

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
MARTIN AND MARTIN DALES PARISH COUNCIL**

Date and Time: Tuesday 4th November 2025 7.30pm

Location: Martin Village Hall

Cllrs Present
Will Jenkins - Chair (WJ)
Clare Cowen (CC)
Will Stephenson (WS)
Bobby Neaum (BN)

Cllrs Not Present
Stuart Quinn Apologies received
David Busby Not Present
2 District Councillors Not Present
Whittle and Lawrence Not Present

In Attendance
County Councillor Rob Kendrick (RK)
5 Parishioners

Minute Ref	Actions from This Meeting	Action By	Completed
5	Chase road speed signs	Clerk	
8.3.2	The full council to look onto possible grants for skatepark	All	
8.3.3	Repair quote to be accepted and repair undertaken by current provider	CC	
	Mats to be replaced		
8.3.4	Current provider (DH) to undertake work in the playpark at cost of £700. Cllr. to inform him.	WJ	
8.4	Letter to be sent to NKDC, Highways and parishioner to consider alternative access to the cemetery	Clerk	
	Stonemason inspection invoice to be paid	Clerk	
	Current regs to be checked and updated if necessary	Clerk	
	Quote for mole catcher to be looked into	WJ	
8.6	Schedule of work to be sent to possible ground maintenance contractors for review and decision at the January 2026 meeting	Clerk All	
8.7	Signs to be delivered and erected	Clerk/WJ	
8.9	WJ to approach local Facebook administrators to request for the PC to periodically put messages on community Facebook pages	WJ	
8.10	Clerk to buy phone and change number on noticeboards and websites	Clerk	
8.15	Civility and Respect Pledge to be signed on behalf of the full council.	Clerk	
8.16	Quotes to be obtained for the Gates and additional SID.	WJ Clerk	
	Parishioner to be contacted to check process for collating stats.	Clerk	

8.17	Due consideration to be given to precept request in January 2026. Clerk to send out draft projected figures.	All/Clerk	
8.18	Remembrance wreaths to be laid on Remembrance Sunday on the Church and Martin Dales memorials.	WJ and one other	
8.19	Cllr. DB to collect tree and deliver to Village Hall	DB	
9.2	Payments to be made for inspection, Clerk's salary and ground maintenance after the meeting.	Clerk	
9.5	Clerk's review date to be agreed.	DB/CC	

Minute Ref	Actions Not Closed from Last minutes	Action By	Completed
	Website on going updates	Clerk	
	Cemetery	All	
	Phone	Clerk	
	Facebook	WJ	

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By
1	<p><u>Welcome and Public Session</u></p> <p>Issued Raised:</p> <p>1.1 Cemetery</p> <p>The Church Warden and WJ gave an update. It was reported that WJ and the warden had attended an inspection of the graveyard and cemetery by a stonemason. Quotes have been given for repair of those that need to be made safe in the cemetery at a cost of around £175.00 plus vat.</p> <p>There are approximately 5 that need attending to in the PC cemetery.</p> <p>The cost for many of the churchyard stones will cost more as they are much bigger and heavier.</p> <p>The church warden informed the meeting that it has been made clear to the PCC that under no circumstances should anyone enter the church yard until all repairs have been completed.</p> <p>1.2 Skateboard Ramp</p>	

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By
	<p>All planning applications are available in detail on www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/planning-applications/planning-online</p>	
8	<u>Parish Business Items</u>	
8.1	<p>Outstanding actions from Previous minutes</p> <p>None</p>	
8.2	<p><u>Highways</u></p> <p>North Drove to be closed at some time in the future.</p> <p>All highway closures/restrictions are shown on line.</p>	
8.3	<p><u>Playpark</u></p> <p>8.3.1 Parishioner Volunteer</p> <p>Thanks, given to the parishioner for inspection of park and defib.</p> <p>8.3.2 Skateboard Request</p> <p>A group of young people in Martin travel to another parish for a skate board and would like to have one in Martin.</p> <p>Agreed: Quote for grants to be looked into for the purchase of a skateboard which could be as high as £30,000. The full Council and Clerk to look into possible grants.</p> <p>8.3.3 Repairs</p> <p>Mats need replacing and CC has requested a quote for repairs.</p> <p>Agreed: Repairs to be undertaken and mats to be purchased.</p> <p>All agreed.</p> <p>8.3.4 Grounds Maintenance under/near trees</p> <p>Current provider (DH) has given a quote to undertake this work for £700.</p> <p>Agreed:</p> <p>WJ to request DH to complete the work</p> <p>Proposed: WS Seconded: BN</p> <p>All agreed</p>	<p>All</p> <p>CC/Clerk</p> <p>WJ</p>

