

NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 in the Ray Shill Room at Northway Community Hub, Lee Walk, Northway, commencing at 7.40 p.m.

Present: Cllr J Roberts (Chair) Cllr J Beadle (Vice-Chair)
Cllr M Barnes Cllr G Fancourt
Cllr P Godwin Cllr R Godwin
Cllr S Terry

In attendance: 2 x Local Residents (until Min Ref: GP/104/26)
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

GP/100/26 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Llewellyn, Ward, Kareem, Poole and Shelton had tendered their apologies.

GP/101/26 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 12th April 2023 (Min Ref C/85/23).

GP/102/26 Previous Minutes

Cllr Terry PROPOSED that the Minutes of the meeting that took place on 17th June 2026 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr P Godwin SECONDED.

FOR:	Cllr Terry	Cllr P Godwin
	Cllr Barnes	Cllr Beadle
	Cllr Fancourt	Cllr Terry

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr R Godwin

GP/103/26 Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

GP/88/26 Northway Playing Field > Northway Skatepark – Signage and stickers had been ordered.

GP/88/26 Northway Playing Field > Northway Skatepark – Letters of thanks were sent to Tewkesbury Academy and Jaksta Art following completion of the skatepark graffiti project, their replies were read to Members. Smart Cut would weed kill in front of the mural going forwards.

GP/73/26 Northway Playing Field > Play Park – Cllr Ward had filled areas of the Play Park with topsoil.

GP/91/26 Hub Grounds – The Silver Birch in the Hub grounds had been removed (after it was established there were no birds nesting inside the attached bird box). It was AGREED that members should consider relocation of the bird box at the next Committee meeting.

GP/92/26 Newsletter – It was confirmed that the newsletters had been delivered.

GP/99/26 Tewkesbury Borough Council – The Council had been unable to apply to the Health and Wellbeing grant fund due to having applied previously.

GP/73/26 Northway Playing Field > Northway Play Park – The trampoline pit had been cleared.

GP/104/26 **Bee Hives**

Two residents addressed the Committee regarding their initial query about the placement of honeybee hives on Council land within the parish (Min Ref: GP/94/26 refers). Members asked several questions, and it was established that the venture would be a personal project undertaken in their own time - the beehives would have environmental benefits, whilst also providing them with honey for personal use. They confirmed that they would not be selling the honey or generating any income from the hives and would take full responsibility for their ongoing maintenance. They also confirmed that the hives would remain in place during the winter months and that they would install fencing around the area if required.

Members considered that the only suitable location for the hives would be within Joan's Field, in one of the less visible sections of the site. Concern was raised regarding the proximity of the motorway, as the noise could potentially disturb the bees. The residents were encouraged to visit the site to assess its suitability and report back to the Council with their views.

7:50pm – The two residents left the meeting.

GP/105/26 **Hawthorn Way**

- i. **Ball Games (Min Ref: GP/93/26 refers)** – Members received an update regarding the playing of ball games on Hawthorn Way, noting that further complaints had been received from residents following the reappearance of a goal post on the site. New concerns raised included damage to property, balls regularly hitting parked vehicles, and heated disagreements between residents.

Following discussions with residents, the local PCSO had recommended the installation of a 'No Ball Games' sign and the introduction of a ban on ball games at the location. The PCSO had also drafted a letter to residents advising of this recommendation.

Members felt that the only remaining option was to install a 'No Ball Games' sign, as this would assist the police in addressing any future issues at the location. Cllr Beadle PROPOSED that a sign was ordered. Cllr R Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Roberts PROPOSED approval of a letter being sent from the PCSO informing residents of this decision, if she was still happy to do this.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

The suggestion of planting trees on the green was raised. It was AGREED that this, and other options, should be considered ahead of the next Committee meeting.

- ii. **Brick Wall** – A quotation of £2,485.00 had been received for repairs to the wall in Hawthorn Way (Min Ref: GP/93/26 refers). Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that two more, like-for-like, quotations should be sought and the Clerk be authorised to progress with the cheapest.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

GP/106/26 **Northway Playing Field**

- i. **Northway Play Park** – Members received the inspection reports relating to the Play Park, and no new issues were identified.

