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Minutes of Clifton Campville with Thorpe Constantine Parish Council Meeting of Council held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday 7 July 2026 at Clifton Campville Village Hall

Attendees: P.Bennion (Chair). Councillors – A.Amsden, P.Bostock, E.Leedham, R.Nicholls, A.Tongue

Chair Bennion opened the meeting at 7:00 pm and welcomed all in attendance.

Public Open Forum.

Members of the public are invited to address the Council on any issue over which it has power, for up to 5 minutes each. The period of time designated for public participation at the meeting in accordance with the Standing Orders shall not exceed ten (10) minutes, unless otherwise directed by the Chair of the meeting.

A resident attended to raise concerns regarding ongoing water-pressure, supply and occasional discolouration issues.

Action: Staffordshire County Councillor Tracey Dougherty to be advised of the situation and asked for the contact details within South Staffs Water so residents can directly report their issues.

Chair Bennion reported that he has met with Severn Trent Water and MP Sarah Edwards to relay our views regarding pipeline installation. It was noted that Severn Trent Water had been reluctant to undertake the sewage pipeline project but have now been instructed to proceed following direction from the relevant DEFRA Minister.

A resident reported that the noticeboard in the bus shelter at Haunton had been removed. Councillors confirmed that replacement options are being sought.

A hole was reported that is located on the public footpath at the entrance to the Church, by the metal gate post and the Millennium Green. Discussion took place regarding options for repair, noting that the Church is the landowner and therefore responsible for maintenance of this section of the footpath.

It was also noted that the signs that covered the hole had been moved leaving it exposed and open to accident.

Action: Cllr. Nicholls to explore the Rights of Way position relating to the reported issue, including any responsibilities or obligations that may apply to the landowner/Millennium Green and the public footpath.

Church Gates are in need of repair/replacement. They have also been spray painted yellow. Councillors resolved to contribute financially to the upkeep.

Action: Councillors agreed to explore options for repair and to gather quotations for the necessary works.

26/003 To Receive any Apologies and Record any Absences

Cllr. R. Leedham

Staffordshire County Councillor – T Dougherty

26/004 To Receive Declarations of Interest

E. Leedham – 26/016 d

26/005 To Receive and Consider - Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings Held on 5 May and 29 June 2026

5 May 2026 – Chair Bennion asked for an amendment and once made, will then be signed as an accurate record.

29 June 2026 – will be circulated once Councillor approval has been received.

26/006 To Discuss Anti-Social Behaviour Report

Residents attended and reported that there had been incidents of anti-social behaviour that had been reported to the Police and the Housing Association – Bromford Housing.

The resident expressed concern that they feel caught in a cycle between Bromford Housing and the Police, with, in their view, neither organisation, taking ownership of the issue and also reported that they have received no contact from our local the PCSO. Consequently, they have submitted a complaint to the Police regarding what they perceive as a lack of response. They stated that one incident had been escalated to a harassment case.

Chair Bennion advised that he has reviewed Bromford Housing's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and has identified several instances where the policy has not been followed. It was noted that Lichfield District Council is able to undertake a review of the case where policy conditions have been breached.

Cllr. Nicholls suggested contacting ASB Help Charity who have some useful information regarding via the Victim Hub and ASB Case Reviews *'The ASB Case Review, formerly known as the Community Trigger, is an effective tool to problem solve anti-social behaviour (ASB). The ASB Case Review is a multi-agency case review which involves various agencies (e.g. local police, local authority, housing provider, NHS). An ASB Case Review is NOT a complaints procedure, but an opportunity for an independent review to be held to see what, if anything else, can be done to resolve the anti-social behaviour'*.
<https://asbhelp.co.uk/>

Councillors also discussed the adult-safeguarding element of the case, noting that this should form an integral part of a multi-agency review.

Actions: Resident(s) to forward details to Clerk and Chair Bennion will pursue with Lichfield District Council and Bromford Housing. Chair Bennion will also visit the residents affected if invited and provided with a full case dossier

26/007 To Discuss Feedback from meeting on 29th June, and telephone call received from Lewis Anderson.

Cllr Tongue reported that a discussion with Lewis Anderson following the submission of AGAR indicated that he thought that the Internal Auditor was unduly critical regarding the assumption that records were incomplete.

26/008 To Receive a Report from the Parish Network Meeting on 29 June 2026

Cllr. Nicholls reported that due to unforeseen circumstances he was unable to attend the meeting.

