. White Bunkers Hill Farm. Noise impact assessment. Passed 21/11/25. • 25/01007HFUL A. Holt Church cl. Rushton. No decision as of 7/11/25. • 25/01317/NMA (NK/2024/0713) R Luddington Gaywood Cottage, Pipewell. No decision as of 7/11/25. • 25/01170/TCA D. Mc Evan Station Rd Rushton. No decision. • 25/01164/TCA R. Baker Station Rd Rushton. No decision. • 25/00762AOC (NK/2021/0490) Rushton Hall. APPROVED 25/9/25. • NK/2025/0231and 0229 Rushton Hall. APPROVED 12/11/25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting that took place at Desborough Library with David Lock Associates was discussed with the Councillors, and the Clerk sent out a brief meeting summary. Cllr Cruickshank to write to Peter Chambers at David Lock Associates to express RPC concerns. Action: Cllr Cruickshank • Cllr Cruickshank to check if RPC is a statutory consultee for planning applications within the parish. Action: Cllr Cruickshank • Clerk to request that NNC send all future planning updates to Councillor Turner. Action: Clerk
72/25	<p>Funded Projects</p> <p><u>Improvements to Public Footpath Styles</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works are now complete. The end of grant report has been submitted to NCF and accepted on the 30th of September 2025. <p><u>Bus Shelter Refurbishment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works are now complete. The end of grant report has been submitted to NCF. RPC underspent by £1.290.95, this amount now needs to be returned to NCF to obtain final sign off from NNC.

	<p><u>Radar Speed Signs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All works are now complete. The end of grant report has been submitted to NCF. RPC underspent by £320.92, this amount may need to be returned to obtain final sign off from NNC. Cllr M Brightman has requested feedback from the Councillors for the bus shelter project and the village map.
73/25	<p>Further matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to speak to NNC Councillor Jim Hakewill to discuss the next steps for the Thornhill Arms now it has been registered as an asset of community value. Action: Clerk Cllr M Brightman has created a 'Rushton Traffic Issues' report which was sent out to Councillors before the meeting to review. This report highlights all traffic issues within the parish, broken down by street. Cllr M Brightman has written a petition which refers to this report and has support from NNC Councillor Jim Hakewill. RPC fully supports this report and is happy for the report to be added onto the parish website.
74/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting closed at 8.41pm. The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday 21st January 2026 in the Village Hall.

ACTION SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 2025

Item	Action	Who?
11/25	Cllr Hakewill to apply pressure to NNC to find a solution for Nigel since the flooding.	Cllr Hakewill
11/25	Cllr Hakewill to question whether future Rural forums can take place for smaller parishes.	Cllr Hakewill
51/25	Cllr Cruickshank to review/reconfigure RPC Neighbourhood plan when possible.	Cllr Cruickshank
62/25	Cllr Parker to question the position of the Desborough Road speed van with our Police rep Brandon Scott.	Cllr Parker
65/25	The accounts for the Parish Council and the Community Minibus YTD to be circulated to Cllrs before the next meeting alongside the closing bank balances.	Clerk
65/25	Clerk to send over 26/27 precept value request to NNC.	Clerk
69/25	Cllr M Brightman to request more information regarding the 'Urban Highway Grass Cutting' from NNC before RPC decide.	Cllr M Brightman/Clerk
70/25	Clerk to update the website with the new reviewed policies.	Clerk
71/25	Cllr Cruickshank to write to Peter Chambers at David	Cllr Cruickshank

	Lock Associates to express RPC concerns.	
71/25	Cllr Cruickshank to check if RPC is a statutory consultee for planning applications within the parish.	Cllr Cruickshank
71/25	Clerk to request that NNC send all future planning updates to Councillor Turner.	Clerk
73/25	Clerk to speak to NNC Councillor Jim Hakewill to discuss the next steps for the Thornhill Arms now it has been registered as an asset of community value.	Clerk