

Cold Ashby Parish Council

Draft minutes of the ordinary general meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday March 4th, 2026, in the Playing Field Pavilion at 7.30p.m.

Present: Councillors Bailey (RB, Chair), Harpham (NH), Peel (AP), Rachel Williams (RIW) and Richard Williams (RdW). Councillor Christine Ware (CW, WNC), two members of the public. Jonathan Ward-Langman (Clerk, JBW-L).

Interests: None were declared.

26.03.01 - Apologies: Councillors Fiona Taylor and Alex Taylor

26.03.02 - Minutes of the General Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday February 4th, 2026 approved unanimously (proposed NH, seconded AP).

26.03.03 - Matters arising from the approved minutes: none.

26.03.04 - Open forum: to receive and discuss matters raised by members of the public present at the meeting.

- A member of the public commented on the application by CAPFA for funding from the Community Infrastructure Levy (see 26.03.06, below).
- A member of the public commented on the Black Horse public house, (see 26.03.07) which has now been purchased by a new owner.
- A member of the public requested that the Thornby Road street sign should be relocated and was advised to report this through the WNC website ([West Northamptonshire Council FixMyStreet](#)).
- Councillor Christine Ware reported that the WNC budget has now been adopted.
- CW also discussed the new WNC Local Plan which is subject to consultation; a drop-in event is to take place at Brixworth community Centre on March 19th, 2026 (<https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/local-plan> and [Brixworth and Surrounding Areas: Local Plan Drop-In Event – Thursday 19th March – brixworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](#))

26.03.05 – Accounts:

- The attached accounts for January 2026 were approved unanimously (proposed NH, seconded RIW).
- Payments listed at Annex A were approved unanimously (proposed RB, seconded NH).
- Banking arrangements. The Clerk updated and RdW signed the Unity Trust Bank authorisation form. *Action Clerk*

26.03.06 – Community Infrastructure Levy: grant applications from Cold Ashby Memorial Hall and CAPFA were noted and it was agreed to defer decision until the April OGM. *Action Clerk*

26.03.07 – Planning matters: Confirmed that Asset of Community Value listing of the Black Horse was renewed on February 12th, 2026, for five years.

26.03.08 - Parish Council CAPFA representation: Councillor Alex Taylor has submitted his resignation as CAPC representative on CAPFA. It was agreed to defer appointment of additional representative until May meeting (AGM). NH continues to represent the Parish Council on CAPFA.

26.03.09 – Refurbishment of telephone kiosk: Clerk reported that companies offering full refurbishment are fully booked. It was suggested that the PC should identify local tradesman to repaint the kiosk. CW suggested contacting Sibbertoft and Brixworth PCs which have recently commissioned similar work. *Action Clerk*

26.03.10 – Grass cutting 2026: submitted quotation includes Playing Field; agreed to request revised quotation based on service provided last year and to query whether it was too late to pollard Lime trees. Deferred to April. *Action Clerk*

26.03.11 – Grant Applications: Confirmed grant awards as follows (unanimous proposed RdW, seconded AP).

- Friends of St Denys Church to support maintenance (gardening) of Churchyard.
- Cold Ashby Playing Fields Association to support grounds maintenance at the Playing Fields

26.03.12 – Bus Shelter: Discussed. No public comments had been received and member of the public who had expressed support at February meeting had withdrawn support as the design was not as he had originally expected. In the absence of public support and in view of aesthetic concerns regarding design of Bus Shelter offered, it was agreed that the Parish council would not support installation of the new shelter. CW was thanked for her efforts in relation to this facility.

26.03.13– Dates for Parish Council meetings 2026-27 agreed as follows:

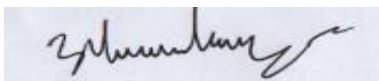
- First Wednesday every calendar month except July and January, AGM/APM May 6th, 2026. *Action Clerk*

26.03.14 - Post: to note and/or discuss items of correspondence with the Council not considered elsewhere on the agenda.

- Letter from Deeley Homes (attached) was discussed. Agreed to invite representative of the company to April meeting. *Action Clerk*
- Discussed email from Fewzed with quotes for repair of VASL signs. Agreed to ask Fewzed to repair the sign which they had indicated could be repaired, and to return the other. Unanimous (proposed RdW, seconded NH).

The meeting closed at 8.50p.m.

Date of next meeting: Ordinary General Meeting Wednesday April 1st, 2026, in the Playing Field Pavilion at 7.30p.m.