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GP/106/26 Northway Playing Field (continued)

ii. Northway Skatepark

- a. **Inspection Reports** – Members received the inspection reports relating to the skatepark. No new issues were raised.
- b. **Other Action** – No other issues were raised.
- iii. **MUGA/Outdoor Gym** – The weekly inspection reports had been received. It was noted that paint on some of the gym equipment had begun to peel. One of the benches near the MUGA had been repainted.
- iv. **BMX Humps** - The weekly inspection reports had been received, no new issues had been identified.
- v. **Other Issues** – No other issues were raised.

GP/107/26 Joan's Field

- i. **Giant Hogweed** – Cllr Roberts confirmed completion of his inspection of Joan's Field and that no Giant Hogweed had been sighted.
- ii. **Other Issues** – No other issues were raised.

GP/108/26 Platinum Park

- i. **Teenage Shelter** – The weekly inspection reports relating to the Teenage Shelter had been received. No new issues were raised.
- ii. **Trees** – Cllr R Godwin had watered the trees on Platinum Park, however, he believed two of the ones on the south end were dead. It was AGREED that the Committee should consider replacement of these in October.
- iii. **Other Issues** – Cllr Shelton had emailed the office to confirm that he had been watering the oak trees and they were doing well.

GP/109/26 Fruit Press

Members were reminded that the fruit press, crusher, pasteuriser and other items were due to be delivered in August. It was AGREED that the Council should try and organised a fruit pressing event to take place on a Saturday in October.

The Clerk mentioned that a local resident had offered to help, if required. Cllr Fancourt believed that Kemerton organised pressing days so it might be useful to enquire as to how their events ran.

GP/110/26 Parish Maintenance Contract

- i. **Grange Road** – It was confirmed that Ubico had undertaken maintenance works on Grange Road and had provided a maintenance plan (Min Ref: GP/95/26 refers). SmartCut had been issued with a copy of the plan, along with photographs, to ensure they were aware of Tewkesbury Borough Council's requirements for the future maintenance of the area.
- ii. **Trees** – Following tree maintenance works in Ash Road and Sycamore Road, the tree

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GP/110/26 Parish Maintenance Contract (continued)

surgeon who undertook the work raised concerns regarding the condition of the tree in Ash Road. He advised that the tree was in poor health, estimating that it was only around 60% alive, and that its roots were causing damage to the footpath and could potentially begin to affect nearby properties. An approximate cost of £300 had been quoted for the removal of the tree. Cllr Fancourt PROPOSED that the tree was removed. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

It was suggested that nearby residents be notified of the Council's decision before the work was carried out.

- iii. **Bus Shelter** – Cllr Terry PROPOSED that action taken to replace a missing tile on one of the Kingston Road bus shelters should be ratified. Cllr Beadle SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- iv. **Other Issues** – Bromford had passed on concerns about the height of a hedge in Ash Road and the resident responsible who had assured that they would address it soon.

Cllr Roberts reported that the hedge opposite Apple Tree Court had been cut back, making it much safer for pedestrians. However, he noted that a number of hedges along Davey Walk had become overgrown and offered to provide the relevant house numbers so that letters could be sent to the residents concerned. Cllr P Godwin also highlighted two properties in Kingston Road with overgrown hedges.

GP/111/26 Drainage and Flooding

- i. **Reports** – No flooding issues were raised.
- ii. **Flood Warden** – Cllr Beadle had nothing to report, however, he mentioned that he had attended the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment event alongside Cllr Barnes.

GP/112/26 'Report It'

Details of issues reported were shared with Members.

GP/113/26 Correspondence for Information

- i. **Locking Parish Council** – Correspondence relating to the process of applying for funding towards a skatepark facility.
- ii. **Peterborough City Council** – Query relating to the wheelchair swing.
- iii. **SafeAvon** – Severn Trent doubles CEO reward plan to £3.1m.

GP/114/26 Correspondence Received After 9th July 2026

- i. **Lee Road** – Correspondence relating to noise and parking issues in Lee Road.
- ii. **Gloucestershire Constabulary** – Update relating to previous vandalism at the skatepark.
- iii. **Glasdon** – Product leaflet.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.12pm.