MINUTES OF A MEETING OF WATER ORTON PARISH COUNCIL

held at the Pavilion, Openfield Croft, at 7.00pm on Thursday 29 October 2026

Present: Cllr Stuart, Cllr Rees, Cllr C Chown, Cllr R Coldrick, Cllr T Harrison, Cllr P Holloway

Guests: 6

Minute Taker & Clerk: Rachel Scully, clerk@wopc.org.uk

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.08pm

Agenda Item:	Minute:	Actions:
26/27.01	**Apologies:**	
	Received and noted, Cllr David Reilly and PC Louis Thompson	
26/27.02	**Public participation:**	
	a) Members of the Public & Press None b) Reports from County and District Councillors (for information only) if present: A verbal report was given and received by the County Councillor. c) Report from Police representative (for information only) if present: A Police Representative could not attend the meeting.	
26/27.03	**Declarations of Interest and dispensations:**	
	Declarations of interest received Cllr Chown and Cllr Holloway **Agenda item:26/27.10.** A dispensation was granted to Cllr Stuart for **Agenda Item:27/27.08**	
26/27.04	**Minutes:**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2026.	
26/27.05	**Reports from Chairman, Parish Councillors**:	
	To receive updates/reports a) A Chair's Report was not submitted, but Cllr Stuart gave thanks to everyone on the Parish Council for their ongoing work. b) The Borough Councillor's Report was received and noted. c) There were no other reports.	
26/27.06	**Clerk's Report:**	
	The Clerk's Report was received and noted.	
26/27.07	**Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils (WALC) Annual General Meeting:**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the election of Cllr Harrison on behalf of the Parish Council to attend and vote at WALC's Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 24 November 2026 at 6.00pm which would be held online.	

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26/27.08	**Remembrance Commemorations:**	
	The Parish Council noted the arrangements for the purchase and placement of poppies which make up part of the remembrance commemorations of the village, which would be funded from Cllr Stuart's North Warwickshire Borough Councillor Fund. It was agreed that Cllr Rees would lay the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.	
26/27.09	**JoyArts**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the following proposed recommendations in relation to JoyArts; a) To provide a formal response to JoyArts /Balfour Beatty Vinci (BBV) in relation to questions asked in the draft third party agreement on public art. Due to the nature of the confidentiality of this document it was agreed to return and further discuss this item in closed session. b) To form a specific working group in relation to the proposed public arts project; there were no named specifications made in relation to membership.	
26/27.10	**Bowls Club**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the request from the Bowls Club for building improvements and support for a crowdfunding initiative.	
26/27.11	**Air Quality Monitoring:**	
	It was RESOLVED to note the Air Quality Monitoring Report around the HS2 construction sites, and to discuss and consider responses to the Air Quality Report which may include: • Liaison with the MPs Office on response • To ask for further direct meetings with HS2 on this matter either directly or in conjunction with SMZ • Any other actions which are proportionate and in line with previous actions, policies and resolutions • To consider the attached draft resolution Due to the nature of the confidentiality of some of the documents, it was agreed to return and further discuss this item in closed session.	
26/27.12	**Land at Plank Lane:**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the proposed recommendation that the Parish Council investigates the ownership of the land on Plank Lane and the feasibility of using the land as the base for a community project / Forest on School.	
26/27.13	**Maintenance:**	
	a)The monthly play inspection report was received and noted from Cllr Chown. It was reported that there was a hole that needed to be filled on the village green. b)The Annual Play Inspection Reports for Openfield Croft, the playing field and Vicarage Lane, the village green were received and noted. Discussed that the wet pore surface had been flagged in the report. It was noted that quotes to be obtained for the whole	

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	resurface and replacement of the wet pore. c)It was noted the Tree Survey Report is to be reviewed. Further actions including one of the trees on the playing field and the bushes on Attleboro Lane on the village green to be considered at a Maintenance meeting, including a proposal for another flagpole to be sited in the village. It was noted that lately there have been a few trees in the village taken down by the County Council without prior warning or notice to the Parish Council.	
26/27.14	**Finance:**	
14a) 14b) 14c) 14d)	It was RESOLVED to approve the payment of invoices. It was RESOLVED to approve the payment schedule up to 20 October 2026, and items paid under delegated authority since previous schedule. It was RESOLVED to approve the 2026-27 receipts and payments account and bank reconciliation to 20 October 2026. It was RESOLVED to note and approve the cost for the Christmas lights for this year which is largely labour and has risen with inflation of 3% to £3,003 plus VAT which would be invoiced after the switch-on. A discussion took place about extending the lights further down the village in future years. It was agreed that this should be discussed and be on the agenda at a future Maintenance meeting.	
26/27.15	**North Warwickshire Local Plan Review- Consultation Regulation 19**	
	It was RESOLVED to approve the proposed recommendations. a) To provide a response to Regulation 19 before the deadline date of Monday 26 November 2026 with a view to submitting the Parish Council's response on the morning of Friday 27 November 2026, in order that it could be discussed at the meeting of the full Parish Council due to be held on Thursday 26 November 2026. The Clerk to make contact to request an extension for the Parish Council to submit its response on the morning of Friday 27 November 2026. b) To provide suitable notification to residents concerning the response to the Local Plan and to encourage responses from the village using suitable communication channels, Facebook and noticeboards.	**RS**
26/27.16	**Changes to Smoke Control Orders Consultation:**	
	The Parish Council considered and discussed the responses to the consultation. It was agreed that the Clerk would submit the responses before the submission date of 16 November 2026.	**RS**
26/27.17	**Police, Budget and Police Reform Survey**	
	It was agreed that Councillors should individually respond to the survey, and Cllr Stuart would draft a response on behalf of the Parish Council and would circulate a draft response to all Councillors to	**SS**

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	approve in time for the deadline submission date of the survey Friday 13 November 2026.	
26/27.18	**Planning:**	
18a)	New applications: 2026/0651/FUL, Land North of Marsh Lane Water Orton It was agreed to make further comment for more clarification in relation to the usage of the site for cranes and vehicles. The Clerk would copy Cllr Stuart into the response to contact North Warwickshire to make a request that the decision referred to panel rather than it be delegated. 2026/0751/FUL, Water Orton Primary School, Plank Lane It was agreed to further comment regarding the proposed access. Discussed concerns for emergency vehicles gaining access onto the school site.	**RS** **RS**
18b)	To report decisions on previous planning applications made by North Warwickshire Borough Council (for information only) Noted	
26/27.19	**Items for Next Meeting:**	
	Clerk to forward Agenda Item Reporting Sheet to Councillors.	
26/27.20	**Date, Time and Place of the next Parish Council Meeting:**	
	The next Parish Council is to be held on Thursday 29 November 2026 at 7.00pm at the Playing Field Pavilion, Openfield Croft, Water Orton. The Clerk mentioned that there had been an error the date should be 26 November not 29 November 2026.	
26/27.21	**Closed Session:**	
	It was RESOLVED to move into a closed session and exclude the public and press, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed**.** <u>HR Matters</u> a)It was RESOLVED to approve the appointment of the Special Projects Officer. b)It was RESOLVED to approve the extension date for applications for the Clerk's vacancy. A schedule of dates was agreed on for the selection process and interviews. **Agenda Item:26/27.08a - JoyArts was moved during the meeting** c)This item was discussed and it was RESOLVED to progress this item further with a response. **Agenda Item: 26/27.11- Air Quality Monitoring was moved during the meeting** d)This item was discussed and it was RESOLVED to proceed with the response. There were no updates, recommendations and proposals in relation to leases.	

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There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed:…… Dated: …….

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