Jonathan Ward-Langman March 11th, 2026

January 2025

Date	Account	Category	Desc	Credit/ Debit	£	VAT	Total	Notes
01/01/26	Main	Opening Balance				£0.00	£18,620.15	
01/01/26	Savings	Opening Balance				£0.00	£9,949.37	
15/01/26	Main	Website & email accounts	IONOS 203052566482	Debit	£3.00	£0.60	£3.60	
16/01/26	Main	Street Lights	Npower IN14676585 Oct-Dec 2025 incl.	Debit	£295.86	£14.79	£310.65	
26/01/26	Main	Water charges	Wave 16058942	Debit	£19.44	£0.00	£19.44	
30/01/26	Savings	Interest	Interest	Credit	£7.77	£0.00	£7.77	
	Main	Total					£333.69	
	Savings	Total					£0.00	
	Income (Main)	Total					£0.00	
	Income (Reserve)	Total					£7.77	
				Main Account			£18,286.46	
				Savings account			£9,957.14	
N.B. £5790.53 CIL FUNDING IS RING-FENCED AND CAN ONLY BE SPENT AS STIPULATED BY WNC				Month Balance			£28,243.60	
	Date:	February 26th 2026						

Annex A: BANK RECONCILIATION FOR COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING March 4th 2026						
Name of smaller authority:	Cold Ashby Parish Council					
County area (local councils and parish meetings only):	West Northamptonshire					
Financial year ending 31 March 2026						
Prepared by (Name and Role):	Jonathan Ward-Langman Clerk/ RFO					
Date:	26/02/2026					
					£	£
Balance per bank statements as at 31/01/2026						
Business Current Account 1045	account 1				£18,286.46	
Business Reserve Account 2605	account 2				£9,957.14	
	account 3					
Petty cash float (if applicable)						£0.00
Less: any unpresented cheques as at 31/01/2026 (enter these as negative numbers)						£0.00
Net balances as at 31/01/2026						£28,243.60

Annex A: Invoices for approval Cold Ashby Parish Council March 4th 2026

Date	Account	Category	Description	Credit/Debit	£	VAT	Total
31/01/2026	Main	General Maintenance	Norse: Annual Empty of Dog/Litter bin, Stanford Rd. Feb 26 - Feb 27	Debit	£352.59	£70.52	£423.11
Above payments authorised:							
	Clerk	Jonathan Ward- Langman					
	Councillor						
	Councillor						
	Date:						

Cold Ashby Parish Council Budget report 2025-26 (N.B. Payments net of VAT as this will be reclaimed)					
-	Actual to January 31st 2026	Full year forecast 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Variance (budget vs forecast)	Notes
OPENING BALANCE MAIN	£9,687.21				
OPENING BALANCE RESERVE	£9,870.53				Incl. Interest 31/03/25
RECEIPTS					
Precept	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	£0.00	
Cemetery charges	£574.00	£550.00	£400.00	£150.00	
S136 Grasscutting (WNC)	£199.88	£882.61	£650.00	£232.61	
Recharge CAPFA insurance	£1,956.92	£1,956.92	£1,900.00	£56.92	
Interest on reserve	£86.61	£140.00	£140.00	£0.00	
Other grants and payments	£6,251.33	£460.80	£0.00	£460.80	
VAT reclaim	£0.00	£1,334.41	£0.00	£1,334.41	
Transfer to reserve	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
TOTAL	£21,068.74	£17,324.74	£15,090.00	£2,234.74	N.B. £5790.53 CIL not included in forecast
PAYMENTS					
Clerk's salary & PAYE	£2,943.00	£3,933.60	£3,600.00	-£333.60	
Payroll	£110.00	£120.00	£60.00	-£60.00	
Office costs	£0.00	£0.00	£25.00	£25.00	
Stationery	£0.00	£0.00	£25.00	£25.00	
Insurance	£2,609.23	£2,609.23	£2,550.00	-£59.23	
NCALC/ACRE subscription	£269.85	£300.00	£290.00	-£10.00	
HMRC	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Grass cutting	£2,039.80	£3,088.68	£3,000.00	-£88.68	
Audit	£306.00	£306.00	£250.00	-£56.00	
Room hire	£142.50	£360.00	£360.00	£0.00	
Data protection	£47.00	£47.00	£50.00	£3.00	ICO fee
Training	£88.00	£90.00	£200.00	£110.00	
Website & email accounts	£159.94	£150.00	£150.00	£0.00	
Cemetery maintenance	£0.00	£0.00	£350.00	£350.00	
Consumables/IT	£0.00	£0.00	£50.00	£50.00	
Street Lights	£1,287.65	£1,460.87	£1,450.00	-£10.87	
Sundry	£334.00	£334.00	£0.00	-£334.00	Reimbursement overpaid cemetery charge
Water charges	£99.28	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	
General maintenance	£0.00	£300.00	£300.00	£0.00	
S137	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Grants	£1,140.00	£1,140.00	£1,000.00	-£140.00	
Small Works/lengthsman	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Bus subsidy	£0.00	£750.00	£750.00	£0.00	
Special projects	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00	
Contested election	£64.50	£64.50	£0.00	-£64.50	
Transfer to reserve	£0.00	£0.00	0	£0.00	

