



Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council

Minutes of the July Council Meeting Held on Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 7:00pm
Oakthorpe Leisure Centre (ME Sports), Measham Road

Present

Cllrs N Antill-Holmes (Chair), D Warren, M Warren (Vice Chair), S Edwards, D Gelder,

Kelly Grove – Parish Manager / Proper Officer / Responsible Finance Officer

Adam Tilbury – County Councillor (arrived 7:43pm)

Members of the Public (MOP): 5

Acronyms

ODA – Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford

PC – Parish Council

LRALC – Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils

LCC – Leicestershire County Council

NWLDC – North West Leicestershire District Council

NALC – National Association of Local Councils

RFO – Responsible Finance Officer

PCC – Police & Crime Commissioner

PCSO – Police Community Support Officer

3VNs – Three Villages News MVAS – Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign

EA – Environment Agency CIC – Community Interest Company

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm

0726001. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from :-

Cllr Tina Hawke (personal)

Cllr. S Ellison (work)

Cllr A Hancock-George (personal)

Mike Ball – NWLDC Councillor (personal)

RESOLVED: That apologies be accepted. (Approved unanimously)

0726002. Declarations of Interest

Members declared interests in accordance with s.31 Localism Act 2011.

Cllr M Warren – Trustee, Friends of ODA Memorial Grounds (non-pecuniary)

Cllr N Antill-Holmes – Trustee, Donisthorpe Youth Club (non-pecuniary); Director, Colliers Field CIC Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council

0726003. Public Question Session

1) Local Green Space Designation – K Robson

RESOLVED: That K Robson work with the Council's Neighbourhood Plan Working Party to support community engagement and gauge interest in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. (Approved unanimously)

Agenda item for September looking at community engagement – questionnaire/ gaining interest in a Neighbourhood Plan.

19.17pm

2) Village Heart Donisthorpe – C Keeley

Summary of presentation:-

Heart of the Village Church is a year old, used for various activities .The speaker advised that approximately 40 people regularly attend church activities and that the venue is being increasingly used by the community.

The Mayor of Ashby had visited the venue to view its potential as a community meeting and exhibition space.

Formal request that the parish council uses the space. The council has now reduced the echo and introduced sound facilities to aid in meetings.

Parochial church council (PCC) is responsible for the finances

Events not being used to make money just to cover costs – costs on website.

Any questions or observations made by members. :-

Request a name change 'Heart of the parish' not village recommended. All churches in other part of the parish have been closed, this is the remaining one.

19.29pm C Keeley leaves meeting

Memorial Gardens

RESOLVED: To bring forward 0726006.1 Memorial Gardens :- approved unanimous

Flower beds require additional watering. There are currently limited volunteers available to assist. Is water present on the grounds?

Manager to investigate and contact solicitor for utilities map and Severn Trent re access to water.



Free Open to all Parish Event Saturday 11th July 2pm - 4pm Celebrating the New Welcome Archway and foot paths. Opening by Cllr Paul Lees Chair of NWLDC –

Gresley Colliery Band 'Brass in the park'
Band Donation Requested £280

RESOLVED: To fund £280 for the community event band Gresley Colliery Band. (Approved unanimously)

Discussed CCTV and signage due to damage being done in the park. Group to investigate further.

Benches Update – all sited and fixed in position

19:43pm 4 MOP leave meeting

Mr A Tilbury arrives

0726004. Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: Minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2026 approved and signed by the Chair. (Approved unanimously)

0726005. Police Matters

The Council received and noted the June 2026 Police Report.
Members raised the following matters for the attention of the Police:

Acresford issue of dangerous dogs with threatening owner incidents in the woods – crime reference numbers have been reported. Residents encouraged to report incidents

0726006. Grounds and Recreation Areas

0726006.1 Reports from Councillors

Cllr M Warren, reports all play grounds checked and are sound. No issues to report.

