46/26

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF NEYLAND TOWN COUNCIL HELD MONDAY 5th OCTOBER 2026, 7.00PM AT NEYLAND COMMUNITY HUB

This meeting was recorded.

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr. P Hay (Mayor)
Cllr. A Phelan
Cllr. M Harry
Cllr. S Hancock
Cllr. A Thomas
Cllr. A Richards
Cllr. L Lorch
Cllr. A Smith
Cllr. P Copp
Cllr. V Rawsthorne

Miss. Libby Matthews – Town Clerk & RFO

APOLOGIES: None received.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Benger, PCC. Sarah Oliver, PCC. Members of the public.

Meeting Opened: 7.00pm

4723 - DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM MEMBERS REGARDING THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

Name:	**Interest:**	**Agenda item(s):**
Cllr. M Harry	Personal; Non-paid Director of Neyland CIC	N/A
Cllr. S Hancock	Personal; County Councillor,	Item 3 (4724)
Cllr. A Phelan	Personal; Secretary of Rugby Club	Item 5 (4727)

4724 – PCC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL REGARDING TRAFFIC CALMING ON KENSINGTON ROAD AND OTHER TRAFFIC CONCERNS IN NEYLAND.

Mr. Stephen Benger & Ms. Sarah Oliver had attended NTC's meeting to discuss some ongoing traffic management issues that have been raised by NTC, in particular, the ongoing campaign for traffic calming measures to be implemented along Kensington Road due to multiple recent road traffic accidents occurring in the area. Members of the public who have had their properties damaged and who live in the area were invited along for discussions.

47/26

Traffic Calming at Kensington Road

Following on from NTC's campaign for traffic calming measures at Kensington Road, Mr. Benger advised the PCC had undertaken a topographical survey of the area to gather an understanding of the speed of vehicles travelling through the area to determine the need for traffic calming implementation. The survey outcomes were as follows:

- Mean speeds between 17.5mph and 18.8mph
- 85th percentile speeds typically around 23mph
- Traffic volumes between 6,800 and 7,400 vehicles per day
- Peak flows exceeding 1,000 vehicles per hour
- Daytime and school period speeds generally below the posted speed limit

Mr. Benger stated that whilst the numbers reflecting speeding were generally positive, due to the increasing number of incidents in the area, PCC acknowledge that the area needs attention. Mr. Benger presented a number of potential solutions and their costs, and a realistic view that as the topographical survey shows minimal speeding of the area, PCC would find it difficult to justify the more costly implementations, whilst still acknowledging that something does need to be done. Several options were presented within the paperwork:

- Concrete Bollard - £3,000 - £5,000
- Bollard with Central Hatching - £10,000 - £15,000
- Priority Working System - £20,000- £40,000
- Speed Ramps - £30,000 - £60,000
- Signal Controlled Crossing - £80,000 - £150,000
- Zebra Crossing - £25,000 - £50,000

PCC Officer assessment of the options stated:

- Option 1 Concrete Bollard – offers a simple, low-cost intervention.
- Option 2 Bollard with Central Hatching – provides the strongest balance between effectiveness, cost and deliverability.
- Option 6 Zebra Crossing – could be explored further if there is a wider aspiration to enhance pedestrian facilities and sufficient demand can be demonstrated.

There was a good discussion between NTC, PCC and members of the public who have been affected most by the incidents occurring. The general consensus was that a bollard (option 1) would not be sufficient as a resolution, with members of the public also raising an option of metal fencing barriers along the pedestrian pathway to block vehicles from crossing the pavement and hitting properties.
It was decided that NTC would take copies of the documents provided and distribute to members of the public to enable all to further digest the options provided and would be brought back to NTC for a more in-depth discussion and decision on how to progress.

A477 Speed Limit

The speed reduction on the A477 has been a long-standing campaign for NTC and members asked Mr. Benger of the current position of the speed reduction being implemented. Mr. Benger advised that, as the proposal for speed reduction had not been wholly supported by the County Councillors in the area, the proposal could not move forward. Cllr. Harry advised that he believed the proposal had only been opposed for the eastward travelling traffic and not westward, so the proposal should have moved forward on the west side. It was advised that the proposal could not be altered and split, meaning to move forward a new proposal would have to be submitted and approved by all County Councillors before moving to a public consultation.

Implement Double Yellow Lines at the Entrance to Neyland

Council discussed the recurring issue of people parking cars on the curb directly off the roundabout coming into Neyland on the back end of the bend. This is a recent issue that has arisen. Many feel that not only are the cars that are parking there causing undue traffic jams leading off the roundabout, but the fact that the cars are parking at the end of a blind corner is causing a lot of concern over accidents and damage to vehicles. The implementation of yellow lines along the stretch of road was discussed, however, it was agreed that NTC would further discuss the issue and bring back to PCC.

