

NOTICE OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

1. Please switch off mobile phones as they may disrupt a meeting.
2. Councillors and parishioners are advised that this meeting may be recorded.



Chair: Cllr Jane Marshall
Clerk: Alan Youel
Spratton Parish Council
Tel: (07715) 651904
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11th March 2026, to members of the Council:

You are hereby summoned to attend the **Meeting of Spratton Parish Council**

To be held **Tuesday 17th March 2026** at **Spratton Village Hall, Spratton** at **7.00 pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business. **Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council at its Open Forum.**

Alan Youel Clerk to Spratton Parish Council

A G E N D A

270.25 Resolution to approve apologies for absence

271.25 Members' declaration of interest in items on the agenda

Members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

272.25 PUBLIC FORUM:

An opportunity for individuals present to speak on any items on the agenda for this meeting. The open meeting will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the Chair of the meeting.

273.25 Report from Ward Councillor

274.25 Approval of Minutes

Resolution to receive and approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th February 2026.

275.25 Resources

Bank balances, Bank Reconciliations to 28th February 2026. Receipts and Payments report and confirmation of internal controls checks: Council to make resolution to approve.

- a) Resolution to approve and provide dual signatory on payments March 2026 to April 2026 (attached)
- b) Resolution to note income received (attached)

276.25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) – Section 3 2024/25

To receive and note the External Auditor's Report for the 2024/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR). The auditor received challenge correspondence in relation to the 2024/25 AGAR, which was considered as part of the audit process before completion of their work.

External Auditor Report:

<https://www.sprattonpc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/NH0202-FRC.pdf>

Recommendation:

That Council notes the External Auditor's Report and approves the AGAR 2024/25 Section 3 External Auditor Report.

277.25 Planning

None.

278.25 Cemetery Condition and Upkeep

To receive update.

279.25 St Andrew's Churchyard Wall – Condition & Proposed Works

To receive update.

280.25 Youth Provision

To consider continued youth provision delivered by CYPN, who currently manage the youth services funded by the Parish Council.

Members are asked to consider:

- A draft **Service Level Agreement** for the continuation of the existing provision, noting the proposed change of venue.
- A **grant application** prepared and submitted by CYPN.

CYPN have identified the potential funding source and completed the application independently. As is common with many such funding streams, eligibility appears limited to voluntary or community organisations, registered charities, or similar bodies. On that basis, the application has been completed in the name of the Parish Council.

Members are requested to consider the draft Service Level Agreement, note the grant application, and determine the Council's position in respect of both documents.

281.25 Smith Street – Pedestrian Access Gate

To consider the replacement of the existing kissing gate at the pedestrian entrance to East View Cemetery access road from Smith Street with a swing gate, in order to improve accessibility for users with pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility aids, and to agree any associated actions.

282.25 Footpath – Brixworth Road

To consider a resident request for the Parish Council to submit or endorse a Minor Works application to West Northamptonshire Council Highways for the provision of a footpath along Brixworth Road linking to Brampton Valley Way.

283.25 Memorial Tree

To consider request for memorial tree planting.

284.25 Memorial Bench

To consider request for installation of memorial bench.

285.25 Community Speed Watch

To consider a request from Creaton Parish Council to participate in a Community Speed Watch initiative.

The campaign offers the opportunity to purchase a speed detection device at a cost of £150. Participation would require a minimum of 10 volunteers.

Creaton Parish Council has suggested that neighbouring parishes, including Thornby Parish Council and Spratton Parish Council, work jointly to share both volunteers and the purchase cost of the device.

The proposal is to coordinate efforts particularly along the A5199, which has been identified as an area of concern in relation to speeding vehicles.

Members are asked to consider whether the Parish Council wishes to support the initiative, including sharing costs and assisting with volunteer recruitment.

286.25 Churchyards, Cemeteries and Open Spaces – Mowing/Maintenance Issues (if any):

a) **Village Handyman:** Quote requested for rabbit-proof fencing at East View Cemetery.

b) **Cemetery Issues:**

- a. The surface of the path at East View Cemetery has deteriorated along the edges. Concern has been raised that sweeping the path may remove loose material and leave depressions. To consider possible remedial action.
- b. To consider a request for the replacement of a dead memorial tree at East View Cemetery. Suggested species *Amelanchier* (serviceberry), although the requester has indicated flexibility. Members are reminded of Burial Ground Regulation 38.

287.25 Community Issues

b) **Defibrillator checks:** *Complete as of 9th March 2026.*

c) **Highway Safety:** *None.*

d) **Pocket Park – Upkeep Proposal**

- a. To consider a proposal from Sharon Scanlan, supported by Jane and Adrian Baker, to take on the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of the Pocket Park.
- b. Members are asked to consider the request and agree any appropriate arrangements, including responsibilities, scope of works, and reporting procedures.
- c. To consider an offer from Sharon Scanlan to refresh the metal railings on the wall of the Pocket Park and whether the Parish Council will agree to reimburse the cost of paint if purchased.

288.25 Consultations Requiring a Response:

- a. Carried forward from last meeting: **West Northamptonshire Local Plan**
To consider a response to the consultation on the fresh draft of the West Northamptonshire Local Plan, a key opportunity for Parish Councils to review and comment on proposals guiding future development. Consultation runs to **27 March 2026.**
- b. Following the May 2025 elections, WNC have been reviewing the way the cost of elections is recharged to town and parish councils. WNC are aware the cost of elections is a concern for parishes and are consulting on 3 options which will run until **10 April 2026.**

289.25 Date of next meeting

21st April 2026, Annual Parish Meeting

21st April 2026, Meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed: Alan Youel

Clerk to Spratton Parish Council