



Worthington Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of **Worthington Parish Council** on Tuesday 17th of February 2026 held at 6pm, at St. Matthew's Church, Worthington.

Present: Cllr. S Haggart (Chair) · Cllr. A Stafford · Cllr. B Storer

Clerk: Callum Bryant · NWLDC Community Focus Team Leader Emma Trahearn
Leicestershire County Councillor Michael Squires · 3 Members of the Public

243/2026 APOLOGIES

Cllr. Chris Fountain, PCSO Mike Walker, NWLDC Community Focus Officer Gillian Squires and District Councillor Ray Morris sent apologies.

244/2026 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

245/2026 LOCAL POLICING REPORT

PCSO Mike Walker sent a report outlining two minor public order offences within the parish.

246/2026 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Council heard from three candidates seeking co-option, who outlined their local connections, knowledge of the area and reasons for wanting to serve as a councillor. They spoke about their commitment to the parish, engagement with residents and the importance of being approachable and proactive.

Topics raised included championing the improvement of footpaths and bus services, helping maintain rural safety and access, addressing local concerns constructively, and encouraging greater community involvement in parish matters. Relevant professional experience, including work in local government, business, and community roles, was highlighted, together with the practical skills and perspective each could bring to the Council. The Council thanked all three candidates for their interest and for attending.

The Council received a report from Emma Trahearn, the Community Focus Team Leader at North West Leicestershire District Council. Members were advised of the "Love Your Neighbourhood" initiative, including a month of action with litter-picking kits available, particularly for children, and forthcoming promotion of fly-tipping reporting, including incidents on private land. An enviro-crime session is also planned.

Details were provided on the North West Leicestershire Community Lottery, which currently supports 63 good causes. Voluntary and heritage groups are eligible to join

(parish councils are not), with tickets costing £1 per week. Of this, 20p goes into a council grant fund (anticipated to raise approximately £25,000 this year), with the remainder split between prizes and administration. The fund is not ring-fenced. The Council was reminded that the District Council's Grants Officer is available to advise local groups.

Members were also informed of a county-wide project, commissioned through the Leicestershire Resilience Forum, to support the development of community response plans for incidents such as flooding, power outages and road closures. Parish Liaison is expected to take place at the end of March and topic suggestions were invited.

247/2026 UPDATE FROM DISTRICT / COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Leicestershire County Councillor Michael Squires reported that the 2025/26 budget proposes a 2.99% council tax increase (below inflation). The budget is tight and, if approved, would show an £18m deficit. Key allocations include £52m for SEND transport and schooling, £20m for adult social care, and £2m from carbon funding into infrastructure. An efficiency review has identified £5.4m in savings to date, with a £100m annual target; four efficiencies totalling £320,000 were outlined.

Flooding and potholes remain priorities, with 1,600 potholes recorded in January (double the expected number). Dangerous potholes can be reported directly to the County Councillor. Concern was raised regarding expenditure on a third IT system.

Regarding a crossing at Griffydam Primary School, the site scored 1.4 against the required 4 under the assessment criteria. National data indicates lower-traffic crossings may carry increased risk. A school crossing patrol was suggested as an alternative.

248/2026 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

It was resolved to require the exclusion of the public and press under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2) for debate of item 257 to avoid improper disclosure of personal information to the public.

- CLOSURE OF THE PUBLIC SESSION -

249/2026 MINUTES

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th of January as accurate.

250/2026 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Storer reported on the condition of the roads locally and the council discussed surveying and reporting them. Cllr. Stafford reported on the flooding on Breedon Lane and the mitigations currently in place; the council discussed monitoring the situation.

251/2026 LITTER PICK

It was resolved to approve a litter pick within the parish, approving up to £200 for equipment and other expenses. To be publicised via social media seeking volunteers

252/2026 CPR & DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

It was resolved to approve one or more defibrillator training sessions for the parish, subject to appropriate interest in attending. To be publicised via social media seeking volunteers

253/2026 HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

In his absence, Cllr. Chris Fountain sent a report regarding Breedon Lane flooding: It was noted that works are planned by the immediate landowner in the coming month, prior to spring sowing, with the intention of improving drainage connectivity to the nearby watercourse.

Adjacent landowners are also undertaking remedial measures on their respective sides of the affected area, which collectively are expected to provide some improvement.

In addition, the Parish Council will continue its routine maintenance of roadside drains in the vicinity.

It was further noted that when the watercourse reaches capacity, the highway is likely to flood. Significant structural alterations by the highway authority are considered unlikely in the absence of a major incident and allocation of substantial resources.

Cllr. Haggart noted that from Cllr. Stafford's photos of the flooding on Breedon Lane that although the weather was unusually severe, the flooding cleared quickly. Cllr. Storer noted that two cars cannot easily pass there now due to residual detritus restricting the effective width of the carriageway. Bull Hill was also raised as a problem area and road damage from HGVs.

254/2026 MAINTENANCE

To discuss and approve any necessary maintenance of the parish including:

- a) Grounds maintenance contracts were delegated to the clerk in consultation with councillors, pending the receipt of the last quotes.
- b) The approval of a parish contractor was delegated to the clerk in consultation with councillors.

255/2026 ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

- a) It was resolved to note accounts presented and review current budget, virements to be approved by council at the next meeting.
- b) It was resolved to sign the transaction summary, statements and bank reconciliation.
- c) It was resolved to appoint Anne Daly as Internal Auditor.

256/2026 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) To discuss planning applications received since the agenda was published.
 - 1) To consider planning applications received in advance of the agenda publication.
[Erection of single storey rear extension and single storey side extension](#)
35 School Lane, Newbold, Coalville LE67 8PF

Ref: 26/00138/FUL – **No adverse comments.**

- 2) [Remove existing gate & replace w/ 2 brick columns & 2 x 2.0 metre high gates to driveway](#)
11 Top Road Griffydam, Coalville, Leicestershire LE67 8HU
Ref: 26/00041/FUL – **No adverse comments**

- b) No planning applications were received since the agenda was published.
c) Delegated decisions were discussed by council.

257/2026 CO-OPTION

No members of the public were present at this stage of the meeting, and therefore no withdrawal was required.

It was resolved to co-opt Justin Stewart as a member of Worthington Parish Council and that he sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

258/2026 ONGOING ISSUES AND UPDATES

The ongoing matters spreadsheet was viewed and updated.

259/2026 NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Items were relayed to the clerk for inclusion on the next agenda.

- THE CHAIR CLOSED THE MEETING AT 20:16 -