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**DRAFT MINUTES OF LUTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN LUTTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY
6TH JULY 2026 COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Councillors Karl Brace, Chris Cowdery (Chair), Jill Eaton

IN ATTENDANCE: Kerry Rew, Clerk; two members of the public

26.44	APOLOGIES: none received
26.45	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Brace notified the meeting that his daughter had applied for the position of Clerk; he did not participate in the interview panel or selection process.
26.46	PUBLIC FORUM: There were no comments from the public
26.47	WARD COUNCILLORS' UPDATES: None present
26.48	MINUTES OF MEETING 18TH MAY 2026: APPROVED as a true record.
26.49	FINANCE: 1. The update to the accounts was prepared by the Clerk and circulated prior to the meeting. 2. There was one payment presented for authorisation per the schedule below*. RESOLVED. Six pre-authorised payments were made since the last meeting: Clerk's salary for May by standing order, monthly bank charges for May and June, and two payments for playing field mowing. 3. The meeting was notified that the Fixed Asset Register value has been adjusted to remove the Coronation Bench giving a revised asset value of £5888.66. The bench is now registered as a Village Hall asset.
26.50	PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS: 1. The meeting noted the North Northamptonshire Local Plan Scoping Consultation which closed for comments on 1st July 2026. 2. Notification received – Lutton Farm, Washingley Road Ref 26/00839/VAR for continued retention of caravans for seasonal agricultural workers and stationing of welfare facilities. No comments submitted by LPC - deadline 17th June. 3. Planning notification received – 12 Milton Terrace Ref 26/00831/HFUL – for permission to create a new vehicle access/dropped kerb. No comments submitted by LPC - deadline 17th June. 4. Planning notification received – Church Cottage, Main Street Ref 26/01210/HFUL – for permission to remove and replace patio paving slabs, erect post and rail fence and gate. No comments submitted by LPC - deadline 17th June.
26.51	CORRESPONDENCE: 1. The meeting noted the reminder that all analogue landlines will be switched off by January 2027 and moved to a digital home phone or other type of landline replacement. For most this is straightforward, but for older or vulnerable people, particularly those with telecare alarms or no mobile phone, it can be confusing. Residents can find out more at UK transition from analogue to digital landlines - GOV.UK to help prepare for this switchover.

	2. There has still been no update about the surface water flooding from Cllrs David and Wendy Brackenbury. Cllr Brace reported that NNC Highways' HORT site states that the defect has been found and repairs are ongoing. There is a 6-month window for completion.
26.52	CLERK'S REPORT: 1. The Clerk signed a new locum contract to provide support services until 31st August 2026. 2. The Clerk submitted a radar speed sign progress report to OPFCC detailing grant expenditure (with copy invoices) and project status to date. The meeting was reminded that £1535 remains of the original £5000 grant which is to be used for road markings. Quotations were sought from four contractors in addition to the quote provided by NNC/Kier. Two quotes were received. NNC/Kier - £3521.61 +VAT Northampton Line Markings - £900 +VAT WJ (South) Ltd - £1514.77 + VAT Cllr Cowdery to check reviews for Northampton Line Markings, subject to which NLM will be appointed to carry out the work and complete the project. It was noted that any funds remaining must be returned to OPFCC.
26.53	REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS: 1. Following extensive advertising, interviews took place on 29th June for the position of Clerk. It was unanimously agreed by the interview panel to appoint Shelby Scott who will take over the role with effect from 1st September 2026. 2. Cllr Cowdery provided a summary of the data downloaded to date from the radar speed sign. Data has been collected from two locations, and in both directions, so far. This shows that there is 75% compliance with the 30-mph speed, with a further 8% of vehicles being driven within the 30 – 40-mph range. Only 0.1% of vehicles exceeded 40-mph. It was interesting to note that compliance with the speed limit among vehicles exiting the village (and therefore unable to see the speed sign screen when passing it) dropped to 64%. This indicates that the visual reminder of a vehicle's speed increases driver awareness. Cllr Cowdery to produce a simple summary for circulation in the magazine or flyer to inform all residents. 3. A well-attended defibrillator, CPR, and first aid training event was run by St John Ambulance at the Village Hall. Clerk to pay donation of £100 as agreed at the meeting on 18th May. 4. Cllr Cowdery submitted 12 HORT reports to NNC Highways about potholes, of which 10 have now been fixed. The remainder, plus others that have now increased in size will be re-reported. Cllr Cowdery to report blocked drains outside the Village Hall.
26.54	DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Monday, 7th September 2026

The meeting closed at 7:40 pm

* Payments for authorisation 06/07/26	
Ms K Rew - Clerk's expenses May & Jun 26	£196.96