



Minutes of the Nettleham Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting held at 7.15 pm at the Large Hall, Old School on 28 April 2026

Present: Cllr A. White (Chair), Cllr P. McNeill, Cllr C. Payne, Cllr D. Newsam, Cllr T. Crook, Cllr C. Johnson,
In Attendance: C. Thomas (Clerk),
Members of public present: 3

1 Welcome from the Chairman - Ref: 215

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everybody

2 Approval of minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15/04/2025 - Ref: 216

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true record.

Proposed: Cllr D. Newsam Seconder: Cllr P. McNeill All in favour

3 To receive the Chairman's Report on Parish Council activities undertaken in the last year. - Ref: 217

The Chairman read her report which is annexed to the minutes

4 To receive the Finance Report - Ref: 218

The Responsible Financial Officer summarised his report which is annexed to the minutes.

5 To take any questions from members of the public - Ref: 219

A member of the public raised concerns regarding parking on Scothern Road, alongside Bill Bailey's play area. Councillors shared the concerns raised and advised that discussions on creating a parking area were underway but this would take a significant period of time. Parking restrictions didn't appear to have helped rather than move the problem further up Scothern Road. Enforcement Officers would be requested.

Meeting closed at 7.50 pm

Annual Report: 2025-26: Nettleham Parish Council

Nettleham Parish Council has a new Clerk, Carl Thomas, following the resignation of Lucy Waller who has taken up a new appointment as Clerk at Immingham Town Council. Carl was formerly our RFO but has previous experience as a Clerk and he is now both Clerk and RFO.

Since June 2025 Brian Kelly is as our new Facilities Manager. Thanks are due to our other staff who kept everything going during the periods of time when we were without a Clerk or Facilities Manager.

The Parish Council is in a good financial position with reserves and invested funds as you will see from our Financial Report.

Following the identification of the requirement for a second fire exit door in order to accommodate more than 60 people, a patio door have been installed at the bar end of **Mulsanne Pavilion** which will provide an outdoor facility in summer.

Tree work has been completed in Mulsanne Park during the year.

Nettleham Football Club is preparing to go up a league and has been communicating with Nettleham Parish Council in order to get permission for certain necessary changes.

There will be temporary fencing installed during the football season order to satisfy requirements of a higher league. A Memorandum of Understanding was first agreed between the club and the Parish Council. However, in order for the club to obtain grant funding from the F.A. , the Parish Council has now agreed a ten year lease of the stadium and pitch to Nettleham Football Club.

In another initiative **Nettleham Cricket Club** asked for permission to drill a bore hole in Mulsanne Park in order to obtain water during our increasingly dry summers. This has now been completed and water is available.

Finally there are plans to construct a footpath from the MUGA to connect to the existing footpath alongside the football pitch.

Concern over flooding from the beck has led to the Parish Council jointly investing with West Lindsey District Council in a research project led by the University of Lincoln: **BRANCH**. (Beck resilience and analysis of Nettleham culvert hydraulics) You may have noticed the sensors at various sites along the beck. Coincidentally, as flooding is a problem in many parts of Lincolnshire the **Project Groundwater Greater Lincolnshire** has also inserted water-level sensors which detect and alarm against floods and flooding. An alert is sent to signed -up residents with a text message when the water level rises.

Beck Buddies, a volunteer group of residents led by a Councillor, most of who live near the beck, also monitor the flow of the beck and identify pollution and floating branches which may cause blockages.

And the Parish Council has appointed a person on a part-time basis to support the Facilities staff in maintaining the beck.

It is planned to paint and repair the wooden bridges over the beck in the centre of the village. This was proposed by the **Conservation Area Working Group**. The lead Councillor also suggested revisions to The Green Policy following concerns over the inappropriate use of the Green.

The revised **Green Policy** was accepted at the September 2025 meeting of the Parish Council and No Ball game signs are now in place.

After numerous complaints by Parish, District and County Councillors about the state of the pavements across the Green, **Lincolnshire County Council Highways** have indicated that they will be renewed this year.

The Conservation Area group raised the inappropriateness of a storage locker at the side of the Coop both from a traffic and aesthetic point of view, so the planters, the planted trees and the oak replacement notice boards have improved the environment. It is planned to have two additional planters to deter parking on the pavement at the corner The Green and Vicarage Lane. This is especially important as there is going to be a dropped kerb there to improve crossing the road for pedestrians.