26/009 To Consider and Approve the Parish Council's IT Policy

The Clerk circulated NALC's template IT Policy for possible adoption. Councillors considered the document and felt it was overly long-winded and not entirely suited to a Council of this size.

Action: Cllr. Tongue to investigate alternative options for consideration.

26/010 To Discuss Remembrance Day Poppies

Councillors discussed the provision of Remembrance Day poppies and emphasised the importance of honouring the occasion collectively as a community. Members noted the value of supporting the Royal British Legion's work and expressed a desire for the Parish to contribute meaningfully. Following discussion, Councillors agreed to make a donation of £200 in support of the Remembrance day appeal.

Action: Cllr. Leedham to arrange the payment to be made to the Village Hall.

26/011 To Review and Agree the Use of gov.uk Email Addresses by Councillors

Councillors agreed to proceed with the move to gov.uk email addresses and noted that the transition should take place promptly. The Clerk had re-circulated the guidance to assist members and ensure a smooth changeover.

It was noted that most Councillors had already made the switch.

26/012 To Discuss Planning Applications

a) 26/00702/FUH - Plas David , Thorpe Lane, Tamworth, Staffordshire
Councillors raised no objections to the planning application.

b) 26/00641/FUH - Clifton Park, Stoneybridge House , Netherseal Road, Clifton Campville, Tamworth
Councillors raised no objections to the planning application.

c) 26/00628/FUH - 1 Church Hollow , Main Road, Clifton Campville, Tamworth
Lichfield District had already approved this planning application.

Action: Cllr. Nicholls to return the decisions to Lichfield District Council and forward a copy to the Clerk for retention.

26/013 To Discuss Highways Issues

a) Overhanging trees and vegetation affecting highways including signage
Concerns were raised regarding overhanging trees and vegetation on Lullington Road, which are now obstructing visibility of highway signage. Councillors noted that photographs of the affected areas are required so that the matter can be reported through the Report It app.

Action: Cllr. Nicholls to obtain photos and report to Staffordshire County Council.

b) Emergency road closure notices

Emergency road-closure notices were discussed. Chair Bennion reported that residents have advised that they have frequently encountered incorrect or misleading information, particularly at weekends, with diversion routes that are often contradictory and confusing. It was further noted that there appears to be a lack of a coordinated response between the agencies responsible for issuing and managing these notices, resulting in inconsistent messaging and confusion for motorists. Councillors agreed that the matter should be raised with the relevant authorities to seek clearer, more reliable, and better-coordinated communication.

Action: Chair Bennion to raise with Cllr. Dougherty.

c) Replacement stiles/public footpath signs

A resident reported (via email prior to meeting) issues concerning public footpath signage and stiles along the walking routes between Thorpe and Clifton. With increased numbers of walkers using the promoted routes from the Thorpe coffee shop, it was noted that one footpath sign near the resident's property has disappeared, and another requires replacement where the footpath crosses Clifton Lane. In addition, two stiles were reported as unusable: one located at the crossroads behind the Church leading into Davisson's horse field, and another situated by the entrance to the former Thorpe fishing ponds. Councillors acknowledged the report and agreed that the matters should be investigated and referred to the appropriate authority.

Action: Cllr. Nicholls to investigate further and report the concerns via Report It - Rights of Way. <https://prow.staffordshire.gov.uk>

d) Traffic calming measures near The Green Man, Clifton Campville / Car Parking

A concern (via email prior to the meeting) from a resident was raised regarding road safety near The Green Man pub in Clifton Campville. It was reported that the gates and approach to the premises present a risk to road users, creating a potential danger of accidents if no action is taken. A request was made for the Parish Council to consider appropriate traffic-calming measures in this location, including improved signage, speed-reduction options, or enhanced visibility around the gates, in order to reduce the likelihood of incidents.

Councillors noted that the Council had previously highlighted concerns regarding the dangerous access arrangements at The Green Man pub and had requested that Lichfield District Council require a vision splay as part of the planning process. However, neither the Highways Department nor the highway report commissioned in support of the planning application appeared to share this view.

Councillors noted that the Council has no powers to implement traffic-calming measures directly. Members further recorded that the statutory processes for introducing such measures rest entirely with Staffordshire County Council, where proposals are assessed on a priority basis and typically require the collection of accident and incident data over a sustained period before any intervention can be authorised. Councillors reaffirmed that these limitations restrict the Parish Council's ability to act independently on traffic-calming matters. They considered if widening the gates would help the situation.

Action: Chair Bennion will liaise directly with the complainant.

