

Algarkirk Parish Council

www.algarkirk.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALGARKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2025, 7.20pm AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ALGARKIRK

Present: Councillors: G Reid (Chairman) M Spiller, J Barton, J Cantwell, C Glenn,
and L Shepherd.

Also Present: Mrs M Warr (Clerk), LCCrs Paul Lock and Barry Daish
3 Members of the public

Ahead of the meeting two minutes silence was observed as an act of Remembrance

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

42/25 APOLOGIES

No apologies received.

43/25 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY OR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

44/25 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2025, were presented.

RESOLVED:

That, the minutes of the meeting, held on 9th September 2025, are approved as a true record.

45/25 COUNCILLOR VACANCIES

Two expressions of interest had been received to fill the two vacancies. It was unanimously agreed to co-opt June Barton and Courtney Glenn to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that June Barton and Courtney Glenn are co-opted to Algarkirk Parish Council.

46/25 PLANNING

No items to report

47/25 POLICE REPORT

2 crimes were reported in August in Eleys Lane – anti social behaviour and burglary. There had been anti-social behaviour in Church Lane on 1st November resulting in damage to the phone box glass panels. These will be replaced with Perspex. Although the defibrillator had been slightly tampered with, it is still in good working order with no visible damage. The Village Hall had an outside window broken.

48/25 CLERK'S REPORT

Grants – the application to the Lincolnshire Councillor Volunteer Scheme has been submitted and approved. Cllrs Spiller and Shepherd met with the co-ordinator to discuss further and it has been agreed that the Scheme will paint all the junior equipment, the goal posts and the sides of the phone box.

8 litres of dark green paint and wire brushes will be purchased. It was agreed that after the painting is completed, in late spring of 2026, new toddler swings will be purchased and the matting replaced.

Cllr Shepherd has agreed to be lead member for the play area.

The application to BBC for £400, towards the replacement third toilet cistern in the Village Hall and the play area materials, has been approved and the funds received. The work in the VH will be completed shortly.

National Pay Award - the national pay award for Clerks has been agreed and an increase of 56p per hour is due, backdated to April 2025

Community Skip – this initiative is on hold but Cllr Butler hopes it will be considered again in the new financial year.

roadHoG – a reply has been received regarding the roadHoG bus stopping in Algarkirk and they prefer an invitation to come from a Church and this will be discussed at the next PCC meeting.

Bird Flu – there has been two confirmed outbreaks in the area in Donington and Swineshead. As a result, a 3km Protection Zone and a 10km Surveillance Zone have been established around the affected area. Bird keepers are asked to check current restrictions.

49/25 JOINT VILLAGES EMERGENCY GROUP

An event took place on 7th September and 8 new volunteers signed up. The meeting on 22nd October was well attended, including 2 members of the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum. All the risk assessments have been completed for the villages and only the mundane items are left to complete, therefore it is hoped that the plan will be ready for adoption at the January meeting.

50/25 REPORT ON OTHER PARISH MATTERS

a) Village Hall – Cllr Spiller reported a wasp nest was disturbed in the roof and two smoke bombs had to be used to clear them. The PC was thanked for the oil contribution to heat the Hall and it was noted that the payback team will be cleaning the Church ahead of the carol service.

b) Playing Field – Cllr Spiller met with a tree specialist to discuss the tree with the hollow. Rot was evident and the recommendation was to have an x-ray taken to discover the extent of the damage to the tree. This would cost £650. As the field is rented from the Diocese they have been approached for advice. Members were concerned that this needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency as there have been a lot of high winds already and the weather is likely to deteriorate in the coming months. It was agreed that

the PC could fund the x-ray and recoup from the Diocese if this was a quicker course of action.

RESOLVED: that the Diocese would be contacted as a matter of urgency to address the problems with the tree with the hollow in the play area. If necessary, the Parish Council will fund the cost of the x-ray.

c) Churchyard – Cllr Spiller and the Clerk attended a PCC meeting on 25th September. There were no items discussed that were directly relating to Algarkirk, apart from including the village in the Advent Winter Warmer events on 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd December although no further details have been received. The next PCC meeting is 13th November but unfortunately neither Cllr Spiller or the Clerk are able to attend.

51/25. FINANCE:

The bank reconciliation was received and noted.

The invoices below were accepted and agreed.

RESOLVED: that the following invoices are paid:

M Warr – salary for September and October (paid by Standing Order) - £453.68

M Warr – back pay national award - £40.32

M Warr – service meetings May, July and September, 6 hours - £110.10

RoSPA – play area inspection - £105.60 (£17.60 VAT) (paid October)

Lincoln Diocese – playing field rent - £120.00 (paid October)

W Dent – replacement toilet cistern VH - £320.00 (paid October – BBC grant)

SOS Fuels – oil for Village Hall - £323.20 (£15.40 VAT)

T A Blackamore – grass cutting £806.40 (£134.40 VAT)

A draft budget was considered and will be finalised and the precept set at the January meeting.

52/25 COMMUNITY SURVEY

It was agreed to print 200 copies of the survey for hand distribution, as well as being available online. The closing date for completion will be 31st December and there will be a 'post box' available next to the notice board on Church Lane for hard copy returns. Copies will also be available in the Village Hall.

53/25 POLICIES

RESOLVED: that, the following policies are adopted:

- Safeguarding
- IT
- Equality and Diversity

54/25 CHRISTMAS EVENT

After discussion it was agreed to purchase sausage rolls, mince pies and cup cakes for the event ahead of the carol service on 7th December. Chocolate coins will be bought for the children as well as festive paper cups and serviettes. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be available. A budget of £200 is available but Cllr Cantwell generously offered to donate £100 from his BBC allowance towards the event.

RESOLVED: that mince pies, sausage rolls and cup cakes along, with festive tableware and chocolate coins will be purchased for the event on 7th December.

55/25 LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Lincolnshire County Councillors Paul Lock and Barry Daish were welcomed to the meeting. Cllr Lock had spoken to a resident in Workhouse Lane about encroaching trees, but there is little that can be done unless they obstruct the highway. He is also trying to get a number of road signs re-instated.

Cllr Cantwell updated on several BBC matters:

- Police funding is very tight and the budget has had to be held up by reserves. Funding has been cut for rural grants and if unexpected costs occur the funds will not be available.
- LCC has agreed responsibility for the bridge repairs between the Church and the Sutterton footpath. These should be completed before Christmas.
- The Local Government reorganisation is ongoing.
- A new policy has been agreed to prevent goldfish being sold or given as prizes at events.
- A calendar of councillor surgeries for 2026 will be available soon.
- A street cleaning rota for rural areas will be made available to parish councils for 2026 and should be co ordinated with the weed spraying.
- Sutterton roundabout will be given a clean up
- Cllr Cantwell has been made vice chairman of BBC Audit and Governance Committee which is now a paid role of £3200 pa. He is donating half the allowance to social care charities and also hopes to set up a winter warmth scheme.

56/25. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Budget, Design a flag competition, Community Space scheme.

57/25. NEXT MEETINGS

The date for the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 13th January 2026, 7.20pm at the Village Hall.

The meeting calendar for 2026 was confirmed as:

February – no meeting, Tuesday 10th March, April - no meeting
Tuesday 12th May – Annual Parish and Annual Meeting, June – no meeting
Tuesday 14th July, August – no meeting, Tuesday 8th September
October – no meeting, Tuesday 10th November, December – no meeting

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed -----

Date. -----