Total Variance payments				-£93.88	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£11,640.75	£15,153.88	£15,060.00		
TOTAL (Surplus/overspend)	-	£2,170.86	£30.00	£2,140.86	Surplus

F'CAST CLOSING BALANCE MAIN		£11,718.07			
F'CAST CLOSING BALANCE RESERVE		£10,010.53			

N.B. £5790.53 CIL FUNDING IS RING-FENCED AND CAN ONLY BE SPENT AS STIPULATED BY WNC

COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL

GRANT APPLICATION FORM 2026-27

This form will be submitted to the Councillors to assist in their decision making. Any financial figures should be for the last financial year of the group. If possible, a summary statement of accounts (e.g. receipts and payments plus the bank balance) should be attached. It is preferable, but not essential, if the accounts have been audited. The Council may require evidence that any grant awarded was spent for the purposes set out below.

Name of group/organisation	FSDC (Friends of St Denys Church)
Name on bank account (for cheque payments)	a/c name: Cold Ashby PCC a/c sort: 30-99-50 a/c no: 34335762
Registered Charity/Charity Number	n/a
Contact name	Angela Edwards
Position with the Group	Chair
Contact name's home address	3 Park Spinney Close, Cold Ashby NN6 6ER
Contact name's telephone number	07799 473656
Contact name's e-mail address.	.com
Brief description of group and its aims	The constitution of FSDC states that: The aims of FSDC are to i) promote the Church building and grounds as a centre for community use and activity alongside its principal function as a place of worship and ii) organise activities to raise funds to maintain those aspects of the church fabric, graveyard, grounds/environs and facilities which are enjoyed by all Cold Ashby villagers, as well as the wider community
Brief description of project for which you are making this application (attach sheet if needed)	Ref financial year 2026/27: To help us meet the above aims, we hire a gardener annually for 8 months during the financial year April to March. This is to provide a floral display in the churchyard and to do general maintenance of the flower beds, making the churchyard a year-long attraction for the locals and visitors. This work from the gardener supplements many hours of work put in by local villagers.

Please return your completed application form to the Clerk,
Cold Ashby Parish Council,
1 West Haddon Road, Cold Ashby NN6 6EE

If this application is for a Grant of money, state how much.	£800
If this application is for the donation of goods purchased by the Parish Council, please describe. Please provide supporting quotations	n/a
What is the total cost of this project? Please provide details of how this figure is built up	For the financial year April 2026 – March 2027 we are requesting 8 months @£100 /month = £800. This is broken down into 7 months from 1 April 2026 - 31 October 2026 and 1 additional month (March 2027).
Have you applied, been promised or received Grants/Donations from any other sources for this project?	n/a
Number of members in the Group	5 people are on the FSDC committee
Number of members resident in the parish	All 5 FSDC committee members are long standing residents of Cold Ashby.
Total spent by the group from all sources in the last twelve months	n/a
Total received by the group from all sources in the last twelve months	n/a
Main income sources – please itemise	The FSDC is a fund-raising body which applies for grants to meet its aims. There are now far fewer grants available, and of these, this project does not meet the eligibility criteria.
Current bank balance	n/a
Special/other considerations	<p>i) approx. 250 people from across Northants, Leics, and Warks, as well as further afield, visited the churchyard at our Open Gardens event in July 2025. We expect similar numbers in July 2026</p> <p>ii) approx. 30 bellringers annually visit the church and its churchyard both locally and from across the wider diocese of Peterborough</p> <p>iii) approx. 20 visitors from across the county visit the churchyard and church for the Ride and Stride event held annually in September</p> <p>iv) the churchyard is used regularly as a pleasant walk through for walkers/dog walkers, both from our village and further afield</p>

Signed: Angela Edwards Position: Chair of the FSDC

Date: 27.1.26.

Please return your completed application form to the Clerk,
Cold Ashby Parish Council,

1 West Haddon Road, Cold Ashby NN6 6EE

COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

This form will be submitted to the Councillors to assist in their decision making. Any financial figures should be for the last financial year of the group. If possible, a summary statement of accounts (e.g. receipts and payments plus the bank balance) should be attached. It is preferable, but not essential, if the accounts have been audited. The Council may require evidence that any grant awarded was spent for the purposes set out below.