Lincolnshire County Council Highways also held a consultation in the village with an exhibition of the plans for the widening of the Nettleham Roundabout and the proposed bridge over the bypass.

A meeting was held on August 14, 2025 with representatives of neighbouring parishes to discuss our traffic concerns, particularly to and through villages. It is hoped to reconvene this year with representative County Councillors.

The speed along the A46 from the Nettleham Beck Nursery has been reduced to 40mph and the Parish Council has requested that this reduction be extended to the Nettleham roundabout and also that the **40mph be extended on both sides of the entrance to Lodge Lane along the A158.**

Following a site visit with a Highways Officer in September 2024, there are now parking restrictions in place near Bill Bailey's and others are planned near the Co-op.

Two of the three new speed indicators will be placed to monitor speed along the A46. The **Speedwatch Group** continues to carry out sessions around the village. There are five locations where they operate: Lodge Lane, Sudbrooke Lane (By the entrance to the Bowls Club), Greetwell Lane, Scothern Road (By Bill Bailey's Park) and Deepdale Lane. They rotate around each location, completing an hour each session. On nearly every occasion they record at least one vehicle speeding and their details are passed onto the police. Residents who pass by when walking always thank them and are grateful for their efforts.

As explained in the March 2025 edition of Nettleham Matters the Parish Council is in receipt of **CIL** money as there is a Neighbourhood Plan in place. To date this has been used to purchase a storage container, two outdoor table tennis tables at Mulsanne Park and funding the drilling of the bore hole in Mulsanne Park. In the coming year there are plans for new play equipment at Mulsanne and Bill Bailey's. Please send any further suggestions to the Parish Office: parishcouncil@nettleham-pc.gov.uk

Minster Fields is part of the parish, although over the bypass. The Parish Council donated a notice board, which had been replaced, to them and will provide funds for a bench. They also received a small grant towards the Minster Fields Community Group. Other grants were made to Nettleham Junior School towards a wildflower project and the Nettleham Carnival Committee.

The present **Nettleham Parish Council Burial Ground** has only two spaces remaining for burial so the extension in the **Swathe** will soon be in use. As you can see from the notices there, the Facilities Staff have been inspecting the gravestones to ensure that the Burial Ground is safe for visitors.

The heaters in the Large Hall of the Old School have been serviced and the gas meter replaced as a larger one was required. Also, a head set microphone is now available for hirers.

The **Bishop's Palace site and Vicar's Wood** are maintained by the Facilities Staff with the assistance of volunteers led by a Councillor. Chris Williams, who died recently, advised on the tree planting and the wildflower meadow during the early stages of the development of the Bishop's Palace site. It is interesting to look through the old editions of Nettleham News to see how an abandoned field was changed into an informative and available facility for residents and visitors.

One of the volunteers, Dominique Blow, has written several articles in Nettleham Matters about the **Community Orchard** in the Bishop's Meadow.

The removal of ivy in Vicar's Wood revealed many snowdrops in the spring. You will see that the broken wooden fencing has now been replaced.

Climate Change group:

The blister pack recycling scheme was wound up in August 2025, when Boots started their own scheme. Nettleham recycled around 100kg of packs over the course of one year.

Pringles tubes sold at Mulsanne pavilion are collected for recycling, and the collection box for the Babybel recycling scheme is now at the Nettleham C of E Junior School. The school was a recipient of funds raised from the Pringles and Babybel schemes through Terracycle.

Wildflowers and habitat creation

Over the course of the year, wildflower seeds were harvested and sown, together with a programme of bulb planting in several areas across the village. This was mainly in areas where the grass cutting is discontinued in the summer (No Mow). As well as providing food and shelter for pollinators, not cutting the grass allows for the lifecycle of species like butterflies to complete.

The **No Mow** areas at Mulsanne, near to the trees planted in 2022, and between the car park and bowls club have had a range of wildflower bulbs planted amongst the trees. Other areas where we should see more wildflowers over the next few years are at Bill Bailey's, Orchard Way, Bishop's Palace (along the fence line to the burial ground, in the orchard and the meadow) and in the Old Quarry.

The **Field Path Committee** organised the village walk on December 28, 2025 and hope there will be one during the summer which will attract more families with children. They are actively looking at areas around the existing field paths around the village which could extend these walks and link with other parishes.

The Facilities Staff are progressively restoring the existing **memorial benches** and several new ones, including the Ridge and Furrow bench, have been put in place during the year.