The Council also received a concern regarding recurring parking issues along Main Street arising from overflow parking associated with The Green Man pub. A resident reported that the problem occurs every weekend and increasingly during the week, with vehicles obstructing their driveway and creating dangerous visibility issues when attempting to exit properties. It was noted that the matter has been reported to Lichfield District Council, but no adequate guidance or response has been received. Photographs were provided as evidence of the situation.

e) Traffic concerns regarding Thorpe Lane

Councillors noted that the Radway closure has resulted in increased traffic along Thorpe Lane, with motorists travelling at excessive speeds. Members observed that additional signage is needed to alert lorry drivers that the road is single track in places. It was further suggested that the Thorpe coffee shop might consider displaying a sign on their site to encourage more considerate driving by visitors using the route.

Action: Cllr. R. Leedham will approach the coffee shop to determine whether they would be willing to display a sign.

26/014 To Receive a Report from District Councillor Phillip Bennion

Local Plan – Cabinet Member Cllr. Alex Farrell has proposed placing the Local Plan on hold pending further infrastructure reviews. It was noted that the Leader of the Opposition has called in the decision by the Scrutiny and Overview Committee. The risk is that during this pause, housing developers may seek to bid for land that is not currently identified within the existing plan.

Local Government Reorganisation - a three-unitary-authority model is likely to be imposed, following nine proposals originally submitted for consideration. Under indicative arrangements, Lichfield would form a unitary authority alongside Tamworth and Burton upon Trent. An official decision is expected within the next week.

26/015 To Receive a Report from County Councillor Tracey Dougherty

No report available due to absence.

26/016 To Consider Finance Matters

a) To note receipts and payments since last meeting

Natwest Bank	Transfer to savings	£15,000.00
Zurich Municipal	Insurance	£421.50
NEST	Pension contribution	£53.73
SPCA	Membership fee 26/27	£365.36
Bradley Accountancy	Service fee	£288.84
D Cox	CCTC PC Administration Costs	£472.05

b) To note bank reconciliation figures

Current account - £8990.56

Savings account - £20487.13

c) Natwest compensation

Due to previous and ongoing issues regarding access to the NatWest bank account during the tenure of the previous Clerk, NatWest has issued £150 in compensation. Councillors considered options for the use of this sum and resolved to support Cllr. Bostock's proposal that it be donated to St Andrew's Church to assist with the repair of the gate.

Expenses relating to this matter have also been reimbursed, and a payment of £21.30 will be made to Cllr. Bostock.

Action: Cllr. Leedham to arrange payments.

d) Approval to pay allotment rents to R Leedham & Son

Councillors approved payment of the invoice - £388.00

e) Approval to pay internal auditor fee

Councillors approved payment of the invoice - £229.25

f) To consider and approve the introduction of a new spreadsheet for the Parish Council's accounting records.

Councillors agreed to adopt the proposed Excel spreadsheet for 2026/27. The Clerk explained that its use will assist in completing the AGAR when required.

g) To consider the sale of the Parish Council's printer

Councillors agreed to the sale of the Council owned printer - further investigation regarding options on where it can be marketed for sale and cost need to be considered.

h) To consider implementing additional controls and safeguards for the Parish Council's bank account

The Clerk presented a proposal of strengthening payment release controls, highlighting that this would provide a clear safeguard for public money which will enhance the overall integrity of the Parish Council's financial management. Additional checks such as dual authorisation reduces the risk of error, fraud, or unauthorised transactions. These measures also ensure greater transparency and accountability, demonstrating to residents, auditors, and regulatory bodies that the Parish Council is exercising robust management over public funds and gives greater protection to the Clerk and Councillors. Councillors agreed to the proposal in principle pending further information.

Action: Clerk to investigate the options directly with Natwest Bank.

26/017 To Request Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

It was requested that all unresolved items feature on the agenda for the next meeting in September.

- Parking at St Andrew's Primary School

26/018 To Confirm Date and Time of Next Meeting

7:00pm, Tuesday 8 September 2026

Chair Bennion closed the meeting at 9:00pm.

D Cox

Deb Cox, Clerk to Council. 13 July 2026.

Recording of Parish Council Meetings.

It is permitted for meetings to be recorded or filmed without prior permission being sought apart from confidential business. Members are reminded that they should avoid saying anything which could be slanderous. While the council and its officers may be filmed or recorded, that does not apply to filming or recording members of the public, as their permission must be sought first. Any filming or recording must not be disruptive to the business of the meeting (The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014).