0726006.2 Grounds Contractor Report – none

0726006.3 Grounds and Recreation Matters

0726006.3i Friends of ODA Memorial Grounds – (brought forward to **0726003. Public Question Session**)

0726006.4 Path Cleaning Update to be done in September

RESOLVED: To appoint Grouse Jet Washing to clean the Oakthorpe Play Area path, The Green (corner of Chapel Street and Church Street, Donisthorpe), and Acresford Memorial Park, including the pavement frontage. (Approved unanimously)

0726006.5 Dawkins & Buttercup Play Areas Responsibility Update
Awaiting final paperwork to be signed by all parties

0726006.6 Removal of Stone Slabs in Allotments

RESOLVED: To allow manager to organise and pay for concrete slab removal from allotment plot. Costs will come from the allotment ring fenced funds. (Approved unanimously)

0726007. Manager's Report

0726007.1 3VNs Report

July edition Cllrs S Edwards to complete

August edition to be prepared by Cllr D Warren.

0726007.2 Action Plan – Cllr Antill-Holmes, M Warren & manager to review over summer recess.

0726007.3 ODAPC Insurance 2026/27 – Cyber Security
Still awaiting invoice and cover

0726007.4 Communication Group Update defer to October re:- "Pick Up Your Dog's Poo" competition.

0726007.5 Local Council Award – defer to autumn as a discussion is needed regarding evidence gathering and accreditation requirements.

0726007.6 AI Summary of Council Minutes

Council like the simplified minutes for the noticeboards and website but agreed it needs checking by manager and councillor before publishing.

RESOLVED:- To publish summarised minutes for the council noticeboards and website. (Approved unanimously)

0726007.7 Policies

0726007.7i Equal Opportunities Policy

RESOLVED: Equal Opportunities Policy (Approved unanimously).

0726007.7ii Travel Expenses Policy

RESOLVED: Travel Expenses Policy (Approved unanimously)

0726007.7iii Freedom of Information and Model Publication Scheme

RESOLVED: Freedom of Information and Model Publication Scheme Policy (Approved unanimously)

0726007.8 Permission in Principle Applications – Presentation by NWLDC Noted

0726008. Correspondence

0726008.1 Emails

The Council noted correspondence received.

0726008.2 Defibrillators – The Circuit Update

Manager to attempt to add Oakthorpe School Street defib, HWH defib & Donisthorpe Corner shop defib to the circuit to ensure these remain checked and in date for use.

0726008.3 Risk Ready Community – defer

0726008.4 MVAS Installation, Data Collection and Rota

Cllr M Warren to turn Donisthorpe Ashby Road, MVAS round. New MVAS installed on Measham Road. These machines are now permanent in place. One further unit is required for Hill Street, Donisthorpe.

Manager to collect and reset data from all machines in Donisthorpe & Oakthorpe

Manager to obtain quote for:-

- 1) Mobile camera signs
- 2) Stickers of PC Logo & 'keeping parish safer' to be added to MVAS covers when not in use.

0726008.5 MOP1 – Persistent Dog Fouling, New Street Oakthorpe

Cllr M Warren to spray poo, Issue to also be reported in 3VNs

0726008.6 NWLDC Road Cleaning – Time tables shared

Response from Waste Service team re Acresford – A444 Measham Road:-

'The roads are in such a rural location with the national speed limit, the roads are too fast with quite a few bends that reduce visibility. The roads are assessed on a risk-based factor, and it isn't safe for our teams to sweep these roads at the low speeds they operate at (around 3mph). For these types of roads, the Waste team work with National Highways contractor AMEY and Leicestershire Highways, so when they have planned closures in place, it gives the Waste team the opportunity to carry out manual litter picking on the verges, but because of the road layout and traffic speeds, this can't

be done without proper traffic management. These measures are needed to protect staff working on national speed limit roads”.

