

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, Sally Jackson, Anne Tuley and Tony Weaver.
Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk) and one member of the public.

54. Public Question Time – no matters raised.
55. There were no apologies, all members being present.
56. No declarations of interest were recorded.
57. The minutes of the meeting of 20th July 2026 were approved as a true record and signed accordingly.
58. Correspondence:
 - 58.1 National Allotment Society Magazine, Issue 3 – taken by Cllr Clark.
 - 58.2 Clerks and Council's Direct September Issue - taken by Cllr Crowson and circulation to Cllrs Tuley, Jackson and Weaver agreed.
 - 58.3 Flag of the Fens – the endorsement request was considered and declined.
 - 58.4 A letter from a resident with safety concerns relating to events held at the public house had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.
 - 58.5 Other correspondence – the clerk advised of a poppy making workshop to be held on October 29th which aims to create a display for the village monument, adding to the display for the official Peakirk war memorial in the church.
It was agreed that Cllr Jackson should still place the existing poppy wreaths next to the monument.
59. Planning matters:
 - 59.1 Members noted the approval given by PCC to planning application 26/002521/HHFUL for proposed alterations at 7 Firdale Close to demolish garage and rebuild with covered entrance porch with hall and storage and build two storey extension at the rear and agree comments to be submitted.
 - 59.2 Members noted the "no objections" response submitted to application 26/002727/CTR for works to mixed tree and hedge at 5 Thorney Road.
 - 59.3 Members noted the "no objections" response submitted to application 26/003824 for removal of a Crab Apple tree at 1 St Pega's Road.
 - 59.4 A delay to the Peterborough Local Plan Public Consultation Publication delay was noted with advice of a new consultation start date awaited.
 - 59.5 There were no other planning matters.
60. Finance:
 - 60.1 Approval was given for the payment of salary and Home Working allowance to the clerk for September 2026. Members noted the Local Government Services Pay Agreement applicable from 1 April 2026.
 - 60.2 Authorisation was given for the implementation of the above award along with back pay from 1st April.
 - 60.3 Authorisation given for payment of invoice from CAPALC for a Planning Training Session for Cllr Weaver in the sum of £45.

- 60.4 Members authorised reimbursement to Cllr Weaver in the sum of £18.53 for a First Aid Kit.
- 60.5 The payment of an invoice from Mr R Harding for grass-cutting in the sum of £600 was approved.
- 60.6 Members authorised payment of PAYE to HMRC for the period July-September.
- 60.7 Members noted the budget review to 31st August which had been circulated electronically prior to the meeting.
- 60.8 There were no other financial matters.

61. Field Fire:

- 61.1 Following the field fire, which also caused damage to several of the allotments, an informal meeting had been held by the clerk and councillors Tuley, Crowson and Weaver to consider whether any action was required. The clerk had sent thanks to the fire crews who attended.
Councillors also wished to record thanks to local farmers, Ben and Nick Harris, and to all others involved.
- 61.2 In response to damage caused to the allotments donations/funding were received towards replacement / restoration from Ward Councillor Neil Boyce, the Ruddy Duck PH and private residents totalling £800. Members wished to note their gratitude, the clerk confirming that thanks had been sent.
- 61.3 Emergency Plan – lessons learned, proposed update of plan . Cllr Weaver reported that a new draft has been put together, circulating copies accordingly, but it is still work in progress. It includes a separate section for each risk type. Cllr Weaver advised that he had spoken with Ben Harris of Sissons Farm in connection with farmers responses to field fires and will seek details of other local land owners.
Cllr Weaver to circulate an electronic copy. Consideration to be given to inviting the Fire Prevention Officer to a meeting once work on the Emergency Plan is finished.

62. Maintenance:

- 62.1 Cllr Crowson advised of the meeting held with Lee Moore of the City Council to raise maintenance issues around the village, including branches overhanging the pavement.
Clerk to check progress and to raise poor state of access to Oak Drive.
- 62.2 Folly Bridge repainting update – Cllr Weaver reported that although one side of the bridge had been completed there had been insufficient paint to complete the other side. Extra paint has now been received from the City Council. Members considered Saturday 24th October as a suitable date for completing the work, weather permitting, starting at 10.00am. Members were mindful of a church cleaning day to be held in October.
Cllr Crowson to notify volunteers who previously helped with the painting and put information on the Village Facebook. Cllr Weaver to cut back brambles etc beforehand.
- 62.3 Maintenance updates:
Painting of benches -Cllrs Crowson and Tuley advised that this was likely to be undertaken in October
Village Monument - Cllr Clark reported that the monument was sound but some re-pointing is required.
Cllr Clark to obtain quote for repointing work.
Village Sign – some slight paint flaking noted, agreed to be inspected again in the Spring.
- 62.4 Planting of hedging – members were advised that 210 free whips are expected from the Woodland Trust in November. Stakes and tubes will be needed to protect them.

Cllr Clark to obtain advice from Tony Cook at PECT regarding cost and supply. A working party for planting of the saplings will be needed, with a lead councillor appointed to be responsible.

- 62.5 Other items of maintenance: it was noted that work to re-putty and stain the Parish Council Noticeboard is still outstanding.

Cllr Crowson to put a request on the village Facebook site for a volunteer to undertake the work.

63. Allotments:

- 63.1 Two requests for reimbursement payments for damage to allotments as a result of the field fire had been received. Approval was given for £150 to be paid to the tenant of plot 12 and £150 to the tenant of plot 1.

- 63.2 It was felt that a review of the paths across the allotments was required.

Cllr Clark to print a plan of the allotments and meet with Cllr Jackson on site to look at access points and consider a minimum specification width for paths. Cllr Clark to arrange date and time with Cllr Jackson and advise the clerk accordingly, who will notify Mrs Dearman.

- 63.3 Updates on plot numbering, community orchard, contact with landowner and general report:

Cllr Clark will drive a post into the Orchard Plot to help decide the size of post required for identification of plots. The dead hedge surrounding the Orchard plot should be removed, but the beetle bank remain. Advice received from the Allotment Society recommended the extension of the existing lease and members proposed that a 99-year lease be suggested to the landowner.

Cllr Clark to send a copy of the existing lease to Cllr Crowson.

64. Digital and Data Compliance: agreed to hold over to October.

65. Review of policies: agreed to hold over to October.

66. Speeding / Road Safety - Cllr Crowson reported that the scheme currently has 4 active volunteers. The next Speedwatch will take place in October. Speed data to be downloaded from the vehicle activated signs.

67. Councillor's reports:

Carbon Literacy Course - Cllr Tuley advised that the course planned for August was cancelled due to low numbers. A minimum of 5 participants is required. Cllr Tuley to liaise with the City Council to re-arrange a date, ideally before 3rd November to enable Cllr Clark to attend.

Glinton parish councillors attending the National Emergency Briefing to be asked if they would wish to be included.

Village Action Plan - Cllr Clark suggested that ideas received for projects should be rated in terms of importance and feasibility, with a maximum of 3 selected.

Cllr Clark to consider the use of a matrix for deciding preferences for projects raised at the previous meeting and arrange for the Action Group to meet in October.

National Emergency Film – 28 people have registered to attend the event on 25th September.

Cllr Crowson to post reminder on the Village Facebook. Cllrs Crowson and Tuley to provide refreshments.

68. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 19th October.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:07pm.