Public Toilets

The ongoing asset transfer of the public toilets was briefly mentioned during the discussion. It was advised and agreed that a separate meeting be arranged with Marc Owen (PCC Asset Transfer Manager) and NTC to discuss all remaining issues of the lease. The Clerk was asked to arrange the meeting as soon as possible.

4725 – REPRESENTATION BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC limited to 15 minutes)

Members of the public had attended the meeting to seek an update on the progressing matters of implementing traffic calming measures to combat the issues of speeding and recurring accidents at Kensington Road. This had been discussed thoroughly with PCC during their address to Council.

4726 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING 07.09.2026

43/26 – (4715) c. To add 'no update'.

Proposal: To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 07.09.2026

Proposed: Cllr. A Phelan
Seconded: Cllr. S Hancock
All in favour, 6 abstentions due to not in attendance.

RESOLVED: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL 07.09.2026 ARE APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD.

4727 – MATTERS ARISING

42/26 – (4714) Cllr. A Phelan asked if the had been any update on the website. The Clerk confirmed again that the website will need a working group to assist as this was not a project she could complete alone and that due to a low number of members a working group had not been formed. Members were asked for volunteers to become a working group to assist with building a new website for Council and the following members agreed:
Cllr. V Rawsthorne, Cllr. L Lorch, Cllr. P Copp & Cllr. A Phelan.

42/26 – (4714) Cllr. A Phelan asked if there had been any further correspondence from disqualified ex Councillor Devauden, to which she confirmed there had not been any communication to herself.

42/26 – (4717) Cllr. A Richards asked if there had been any response from Hywel Dda regarding the letter sent in relation to waiting list concerns. The Clerk confirmed she had not yet received a response. Cllr. Richards queried where the letter had been sent and advised of an alternative address, of which she was asked to provide to the Clerk.

43/26 – (4717) The Clerk advised that she had not yet sent an invite to Plaid Cymru, but that it would be

completed as a top priority.

44/26 – (4719) Cllr. A Phelan, who is also the secretary to the Rugby Club, on behalf of the Rugby Club, raised concerns regarding NTC's fireworks display and usage of the rugby field. Cllr. Phelan advised Council that the Rugby Club had asked that their field was not to be used this year and could members of the public be asked to view the fireworks from the cricket field instead. The Clerk advised that, aside from the matting which had already been agreed by the Rugby Club, the Rugby Club could be assured that the field is not used by members of public (who use the patio belonging to The Hub) nor the display team (who use the top corner of the cricket field) and this has always been this way for NTC's displays. Cllr. Phelan further raised concerns regarding debris. Council confirmed that a clean up committee takes place every year following the display and asked more members to volunteer their time to ensure clean up is completed adequately. There was confusion regarding the request to not use the rugby field, so the Clerk advised she Would contact the rugby club directly with an official letter from Council to hopefully clear up any concerns.

4728 – <u>ONGOING MATTERS</u>

a. **Public Toilets –** please see 4724.
b. **Kensington Road –** please see 4724.
c. **A477 Speed Limit –** please see 4724.

All items had been discussed in detail with PCC attendee's during their address to Council. Please see 4724

4729 – <u>YOUTH CLUB APPLICATION FOR WINTER TRIP FROM NTC'S YOUTH FUNDING</u>

The leader of the Youth Club had sent an email to Council with funding request for a winter trip. The request was for £610, which would cover travel and food costs for both the youth and the staff. NTC's budget for 2026/27 included a £2,500 budget for the Youth Club. £1,626.40 of this budget has already been utilised for the Summer funding, leaving £873.60 in the pot. Given that the request was well within budget, a motion was moved to grant the funding.

Proposal: To approve the requested funding from the Youth Club for their winter trip 2026.

Proposed: Cllr. S Hancock
Seconded: Cllr. A Phelan
All in favour.

RESOLVED: £610 FUNDING FOR THE YOUTH CLUB WINTER TRIP APPROVED IN FULL.

4730 – <u>REVIEW OF THE YELLOW LINES AS YOU ENTER NEYLAND OFF THE ROUNDABOUT – Cllr. M Harry</u>

This item had been discussed with PCC attendee's during their address to Council. Please see 4724.

