

# Hinxton Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## Present:

Ceri Williams- Chair  
 Sarah Robinson- Vice Chair  
 Mike Boagey  
 Chris Elliott  
 Andy Brown  
 Anne Charteris-Clerk  
 Cllr McDonald  
 Members of the Public: 3

	<b>Part 1 : Non confidential information.</b>
2511/0 1	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence:</b> Hugh Taylor (sickness)
2511/02	<b>To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda</b> CW- Hunts Lane, Chris Elliott -Weir
2511/03	<b>To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b> The Minutes were approved and signed off.
2511/04	<b>Exclusion of the Public.</b> To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the Public excluded.
2511/05	<b>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald.</b> Full report can be found on the website but in brief: <b>Postal Voters</b> If you have had a postal vote in the past, you will have to reregister if you still want one for future elections starting next May. This can be done on the South Cambs District Council website, or you can ring up for an application form. It is a very simple process. 01954 713000 <b>4-Day Week in the news</b> South Cambridgeshire District Council seems to be back in the press over its move to a 4-day working week, since a minister in the 'new' government decided to write to us. Just to be clear, the council is open 5 days a week and many services are available 24/7. <b>Anglian Water (AW) Fen Reservoir Consultation</b> The third phase of AW's non-statutory consultation for a new Fens Reservoir DCO commenced on 15 October and will run for 8 weeks until 10 December 2025. It can be accessed here: <a href="https://fensreservoir.co.uk/documents/">https://fensreservoir.co.uk/documents/</a> <b>Draft Local Plan – “The most important document you’ve never heard of”</b> The draft Local Plan and supporting evidence has just been published ahead of a public consultation which will run between 1 Dec 2025 – 30 Jan 2026. Cambridge City Council and South Cambs are working together to create this joint Local Plan for the Greater Cambridge area. The plan sets out the future land use and planning policies for the area for the period 2024-2045. If you have any questions about the Draft Local Plan, please contact the Planning Policy Team: <a href="mailto:localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org">localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org</a> <b>OxCam Growth Corridor and Cambridge Growth Company</b> We have cautiously welcomed the Government's announcement that they will invest up to £400 million to help solve some of the challenges that hamper inclusive and sustainable growth in the area.



**Bringing empty homes back into use**

A major milestone has been reached in tackling long-term empty homes in South Cambridgeshire, with 75 properties brought back into use in the last three years. Success stems from the District Council's strategic decision to appoint an Empty Homes Officer in 2022 - an initiative that has transformed neglected properties into vibrant homes for new families, eased housing pressures, and revitalised communities across the district. To find out more about our work bringing empty homes back into use visit our webpage. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/empty-homes>

**Statement by Myself as Chair of the Council after Huntingdon Attack**

"On behalf of Cambridgeshire County Council, I want to pay tribute to the extraordinary bravery shown by Mr Samir Zitouni, known to many as 'Sam', a customer experience host for London North Eastern Railway (LNER), during the major incident that unfolded on the east coast main line and at Huntingdon station on Saturday, 1 November 2025. In a moment of great danger, Sam put the safety of others before his own. Thanks to his courage and presence of mind, lives were saved. "This is definitely a case of ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Sam embodies the very best of our community spirit, and we wish him a full and speedy recovery. Our thoughts are with him and his family at this difficult time.

"I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who responded that evening including: Sam's LNER colleagues, particularly the driver, Andrew Johnson, Network Rail and station employees, the British Transport Police, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, the East of England Ambulance Service and Cambridgeshire's NHS hospitals as well as members of our community here in the county, who stepped forward to help. Your swift actions, professionalism and care kept people safe and provided reassurance in the face of fear.

"Cambridgeshire is immensely proud of and grateful to you all. Thank you for your service, your compassion, and your bravery."

**Consultation on County Budget**

Cambridgeshire County Council is launching a public engagement survey today (Friday, 24 October), to gather residents' views on where the council should prioritise spending and savings in the years ahead.

