

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15TH JUNE 2026, IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Sally Jackson and Tony Weaver.

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk), 1 resident and Ward Councillor Peter Hiller (up to item 27).

24. Public Question Time – a possible welfare concern was raised by a resident.
Clerk to action.
25. Apologies were received from Cllrs Crowson and Tuley.
26. There were no declarations of interest.
27. Councillor Peter Hiller, the Ward Councillor, spoke of his current concerns:
Changes to Parish Council's right to refer a planning application to Planning Committee – this will no longer be possible from September. Developments up to 9 houses will be decided by a delegated Planning Officer. Whilst the intention of this change is to help speed up the planning process it does take away from the democratic process.
Planning Committees are to be limited in size, probably from 2028.
The Local Government Review, currently underway, is a seismic change that will result in a much larger authority area. Cllr Clark voiced fears that parish councils will be marginalised with City/ Unitary councillors likely to concentrate on urban areas.
Following discussion on the likely impact of increased traffic caused by the proposed Gladman development Cllr Hiller suggested focussing on how to make any traffic management system as "impact-less" to Peakirk as possible and suggested speaking with Cllr Dadge at Northborough.
A reduced speed limit of 30mph between Peakirk and Glinton will be required as part of any planning consent, but Cllr Hiller was requested to ask the Highways Services Director about the possibility of a speed reduction now.
28. The minutes of the meeting of 18th May 2026 were agreed as a true record and signed accordingly.
29. Correspondence:
29.1 The Clerks & Councils Direct, June Edition had not been received.
29.2 The clerk advised of minimal response from neighbouring councils in relation to screening of The National Emergency.
Cllr Clark to look into details of the costs involved in showing the film in the Village Hall and put information into The Village Tribune as appropriate.
29.3 Members noted the new artificial intelligence tool in the GOV.UK app.
29.4 To note any further correspondence:
i) Report of a tree leaning across the permissive footpath opposite Fox Covert Road.
The clerk had advised accordingly.
ii) Report from resident of ASB – egging of property – with query as to whether the parish council is informed of such incidents.
Clerk to respond accordingly.
iii) Invitation to join Cambridgeshire ACRE – declined.
30. Planning matters:
30.1 The approval given for felling a Norway Spruce at 4 Rectory Lane (26/00241/CTR) was noted.
30.2 The clerk reported that the satellite dish, subject to the planning enforcement case 26/00298/ENFSAT, was due to be removed before the end of the month.
30.3 Members noted that the new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is expected to be published over the Summer.
31. Finance:
31.1 Approval given for payment of salary and Home Working allowance to the clerk for June 2026.
31.2 Authorisation given for payment of PAYE & NI to HMRC for the period April-June.

- 31.3 Members authorised payment of invoice from Mr R Harding for grass cutting.
- 31.4 The clerk advised members of the publication of documents required to conform to the Transparency Code along with the exercise of public rights, all documents available on the website.
- 31.5 There were no other financial matters.
32. Maintenance:
- 32.1 Members noted the recommendations from the interim tree survey of the Horse Chestnut on the Village Green carried out by Caroline Hall and circulated prior to the meeting, with a further inspection in 18-months.
- 32.2 In the absence of Cllr Crowson it was agreed to postpone the item "To accept the updated asset inspection log and agree a timetable of actions required" to the July meeting.
- 32.3 Folly Bridge repainting – the paint and equipment has been received.
Cllr Clark to produce a risk assessment and method statement. A councillor is needed to take the lead for the project. The Clerk advised that 6 volunteers had expressed an interest in participating. Clerk to pursue the possibility of borrowing cones and signage from the City Council.
- 32.4 Other items of maintenance – the base of the yew hedge adjacent to the Village Green remains un-weeded.
Clerk to request Mr Harding to resume strimming along the boundary.
33. Allotments – Cllr Clark advised that he had not yet obtained the numbers for the agreed plot numbering.
34. Digital and Data Compliance – Cllr Clark advise that he is working on setting up a dummy site for members to view.
35. Review of policies – Cllr Clark reported that this is work in progress. A scheme for delegation for planning comments should be agreed. The clerk advised that existing policies could be found on the Village Website.
36. Speeding / Road Safety – there was no update in the absence of Cllr Crowson.
37. Action Plan: the Clerk advised that 3 residents had expressed an interest in being involved.
Clerk to book a date for an evening meeting in the Village Hall, w/c 13th July(excluding Friday) and notify accordingly.
Cllr Clark agreed to chair the meeting, with Cllr Weaver volunteering as a deputy / spare.
38. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 20th July.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:05pm.