Minutes of the Ashby cum Fenby Parish Council held at Ashby cum Fenby Church Hall on Thursday 17 September 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs: Clive Williams (Chairman), David Pritchard (Vice Chairman), Paul Brewster, Bob French, Carol Shaw, Nick Shaw.

In attendance: Ward Cllr. Philip Jackson, Rose Brewster (temporary Minute taker) and 9 members of the public.

01:09/26 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

02:09/26 Apologies for Absence

No apologies were received before the meeting but Cllr Brewster received an apology by email from Ward Cllr James Sawkins, shortly after the meeting started, due to a close family bereavement.

03:09/26 Open Forum

The Chairman emphasised Standing Order No 3 (as stated in the Agenda) to members of the public attending.

Concerns were raised about the Planning Application Ref: DM/0608/26/OUT for 8 dwellings at land north-west of Main Road, spoiling the character of the area and connecting Ashby cum Fenby with Brigsley. Complaints were made of increased power cuts despite PowerGrid previously stating that work had been completed to reduce them.

04:09/26 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true and correct record.

05:/09/26 Finance and Governance

Cllr C Shaw stated that the Bank cannot change signatories until all relevant forms have been completed and approved. Until then all correspondence from the Bank is going to the previous Clerk. The future signatories will be Cllrs Williams, C Shaw and French with reconciliations by Cllr N Shaw.

06:09/26 Highways – Encroachment, Potholes and Fly-tipping

a) Highways concerns associated with encroachment in the narrow lanes requesting they engage with landowners as we are now at the start of the recognised period for hedge cutting. Other concerns were inconsiderate parking by visitors / walkers to the village when access to agricultural vehicles etc is hindered. Designated parking areas will be considered.
b) Potholes where weeds are present should be filled, also the back of road is broken in places particularly at Thoroughfare which should be repaired before frosts.
c) Fly-tipping remains an issue and various suggestions including requesting permanent signage and litter bins were received to alleviate the problem.

Resolve:

Confirmed the Parish Council intends to walk the village and identify immediate concerns, catalogue issues and write to Highways, NELC and ask for a plan of action.

07:09/26 Nuisance Issue adjacent to A18 opposite Thoroughfare

As this area is not within the boundary of the village,

Resolve:

To write to Ward Councillor for Ravendale.

08:09/26 Parish Council WhatsApp Group

Councillors discussed reintroduction of WhatsApp Group for Residenta as a Read Only WhatsApp Groug.

Resolve:

Councillor Bob French to create and publish Read Only WhatsApp Group and cascade its presence to Villagers.

09:09/26 Planning

Planning Application Reference DM/0441/26/FUL – Change of use of land from field/wedding venue to 8 lodges, landscaping and associated works. Location: Hall Farm Restaurant, Ashby Lane, Ashby cum Fenby.

For context, Chairman advised: NPPF indicates that the rural economy, and tourism, should be supported — specifically, existing businesses, and hospitality.

Equally, the planning authority has an obligation to safeguard village communities and mitigate any impacts, whether that be on highway safety, traffic volume, or local disturbance.

Concerns from residents about traffic in the village have been raised and traffic issues ie speeding and junction priority failures have previously been reported on the NE Lincs Portal.

Resolve:

The Parish Council register 'No Objection' to application DM/0441/26/FUL subject to a Section 106 agreement requiring consultation and implementation of a 'Quiet Lane' scheme through the village, and a Grampian Condition, ensuring that no chalet can be occupied until the Quiet Lane scheme and measures are legally established and implemented.

Planning Application Reference DM/0608/26/OUT – Outline application to erect 8 dwelling with all matters reserved. Location: Land North-West of Main Road, Ashby cum Fenby

The Chair gave this contextual clarity:

This site comprises of vital open land serving as a crucial green buffer preventing the co-alescence of two distinct settlements.

National planning principles clearly say that a housing shortfall is not a blank cheque for speculative development that causes irreversible harm to the character and physical separation of local rural communities.

The local authority's own technical assessment for this application reinforces that this specific parcel of land faces severe, unresolvable spatial constraints.

Resolve:

'The Parish Council strongly objects to planning application DM/0608/26/OUT on the grounds that it constitutes unsustainable ribbon development and threatens the co-alescence and individual identity of Ashby cum Fenby and Brigsley. The Council explicitly notes that this application fundamentally fails to meet standard local spatial criteria and would be wholly unacceptable regardless of any external infrastructure or pipeline constraints. Further, the Parish Council endorses the local authority's technical evaluation that this specific site is inherently constrained, and instructs the Clerk to submit our formal objection based strictly on these standalone spatial planning considerations.'"

10:09/26 Future Date

Next Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 12 November 2026 at 7.00pm at Ashby cum Fenby Church Hall.

The Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Date: Signed