Every year, the council must set a budget which balances spending needs against income from council tax (around one-third of council funding), business rates, government grants, and service fees. These funds support a wide range of services including social care, education, libraries, highways and transport, environmental services, and waste management.

With rising costs, a growing population, and increasing demands – particularly in children's and adults' social care – the council faces difficult decisions about how to allocate resources. More than half of its spending currently goes toward social care, while other major areas of spending include SEND, transport, and the environment.

The council's Business Plan will set out a budget for the 2026-27 to 2028-29 financial years. Our Strategic Framework, which sets out our seven ambitions that will help us create a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire, is one of the guiding principles that informs the business planning and budgeting process.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/imported-assets/Business-Plan-Section-1-Strategic-Framework-2023-to-2028-Refresh-for-2025-26.pdf>

**Care Leavers Event**

A celebration event was held 28th October for young people between the ages of 17-25 from across Cambridgeshire transitioning out of care.

It kick-starts a month of activities planned for National Care Leavers Month during November. Care experienced young people were involved in planning the celebration event, which was held at The Junction in Cambridge. Activities included a henna tattoo artist, gaming area, mocktail competition, hair braiding, raffle, a DJ, music, and refreshments.

2511/06

**Updates**

a. Wellcome Trust Campus Development. No updates

b. Village Hall extension . A pre-application will be submitted for checking with Planning officers, prior to the Planning Application being submitted.



	<p>c. Wetlands Committee. Next meeting 26<sup>th</sup> November. CW will ask the group to send dates etc to Clerk.</p> <p>d. Playground. Nothing new to report.</p> <p>e. Quiet Lanes. Nothing new to report.</p> <p>f. Highways. LHI application- Clerk will apply again for 20mph zone in the village.</p> <p>g. River/weir report. Melanie Pankhurst and Lee Outhwaite from Wellcome Trust met with Chris Elliott to talk about a new sluice and weir to help prevent future flooding, especially with the new development. They will go away and have discussions about these and the funding required- approx. £250,000</p> <p>h. Hinxfest. The Remembrance concert was held at the Church on the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov, this will be going on the Hinxton Facebook website and hopefully on the Hinxton PC website, depending on permission.</p> <p>i Locations of speed sign -Clerk is working with Highways to see if new posts can be erected for the sign.</p>
2511/07	<p><b>Public participation time. 15 minutes allowed</b></p> <p>It was asked if the PC would again make a donation to buy sweets for the children at the Christmas Light-up event. It would be in the region of £150, the PC said they were happy to donate, Clerk to arrange the payment to Jill Garnier who is arranging this.</p> <p>A resident complained about the vegetation overgrowth at the New Road junction, this makes it difficult to pull out as the view is blocked, Clerk to contact Wellcome Trust as this is growing over their fence.</p> <p>New Road junction- residents and Councillors are worried that an accident is going to occur here due to the sweep being too narrow, having to pull out into oncoming traffic when turning right onto the A1301 or having to stop on the carriageway to let cars exit from New Road. When entering New Road from the roundabout coming from Saffron Walden direction, cars are too close and not expecting cars to be turning left. Residents said that often they carry on round the roundabout until there are no cars following them, Others said they won't use New Rd junction as they feel unsafe and go to the North End junction instead. A Speed survey is to be done: the sweep of the road can be determined by the speed, however the PC said this wasn't good enough, even if speeds are lower the road is still not safe. Cllr McDonald said he would relay our fears to the County Council and Highways and ask them to drive this junction so they can see the problems.</p> <p>Clapper gates on the permissive path: 2 new gates and fences have been installed which are very much an improvement. Are the other gates going to be installed as the ones there now are broken and difficult to use. Clerk will contact Bidwells.</p> <p>A car has been abandoned on the Baulk road, it was in the field but now moved to the verge, Clerk asked for a photo and will then report it.</p>
2511/08	<p><b>New items for discussion and correspondence.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using Budget, decide on Precept requirement for years 2026-27 The Budget was discussed and it was proposed that the Precept would be kept the same as previous years at £16,585. Proposed by CW, seconded by CE all in favour.</li> <li>Clerks pay to be approved following NALCs pay review. The Payscale 25 was proposed by CW, seconded by SR, all in agreement.</li> <li>CLG meeting for Parish Councillors 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec in the Library WT. SR will be attending.</li> <li>A-board and sign posts to Church and Mill- Clerk will meet with Highways to see if these are allowed and whether we can have signs made to put on the posts.</li> </ul>
2511/09	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p> <p><b>Bank Balances at 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025</b></p> <p><b>Current A/C : £4,791.68</b></p> <p><b>Business /AC : £ 41,837.22</b></p> <p><b>Village Hall sec 106 /AC: £79,607.49</b></p> <p><b>Total: £126,236.39</b></p>