Noted

0726008.7 NWLDC Waste and Recycling Collections

Date and information noted. Available on NWLDC website

0726008.8 Correspondence Received

0726008.8i Parish Council Merchandise – pens, balloons, tote bags – Cllr Antill-Holmes to organise equipment for apple day

0726008.8ii Tree Works – The Green Hill Street, Donisthorpe

RESOLVED: To approve tree works £620 to come completed by Weston Treecare in August – (Approved unanimously)

0726008.8iii MOP2 – Website Removal and Telephone Contact Request

Manager & Cllr Antill-Holmes to continue to try to shut down and remove old website. Telephone issue to be addressed after summer recess.

0726008.8iv Planning Consultation

Application Ref: 26/00172/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single storey outbuilding for hobby practice golf range and home gym/sun room

Location: 58 Moira Road, Donisthorpe

Whilst the Parish Council acknowledges the amendments made to the application, it remains concerned that the proposal represents an unusually large domestic outbuilding that would be visually prominent, raises questions regarding its genuinely incidental nature, and has the potential to adversely affect the character of the area and neighbouring amenity. For the reasons set out above, Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council respectfully requests that North West Leicestershire District Council refuses planning permission. Alternatively, should the Local Planning Authority be minded to approve the application, the Parish Council requests robust conditions restricting use of the building to purposes ancillary to the main dwelling and controlling any external lighting or commercial activity.

RESOLVED: Council to oppose amended planning application Ref: 26/00172/FUL. (Approved unanimously)

0726008.8v Notification of Decision:-

County Council Reference 2025/CM/0097/LCC Noted.

0726008.8v – No item was recorded on the agenda.

0726008.8vii Application Ref 26/00188/FUL

Demolition of dwelling and replacement self-build bungalow at 69 School Street, Oakthorpe. - Noted.

0726008.8viii New Changing Places NWL Logo - Options discussed

A wavy blue lines background wasn't possible, (although the amended version does give a slightly wavy effect). Council request a small change to the layout. Request the "&" be removed and "ACRES" moved slightly to the left so that it sits entirely within the Manager to feed back request.

0726008.8ix NWLDC Local Plan Presentation

Council considered the Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation.

Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe & Acresford Parish Council supports the Proposed Submission Local Plan and welcomes the many environmental, infrastructure and planning benefits it seeks to deliver.

RESOLVED: That ODA Parish Council approve response to Local Plan (Approved unanimously)

0726009. Planning

0726009.1 Consultations

Application Ref: 26/00776/AGP

Proposal: Erection of agricultural building to store machinery and animal feed.

Location: 5 Church Street, Donisthorpe. – No comment

0726009.2 Planning Permissions

Application Ref: 26/00309/FUL Noted.

0726010. District

District Councillor Ball had submitted apologies.

0726011. County Council

Acresford Environment Agency – Quarry & Holbrook meeting Environment Agency 6th August meeting (if still on as meeting has been cancelled repeatedly)

Acresford Road Weeds and Moss – still needs addressing

County Councillor Tilbury reported concerns regarding parking enforcement at Jungle Madness, where motorists had allegedly received penalty notices despite cameras not recording vehicle departures. He advised that the Country Park team were monitoring the situation and that legal officers were continuing to investigate.

20:42pm Cllr Adam Tilbury leaves meeting

0726012. Finance

0726012.1 Financial Position Report – noted

0726012.2 Bank Reconciliation June 2026

RESOLVED: To approve the June 2026 Bank Reconciliation. (Approved unanimously)

0726012.3 June Payments List

RESOLVED: To approve the June payment list. (Approved unanimously)

0726012.4 Payments for Approval

Oakthorpe School (Rise MAT Grant) - £300.00

Royal Mail (postage) - £18.75

RESOLVED: To approve and authorise the above payments. (Approved unanimously)

0726012.5 Additional Payments

None

20.43pm

0726013. Proposal to Move into Confidential

RESOLVED: To move into confidential session. (Approved unanimously)

0726014. Confidential Exclusion of Public and Press

0726014.1 The Council received a confidential legal update. No further matters were reported.

0726015. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7:00pm. Village Heart St Johns Donisthorpe

0726016. Meeting Closed at 20:46 pm.

Signed: _____

Chair

Date: _____