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By
8.4	<p><u>Cemetery</u></p> <p>A general discussion took place.</p> <p>Agreed: Letters to be sent to Highways, Parishioner who owns the north boundary and highways, to look into establishing a separate entrance to allow access for parishioners and for any future inscriptions, interments and burials within the Parish Council cemetery.</p> <p>A letter also to be sent to NKDC to confirm the intention of the PC to find another access which would require them to fence off the graveyard affected by Section 87.</p> <p>At some stage, owners of the graves will be asked to make them safe and they will be given the quote obtained via WJ from the stonemason, in due course.</p> <p>Clerk to pay stonemason for report undertaken to date and obtain a quote for regular future inspections.</p> <p>PC to revisit current cemetery guidelines for when burials take place to ensure that future problems are avoided and that all burials are undertaken within the standards required.</p> <p>Molecatcher to be asked for quotes to prevent further damage.</p> <p>Proposed: WS Seconded: BN</p> <p>All agreed</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>WJ</p>
8.5	<p><u>Defibrillator</u></p> <p>All good – no action at the moment</p>	
8.6	<p><u>Grounds Maintenance</u></p> <p>A general discussion took place.</p> <p>Agreed: All future preferred providers to be accepted for 2 years if work remains at a reasonable cost.</p> <p>Draft schedule prepared by the Clerk agreed by the council. This will be sent to known providers for submission for January 2026.</p> <p>Proposed: WS Seconded: BN</p> <p>All agreed</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By
8.7	<p><u>Woodland Update</u></p> <p>WJ reported that a grant was available to replace some trees that have died.</p> <p>It is possible to re-apply for funding to buy more trees. CC was reluctant to spend any other money on the Woodland. WJ does have some trees ready to plant in his garden where some were stored.</p> <p>Carbon Credits are no longer available as they were not applied for at the earlier stage.</p> <p>The maintenance grant has not yet been received and is due any time now. This grant should be used for the woodland to be kept neat and tidy and also for ditching and spraying.</p> <p>WJ said the remaining money in the woodland account may be used for something else although this needs to be checked.</p> <p>New signs not discuss but on order</p>	<p>WJ</p> <p>WJ/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
8.8	<p><u>Website</u></p> <p>Work on this is ongoing.</p>	<p>Webmaster Clerk</p>
8.9	<p><u>Facebook</u></p> <p>Agreed: WJ to approach local Facebook administrator to share PC messages when necessary.</p>	<p>WJ</p>
8.10	<p><u>Council Phone</u></p> <p>Agreed: Clerk to buy basic phone receiving messages. Website and noticeboards to be updated.</p> <p>Risk assessment drafted by the Clerk</p> <p>Proposed: WJ Seconded: WS</p> <p>All agreed</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
8.11	<p><u>Finance Meeting</u></p> <p>Clerk made it clear that a high priority should be given to this group to ensure good governance.</p> <p>The written risk assessment has been distributed to the full council in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Agreed: To adopt the new risk assessment</p>	
8.12	<p><u>Martin Dales Trees at Kirkstead Bridge</u></p> <p>Agenda for the next meeting</p>	
8.13	<p><u>Martin Dales Benches</u></p>	

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By						
	Agenda for the next meeting							
8.14	<p><u>Daffodil Bulbs</u></p> <p>All done</p>							
8.15	<p><u>Civility and Respect Pledge</u></p> <p>The pledge had been sent to the full council a number of times to ensure that the full council were aware.</p> <p>Agreed: To sign up to the C&R Pledge</p> <p>Proposed: WJ Seconded: BN</p> <p>All Agreed</p>	Clerk						
8.16	<p><u>Correspondence: Parishioners and Others</u></p> <p>8.16.1 SID Stats/Speeding</p> <p>General discussion about what else the PC can do to reduce speeding.</p> <p>Agreed: Quotes to be requested for another solar SID and village gates both to be purchased asap.</p> <p>Proposed: WJ Seconded: BN</p> <p>All agreed</p> <p>Clerk to write to parishioner as to how the stats are collated.</p>	Clerk/WJ						
8.17	<p><u>Precept 2026-2027</u></p> <p>General discussion took place. Clerk explained the importance of carefully considering future expenditure. The Council will decide in January whether to consider an increase in the precept request or leave it at the same level. A draft expenditure for 2026/2027 listing to be sent to the full council for consideration for the meeting.</p>	All						
8.18	<p><u>Remembrance 2025</u></p> <p>Councillors to lay wreaths.</p>	WJ						
8.19	<p><u>Christmas Trees Collection</u></p> <p>DB to collect tree ordered by Clerk</p>	DB						
9.	<p><u>Clerk's Report – Sent to the full council in advance</u></p> <p>9.1 Bank Balances 1st November 2025</p> <table data-bbox="384 1899 932 2018"> <tr> <td>1) Current Account</td> <td>£28231.85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) Woodland Account</td> <td>12021.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) Reserve Account</td> <td>10017.24</td> </tr> </table>	1) Current Account	£28231.85	2) Woodland Account	12021.33	3) Reserve Account	10017.24	
1) Current Account	£28231.85							
2) Woodland Account	12021.33							
3) Reserve Account	10017.24							

Minute Ref	Minute Commentary	Action By				
	<p>Statements available at the meeting.</p> <p>9.2 Payments to be paid following the meeting</p> <table data-bbox="336 215 874 293"> <tr> <td>Grounds Maintenance</td> <td>£350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Salary</td> <td>399</td> </tr> </table> <p>9.3 2024-2025 Audit</p> <p>All completed and external audit report sent to the full council and displayed on the notice boards and website. Risk assessment drafted as required by the external auditors and agreed by the Council</p> <p>9.4 Clerk's Leave and Admin Management</p> <p>Clerk to pass phone etc over to Councillor(s) to ensure business continues for the 2 months absence</p> <p>9.5 Appraisal Date</p> <p>To be agreed with DB CC and the Clerk</p>	Grounds Maintenance	£350	Clerk Salary	399	
Grounds Maintenance	£350					
Clerk Salary	399					
10.	<p><u>Agenda items next meeting</u></p> <p>Meeting times and dates to be reviewed and agreed in March for 2026-2027</p> <p>Benches Trees Martin Dales</p>					
	<p>Check submission for Woodland 2031(standing item to avoid omission)</p>					
11.	<p><u>Date time and venue of the next meeting</u></p> <p>6th January 2026 7.30pm Martin Village Hall</p>					

Meeting finished 9.10pm