**Payments, circulated prior to meeting were approved and signed off.**

Clerk/HMRC	salary/tax/ ink/paper /WFH expenses	confidential
Microsoft	Storage	£35.28
S Lotte	Hinxton News editor	£100.00
Hugo Fox	Website hosting	£35.99
EE	Broadband	£32.99
Lloyds	Service charge	£4.25
Clear Insurance	insurance	£1292.26
SEE	Streetlighting	£30.08
Happy Branches	Tree cutting	£560.00
Friends of Hinxton Church	Donation to Hinxfest- paid on behalf of Wellcome Trust and invoiced for payment	£850.00
Friends of Hinxton Church	Donation to Hinxfest	£500.00

2511/10

**Payments Received**

Wellcome Trust	Friends of Hinxton Donation	£850.00
Wellcome Trust	Hinxton News editor costs	£400.00
Lloyds	Interest	£44.32

2511/11

**Planning Applications Received.**

Appeal following refusal:

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Proposal: Creation of office/R&D units (Use Class E).

Site address: Land West Of Hinxton Grange Pumping Station Cambridge Road

LPA Reference: 25/00839/FUL

Inspectorate Ref:6001218

The Parish Council still oppose this planning application, previous objections to be submitted.

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Proposal: T1 - 1 x Rhobinia tree - Reduce crown by 1.5 metres.

T2 - 1 x Rhobinia tree - Cut back branches touching the phone wire, leaving a 0.5 metre clearance

Site address: 2 Mill Lane Hinxton Cambridgeshire

Reference: 25/1189/TTCA

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/1189/TTCA>

No objection

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Proposal: T1 - Purple Maple - Reduce crown by 3m to previous reduction points

T2, T3 ,T4 - Apple - Reduce height by 2m

T5 - Apple - Thin crown by 25%

Site address: 86 High Street Hinxton Cambridgeshire

Reference: 25/1179/TTCA

Public Access link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/1179/TTCA>

No objection

Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council

Proposal: Walnut - Reduce by 3 metres and reshape. Remove all dead branches.



2511/12	<p>Site address: 1 High Street Hinxton Cambridgeshire Reference: 25/1109/TTCA Public Access link: <a href="https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/1109/TTCA">https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/1109/TTCA</a> No objection</p>
2511/13	<p><b>Items to report for inclusion of next meeting</b></p> <p>The Parish Council have historically met every other month, with the months in-between being available if anything urgent arises such as Planning applications. Meetings have been held monthly recently due to the amount of items on the Agendas relating mainly to Wellcome Trust development and the Village Hall extension. It was suggested that the PC return to holding meetings every other month. This will be put on the Januarys Agenda for discussion and voting on.</p>
2511/14	<p><b>Dates of next meetings Village Hall 7.30pm    No meeting in Dec</b> <b>12th January 2026</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> February 2026</b></p> <p><b>Part II: Confidential Information</b> Exclusion of the Press and the Public: To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting. Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i> Parish Clerk 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2025</p>