Name of group/organisation	Cold Ashby Playing Fields Association – CAPFA
Name on bank account (for cheque payments)	Cold Ashby Playing Fields Association
Registered Charity/Charity Number	Yes - 282455
Contact name	Ruth Sleigh
Position with the Group	Trustee and Secretary
Contact name's home address	Honeysuckle Cottage Thornby Road Cold Ashby NN6 6EN
Contact name's telephone number	01604 740405
Contact name's e-mail address.	sprocket@ruthandwill.co.uk
Brief description of group and its aims	Provision of sports and social activities for parishioners and other members of the public from outside the Parish, at the playing fields and pavilion, which CAPFA manages on behalf of the Parish Council. Facilities include a playground which is open free of charge to any visitor,

Brief description of project for which you are making this application

CAPFA requests funding assistance for ongoing day-to-day maintenance of the playground and the playing field which is open and accessible from both Stanford Road and West Haddon Road.

The children's play equipment and play area as well as the playing field must be maintained by CAPFA on behalf of the Parish Council and District Council. The play area is open at all times and for use by any members of the public – not just parishioners of Cold Ashby.

CAPFA requests from the CAPC a contribution towards costs of maintaining the playground area and field. Costs include maintenance of equipment including ride on mowers and strimmer, as well as fuel to operate them.

If this application is for a Grant of money, state how much.



The play area and field is mainly laid to grass and require mowing fortnightly in the summer, from April to October and occasionally in winter depending on weather conditions. Volunteers from the CAPFA committee of trustees carry out the mowing and general maintenance of the playground and field.

The play area is very well used by the few children from Cold Ashby as well as a high number of users from other Parishes who have free and unrestricted access to the fields and play facilities.

CAPFA receives no other funding or support this purpose*. Funds are raised by the actions of volunteers and trustees.

*Some of us volunteer to do litter picking over the two days of the Hollowell Steam and Heavy Horse Rally and this year we were awarded some funds to contribute to the cost of replacing the wooden edging to the play equipment safety surfaces, which are rotting away so the rubber pellets spill onto the grass and they will also become a trip hazard if not replaced soon.

	<p>Costs of maintaining the mowers and other maintenance equipment continue to rise as the equipment ages, although we are lucky to have volunteers who can provide technical expertise to help with this and help keep costs manageable.</p> <p>We estimate our maintenance running costs for this year for the playground and playing field to be in the order of (excluding any breakdowns):</p> <p>Mower/strimmer service and</p> <table data-bbox="694 660 1300 884"> <tr> <td>Consumables:</td> <td>£700</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fuel (mower and strimmer)</td> <td>£400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>£1100</td> </tr> </table>	Consumables:	£700	Fuel (mower and strimmer)	£400	Total:	£1100
Consumables:	£700						
Fuel (mower and strimmer)	£400						
Total:	£1100						
<p>If this application is for the donation of goods purchased by the Parish Council, please describe.</p> <p>Please provide supporting quotations</p>	<p>N/A</p>						
<p>What is the total cost of this project? Please provide details of how this figure is built up.</p>	<p>As above.</p>						
<p>Have you applied, been promised or received Grants/Donations from any other sources for this project? If so who?</p>	<p>None.</p>						
<p>Number of members in the Group.</p>	<p>There is no formal membership of the group. The playground facility is open to any member of the public. There are no restrictions in place – other than no dogs allowed. The CAPFA committee currently numbers twelve trustees.</p>						
<p>Number of members resident in the parish.</p>	<p>There is no membership structure. Play facilities and the playing field are</p>						

	<p>accessible to anyone regardless of where they live.</p> <p>All Parish residents are automatically members of Cold Ashby Sports and Social Club, which runs the bar at the pavilion and which donates surplus to CAPFA and occasionally, sports clubs such as the bowling club which is based at the playing fields.</p>
<p>Total spent by the group from all sources in the last twelve months.</p>	<p>See accounts</p> <div style="text-align: center;">   </div> <p>CAPFA End of year Accounts 2024-1 (1) CAPFA End of Year Accounts 2024-2 (1)</p>
<p>Total received by the group in the last twelve months.</p>	<p>See accounts above.</p>
<p>Main income sources – please itemise</p>	<p>CAPFA comprises a not-for-profit Board of charity Trustees.</p> <p>Income from hire of multi-play facility is the main income although there is currently no block booking for this facility. It also requires regular maintenance to maintain viability. Much of CAPFA income goes towards maintenance of, and eventual replacement of this high-value asset.</p> <p>CAPFA receives a periodic donation from Cold Ashby Sports and Social Club. See accounts above. This depends on surplus raised, which recently increased but will tail off when/if the pub re-opens. CASSC funds go towards maintaining and running the pavilion and site.</p> <p>Some income from sports clubs and teams, including Bowls Club but this covers running costs.</p> <p>CASSC now also generally shares a proportion of the surplus with the bowls club as noted above.</p>
<p>Current bank balance (please state date)</p>	<p>See end of year a/c's 2024 attached to this document.</p>
<p>Special/other considerations</p>	<p>None</p>

Date submitted: 9th December 2025