The **allotment** land off Cricketers Drive has now been transferred to the Parish Council but there needs to be a safe access and the ground prepared before it is available for tenants.

The Parish Council is consulted on **planning applications**, including extensions. Although we continue to emphasise flooding and traffic concerns, this has no influence if the statutory authorities such as the lead Flood Authority Lincolnshire County Council and Highways do not support these concerns. However, Highways did support the footpath condition from the new Dementia Care Home to the Lincoln Rugby Club.

The closure of the **Co-op** following the fire on April 17, 2025 had a devastating effect on several local businesses. Representatives of the Parish Council met with the Chief Executive and Senior Managers of the Co-op at the beginning of June 2025. This led to Kevin Kendall being the main point of contact for the Clerk. And, the temporary shop supported the July 5, 2025 Carnival by allowing cash to be available and stocking additional drinks and ice-cream on that day.

There were nine nominations for the **Ray Sellars Community Award** in December 2025. It was awarded to Dave and Rachael Tollerton for their yearly fundraising efforts with a haunted interactive tunnel at their own home. A letter was sent to all the other nominees recognising their individual contributions to the life of the local community.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have supported the Parish Council. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in joining them.

Thank you to the residents who continue to hire our properties in increasing numbers.

Thank you to all our staff who have maintained our properties, managed our finances and assisted hirers.

Finally, particular thanks to our Clerk and Councillors.

As we have been four Councillors short for some time we have relied on their application and hard work.

We would like to add to their number. It is not too onerous and you don't have to be elected. Look on the Parish Council website for our co-option form and contact the Clerk or a Councillor if you want more information.

NETTLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Financial Report – 2025/2026

1. Introduction

At the Full Council meeting 17th December 2025 the Parish Council approved a total budget requirement of £291,096 for the financial year 2025/2026 - made up of:

- Anticipated income of £67,746
- A precept demand of £ £223,350 (equating to a 1.96% increase on resident's council tax demands and an annual band D cost of £126.49.

2. 2025-2026 Expenditure

This year, the Annual Meeting of the Parish is being held prior to the close down of accounts.

2025/26 figures are as follows:-

	The expenditure budgeted for 2025/26	Year End Actual	Difference
Old School	£17,497	£24,347	(£6,850)
Mulsanne Pavilion	£19,104	£14,560	£4,544
Burial Ground	£4,946	£3,580	£1,366
Allotments	£1,033	£972	£61
Grass cutting	£10,822	£9,055	£1,767
Admin e.g. interest	£164,437	£188,263	(£23,826)
Village facilities	£37,041	£47,425	(£10,384)
Bishops Place	£3,840	£1,776	£2,064
The Swaithe	£1,200	£841	£359
Fieldpaths	£2,415	£1,512	£903
Capital	£	£124	(£124)
Totals	£262,335	£292,455	(£30,120)

3. 2025-2026 Income

	The income budgeted for 2025/26	Income as at 31/03/2026	Difference
Old School	£29,287	£35,214	£5,927
Mulsanne Pavilion	£11,500	£12,857	£1,357
Burial Ground	£13,000	£11,750	(£1,250)
Allotments	£30	£16	(£14)
Agency grass cutting	£3,000	£6,712	£3,712
Admin e.g. interest	£220,300	£223,615	£3,315
Capital	£	£12,783	£12,783
Totals	£277,117	£302,947	£25,830

4. Cash Position

The cash position at the 31 March 2026 was a total of £359,841 held in 6 bank accounts.

Of those accounts, 4 are savings accounts holding £345,519.

5. Loans Outstanding

There are two loans outstanding from the Public Works Loan Board amounting to £54,843 at 31st March 2026.

6. Accumulated Capital Reserves

At the 31 March 2026, there were the following reserve balances: -

Mulsanne Park	£ 28,562
Old School	£ 22,026
Bill Baileys Capital Projects	£ 35,104
Play Equipment	£ 89,338
Tennis Courts	£ 28,360
Memorial Safety	£ 7,555
Burial Ground Extension	£ 21,243
Permissive Paths	£ 3,207
Election Costs	£ 4,500
Legal Costs	£ 3,500
Tree Works	£ 21,420
Minster Fields	£ 3,000
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	£ 31,527
Old School Wall	£ 47,814
Reactive Speed Signs	£ 540
TOTAL	£ 347,696

Carl Thomas
Responsible Financial Officer

10th April 2026