

Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council
LODER HALL, MAIDWELL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 13th May 2026

Present: Cllr Paybody, Cllr Blake, Cllr Hackworth. Cllr Jackson-Stops, Cllr Goddard. Ward Councillor: Cecile Irving-Swift, Guest Speaker Sergeant Greg Harrison

1) Cllr Paybody welcomed all and explained format of the Annual Parish Meeting. Whilst an informal meeting, usual procedures would be followed due to the number in attendance.

2) All Councillors introduced themselves

3) Guest Speaker - Sgt. Greg Harrison from Northamptonshire Police introduced himself and gave an overview of the Northamptonshire Talking platform summarised below.

- Official communication platform
- Local policing updates – specific to village.
- Contact neighbourhood police team directly.
- Tips on crime prevention and community profile.
- Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue, Neighbourhood Watch, Report fraud – all use this tool.
- Free, simple, resident-led.
- Can choose what to receive.
- Greg – 3 officers + 2 PCSOs (eventually).
- Access via webpage “Northants Talking” – direct contact.
- Does NOT replace 999 or 101 to report a crime.

Website:

<https://www.northamptonshiretalking.co.uk>

- To sign up enter postcode.
- Secured, central inbox.
- All information is confidential and secure.
- Direct line of communication to the relevant officer.
- Platform will send surveys – can opt out.
- Option to select whether you have CCTV – may be useful to let police know through the platform.

Needed (optional):

- Name, address, phone, email.
- Choose options to receive.
- Secondary email to activate the account – must be actioned to enable account (check junk/spam).
- Can be cancelled or changed at any time.
- Not an emergency platform.

Operation Snap

- General principle: cannot capture people in private, but can be private to public.
- Police can capture via portal on Northants Police website.
- Any recordings of dangerous vehicle driving incidents, careless driving, seatbelt, phone use etc.
- Only two trained officers review the footage due to subjectivity, to provide consistency.
- Speedwatch groups cannot use cameras because it is an educational tool.

Q: Is there an app?

A: TBC / not currently

Resident questions to Greg:

Q: What has happened since the last Residents Highways Meeting on 30th April?

A: Sergeant Harrison has surveyed the road with PCSCO Carl Barton in Maidwell for suitable locations to place the speed capture van.

- Use “pulse tactics” – van will stay at one location, leave and come back to ensure more vehicles are captured and are not telling each other Police are nearby

Q: Can police attend later in the day?

A: Yes – the speed data has shown 6–7am busiest time of day

Q: Resident thanked the Parish Council for organising the two latest meetings with Highways and other parties.

- Noted pressure on Highways to deliver despite limited budget.
- Would like action on verges on Draughton Road and would like to request to take the lead on behalf of PC to liaise with Highways on this. PC to discuss later during Annual General Meeting.

Cllr Irving-Swift:

- Note on West Northamptonshire Council Budget – less than one-third of budget is for Highways and other services.
- If not in plan for this year, it will not be done.
- Officers want to do their best.
- Explained issue with stones on verges.
- Bad time with potholes – big issue with tarmac and winter weather.
- A road is always a priority.

Resident:

Comment: Believes Highways trying to absolve themselves from responsibilities. Noted Section 39.

- Does not accept that limited budgets are the answer; data shows speed limit excessive.
- Another resident questioned “heat review” document, Shows “red” roads; evidence is there.

Cllr Blake:

- Explained Sam Simons will not have a “golden bullet”, but keeping dialogue open means when attention is focused, things happen.
- Parish Council does not want to tarnish that relationship.

Cllr Paybody noted the road surface – this is the sticking point.

Cllr Irving-Swift gave an update on West Northamptonshire Council

- No finance/budget close yet for last year.
- Adult social care / children is the biggest budgeted item.

Meeting Closed at 8:50