

Norton and Lenchwick Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting 2nd July at 7.30pm 2026

Clerk to the Council, Wendy Cope 22, Heathfield Road, Norton Evesham WR11 4TQ

07951046541

Email: clerk@nortonlenchwick-pc.gov.uk **Website:** https://nortonlenchwick-pv.gov.uk/

Present: Acting Chairman John Smale, Cllr Paul Eardsey, Cllr Jasper Sealey-Wade, District Cllr Craig Reeves, Wendy Cope Parish Clerk, David Irons Lengthsman

1) Not present Cllr Satinder Bell, Cllr Jessica Arthurs-Pitts

2) Apologies Cllr Jacqui Dance, Cllr Mark Funnell

3) Declaration of Interest None.

4) Public Session Two members of The Public attended, 1 person was concerned about a bleed kit being installed maybe on site with the defibrillator, due to the presence of a lot of broken glass in the bus shelters. The Clerk said she would ask The Chairman to contact The Local Charity to obtain one. The problem of fly tipping on Lenches roads was raised again. The second person present raised The New Planning application on Ashmore's Barns **W/26/01449/PIP**, the residents had met and discussed this new application. They were very concerned about the wrong information on The Highway's Comments highlighting the fact that the site was been used for farming when the site had not been used for farming for many years, drainage, water supply, and access. The Council said they would object.

5) Minutes The Minutes from The Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 5th of May 2026 and The Annual Parish Meeting 17th of May 2026 were duly signed.

6) District and County Councillors Reports. Cllr Reeves reported that an Executive Board Meeting for a PSPO for dogs was out for consultation. The decision on the type of Unitary Council will be made by the end of July 2026; a section 24 will then be made so that The Council cannot spend any money until after the May 2027 elections. The District Council will stay in situ for 1 year until 2028. The Planning Department has been put under a section 62A notice because over the last three years their quota on success of objections exceeded 10% by .7% at Wychavon and 2% at Malvern. This means that developers with planning applications for over 10 houses can choose to go directly to The Planning Inspectorate if they want, however they would then lose their right to appeal. Cllr Reeves asked The Council if anyone knew what the black boxes were for on Norton Roundabout? The Clerk said she would ask Highways. The Greenway Project is still going ahead. Cllr Reeves had met with The Police at The Village Hall, who had reported that they now have a new laser gun to detect speeding and that this can be used anywhere. Cllr Seeley-Wade reported that he had seen this being used on The Evesham Road.

7) Chairman's Report Cllr Dance did not attend but sent a report:

Firstly apologies for not making my first formal meeting as Chair – not great timing with my husband's 50th birthday, however I'm hoping this report gives some detail of what has been happening over the past couple of months.

Wendy and I attended a CALC workshop all about achieving funding for Parish projects – a real help with the proposed land purchase and it was a great start for me, filling us with ideas and gaining the contacts we need.

The dead hedge in the wildflower field is now complete and will just need topping up each year to keep the height. The flowers look amazing and keep growing faster than we can keep the path trimmed – still to put the bench in place, but this will be done this summer.

Paul, Wendy and I also met with Dom and Steve from Worcestershire Wildlife Trust who would like to work with us in piloting a new 'Nature Plan' for Parishes. We will meet with them a few times a year to help build a structure for their idea which will be advertised out in 2028, looking at a 5 year plan to encourage Parishes to put nature first. I do think Norton and Lenchwick is perfect for this and we look forward to supporting them and improving what we have alongside them. Their advice and support will be integral when managing the village hall land.

We would like to conduct a Parish survey, to find out more about what our Parishioners want and need from the community. If anyone has experience of creating a survey (online and on paper) do let us know so we can get the best version out there. This information will help us to build our Nature Plan and Village Hall Land future as well as making sure we are getting the right support, events and communications to everyone.

I'd like to thank Wendy for all the hard work on the Village Hall Land and Parish Games this year – hopefully lots of fun will be had by all those taking part.

8) Field Path Officer Report The Field Path Officer had emailed The Clerk to say there wasn't anything to report at present.

9) Lengthsman's Report David reported that although he had been ill he was now getting back to normal and had managed to do some work in The Play Park. It was agreed that at this time the renovation of the benches might be too much for him and Mark to tackle so The Clerk would employ a contractor to do this.

10) Finance and Policy The Clerk appraised The Council of The Financial position: Balance of The Account £51,220.70 with £30141.56 being land money, £1472.46 had been received from Worcestershire CC for the mowing contribution. One of The Planters had been damaged. The Clerk also appraised The Council that she had attended A CALC Meeting on Planning Policy

11) Community Outreach Reports **Speed watch:** Cllr Funnell did not attend, **The Bursary** no applications, **The Greenway project** was dealt with earlier by Cllr Reeves.

12) Progress Reports and New Items

A) Speed limit on the A44 The speed limit has been changed.

B) Speed limit Evesham Road The Clerk and Cllr Dance along with Cllr Reeves had met and discussed this. The Clerk has asked Highways to conduct another traffic survey during term time and then a letter would be sent to The Member of Parliament to ask again for the speed limit to be changed. The Clerk reported that she had once again applied for a grant from The Police Commissioner to install another VAS on the Evesham Road.

C) Benches This was dealt with earlier in The Meeting.

D) The Land by The Village Hall, The Clerk reported that she was still waiting to receive the paperwork from Wychavon, and that solicitors had been instructed, regarding the purchase. The Clerk reported that there

seemed to be some controversy with regards to a covenant/overage from The Vendors and she had instructed The Solicitors to ask for clarification on this.

E) Jock's Legacy sign, Unfortunately the installation has been delayed due to David's illness. It will now be installed ASAP.

F) Ashmore's Farm this was dealt with earlier in The Meeting.

G) Harvington Lane Development sadly this situation is still very bad there.

H) Replacement Concrete Columns for £7500 for street lighting on hold.

I) Footpath at Chadbury Cllr Bell did not attend.

J) Responsibility for website, Cllr Arthurs-Pitts did not attend

K) Co-option of Parish Councillor The Clerk will go ahead and organise this.

13) Correspondence received No correspondence

14) Planning The Heath Evesham Road no objection

15) Invoices to be approved as attached

16) Date of next meeting Thursday 3rd September 2026

17) Meeting concluded at 9pm