

**DRAFT MINUTES OF QUENDON & RICKLING PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Present: Gari Spearpoint - (GS) Chair
 Erica Bromley – (EB)
 Caroline Mackrill - (CM)
 David Murfitt – (DM)

District Councillor Neil Hargreaves – (NH)
Keith Williams (KW)-Parish Clerk
2 members of the public

1703. Declarations of Interest

None

1704. Apologies for Absence

Peter Beaumont – (PB)
Ray Hart- (RH)

1705. Co-option of parish councillor

David Murfitt had provided his application confirming his qualification for serving as parish councillor on Quendon and Rickling Parish Council. He was unanimously elected to the position and signed the Declaration of Acceptance Form.

The parish clerk will advise UDC of his co-option.

1706. Minutes of the last meeting held on 10th July 2025 (already circulated)

The minutes of the last meeting and also the Annual Council meeting were agreed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

1707. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 10th July 2025

None.

1708. Public participation session

At this point District Councillor Neil Hargreaves presented details of the Neighbourhood Plan Infill Policy and Development Limits. A summary of his report will be entered under item 17:County and District Councillor Reports.

The road works at Rickling Green Road are still ongoing.

[376/2025]

1709. Correspondence

- A villager wishes to hire the marquee.
- The goal on the Green has been badly damaged.
- PB has suggested that the Village install a Book Swap Cabinet.

1710. Footpaths

No further updates.

1711. Planning

UTT/25/2341/FUL – Birds End, Brixton Lane

Proposal for a self-build detached dwelling.

[The PC will provide the clerk with the council's response to be submitted to Planning).

1712. Village projects

- Regarding the posts for the Green. Mrs Bevan will be contacted again as the ground is now soft enough for the posts to be driven in.
- GS advised that the road planings were delivered to the pub on 12th September.
- The existing "No parking on the Green" sign at the pub is often being ignored. It is suggested therefore that a larger sign be installed.

1713. Belchams Lane

Information regarding building developments is included in the report from District Councillor Neil Hargreaves.

1714. Finance

- Accounts Balances (already circulated) - Noted.
- Invoices and payments for approval (already circulated) - Approved.

FINANCE REPORT for AUGUST 2025

Balance b/f @ 31/07/2025 6283.56

Payments to be authorised for August 2025

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Chq no</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Payroo	Already paid	6.00	Payroll expenses for July 2025
James Penrose	Already paid	230.00	Grasscutting for July 2025

[378/2025]

Keith Williams	Already paid	546.11	Missed salary and PAYE
Keith Williams	Already paid	432.11	Salary for August 2025
HMRC (Keith Williams)	Already paid	108.00	PAYE for August 2025
Quendon Bowling Club	Already paid	15.20	Pegasi meeting refreshments
Unity Trust Bank	dd	6.00	Service charge
James Penrose	online	230.00	Grasscutting for August 2025

Total payments for August 2025 **1573.42**

Balances at 31/08/2025	Current a/c	4710.14
	Savings a/c bf	20646.26
	Interest	<u>0.00</u>

Total c/f at 31/08/2025 **25356.40**

Please note: The payment to HMRC was made by the parish clerk and is being reimbursed.

1715. Events

- i. The date set for the Pumpkin Competition is 12th October. Katherine Nuttall is arranging the event with the pub.
- ii. It is suggested that the Village have two Christmas trees this year. Siting needs to be agreed.
- iii. The date for turning on the Christmas lights is provisionally set at 28th November.

1716. Actions Log

A template has been reviewed and accepted.

1717. Review of Policy Documents

- i. **Complaints Procedure**
- ii. **Emergency Plan**
- iii. **Grants and Donations**
- iv. **Risk Management**

The documents will be reviewed by councillors for any amendments to be agreed at the next parish council meeting.

1718. Memory bench for Tom Duncan

GS will speak to Sue Duncan to ask her views. If it is agreed to proceed, permission will be required from Mrs Bevan, and siting will need to be decided.

1719. County and District Councillor reports

Cllr Neil Hargreaves

The Neighbourhood Plan needs to expand the development limits for Quendon. The new Local Plan does not have these limits for smaller villages. It supports limited infill development within built areas but does not define what "built areas" means.

[379/2025]

There is text in policy NQR1 Development Limits stating “Quendon and Rickling Green is a small settlement...and is not suited to major development schemes”.

Policy NQR3 Infill Development

This policy refines Policy H3 New Houses within Development Limits of the adopted Local Plan and CP3 Settlement Hierarchy in setting out specific means by which infill development would be compatible with the character of the settlements and their countryside setting. The policy should be applied alongside the criteria of Policy H3, and CP3 for ‘Smaller Villages’.

The text of Policy H4, which gives guidance for backland development, has not been carried forward to the new Local Plan, and although defined in the Design Code, it gives no guidance. The Design Code definition is therefore included in this policy, together with the carried forward H4 policy text.

NQR3 Infill Development

Infill development is defined as where there are gaps between existing properties with a street frontage, backland sites which may be landlocked or located behind existing buildings, and site redevelopment.

Proposals for backland development within Development Limits may be supported where:

- There is significant under-use of land and development would make more effective use of it;
- There would be no material overlooking or overshadowing of nearby properties;
- Development would not have an overbearing effect on neighbouring properties;
- Access would not cause disturbance to nearby properties.

Proposals for limited infill development in Quendon and Rickling Green within Development Limits will be supported, provided they:

- Reflect the essentially open and low-density character of the settlement; and
- Preserve the setting and significance of listed buildings and preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area
- Meet local housing needs as defined by the Housing Needs Assessment.

1720. Clerk’s pay increase and backpay

Parish councillors had received details of the recommended pay increase in line with the LGA agreement, to be back-dated to April 2025. The council agreed the increase which will be introduced in the September pay run and will include the back-dated pay,

1721. Date of next meeting

9th October 2025.

1722. Closure of meeting

There being no further items to be discussed, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20.55.

[380/2025]