4731 – <u>FURTHER DISCUSSION ON FUNDING SUPPORT FOR ESSENTIAL WORKS AT BETHESDA CHAPEL</u>

During the previous meeting, representatives from the Bethesda Baptist Chapel had attended the meeting to request financial support from the Council for the essential works required for the building to remain functioning. Council discussed this at length, noting the importance of the building historically and presently. It was noted that the building offers a base for a vast variety of local groups, including the Neyland Ladies Choir, the Neyland Food Bank, Knit & Natter, Slimming World, Council events and many more. The historic importance of the building was discussed along with the acknowledgement that there was no alternative in Neyland for the building and that if the building was no longer fit for purpose, this would be a substantial loss to the town. During the last meeting, the overall consensus of Council was that they would wish to support the building renovations, but that a decision of the amount would be deferred to this meeting due to the low number of Council members in attendance.

Cllr. S Hancock offered the following proposal, which was seconded by Cllr. A Phelan:

"To commit £5,000 of funding toward the regeneration of the building based on match funding with alternative grants"

Cllr. A Richards proposed an amendment, which was seconded by Cllr. M Harry:

"To commit £3,000 of funding immediately and further assist with fundraising efforts for the building"

The amendment was favoured with 7 in favour, 1 against and 2 abstentions.

Proposal: To commit £3,000 of funding immediately and further assist with fundraising efforts for the building.

Proposed: Cllr. A Richards
Seconded: Cllr. M Harry
8 in favour, 2 abstentions.

RESOLVED: NTC TO COMMIT £3000 IN FUNDS FOR RENOVATION WORKS TO BETHESDA BAPTIST CHAPEL, WITH A FURTHER COMMITMENT TO ASSIST IN FUNDRAISING FOR THE WORK.

4732 - <u>PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED AND FINANCIAL UPDATE</u>

Council had been circulated, ahead of the meeting, a list of expenditure for September totalling £13,666.84, and income for September totalling £42,296.23. Council also received a copy of the Bank Statement and a full Bank reconciliation, which showed no discrepancies.


All Banks Reconciled Sept 2026.pdf


Bank Statement September 2026.pdf


Income Sept 2026.pdf


Payments Sept 2026.pdf

Council had also received, ahead of the meeting, a list of payments for approval totalling £3,041.32


Payments for Authorisation.xlsx

Proposal: To approve the payments & accept the financial information for September 2026

Proposed: Cllr. M Harry
Seconded: Cllr. S Hancock
All in favour.

RESOLVED: PAYMENTS ARE APPROVED AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION IS ACCEPTED.

4733 - CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported the following to Council:

1. **Carnival Bunting –** The carnival bunting has been taken down and stored in the storage container. There are two strips of bunting that will need repairing before being used again next year.
2. **Colour Run Wristbands –** The left over wristbands purchased for the schools annual colour runs have been stored in the storage container. Cllr. Hay believes there could possibly be enough left for next year also. Cllr. Hay has also purchased a number of colourful garlands which could be used for prizes next year.
3. **Christmas Competition –** This year's Christmas card competition has been confirmed by both Neyland Community School and the PLC, who both wish to take part.
4. **Miscellany Date & Place –** The Clerk asked Council to confirm the date of the 2026 miscellany and where it is due to be held. This was confirmed as Sunday 6th December and to be held at St Clements Church should they have availability.
5. **PLC Pupil Litter Pick Request –** The Clerk had circulated an email request from a teacher at the PLC asking if a pupil, who is trying to gather work experience, could join the Council for the litter pick and clean up following the Fireworks display. Council agreed that this is a good idea and were happy to welcome the pupil. The Clerk was asked to confirm that the pupil will have supervision provided by the school.
6. **Annual Leave -** A reminder to Council that the Clerk has an annual leave day booked for 30.10.2026.

4734 – MAYOR'S UPDATE

Cllr. Hay reported the following to Council:

1. **Play Park –** Cllr. Hay advised that the following on from the report of the broken items at the play park, he had attended the site and implemented a temporary fix, and that the Clerk had ordered the replacement parts required, which will be fixed as soon as they arrive.
2. **Town Clock –** There had been reports of the lighting surrounding the town clock malfunctioning and causing strobe lighting. Cllr. Hay advised this had been addressed and rectified.

3. **Mayor's Engagements –** Cllr. Hay advised he had attended the Guild of Haverfordwest, the St Davids Civic Service and was due to attend the opening of the Pembroke St Michaelmas Fair on the upcoming Thursday.
4. **Civic Service -** A reminder to Council that the Neyland Civic Service was taking place on the upcoming Sunday 11th.

4735 – <u>EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AT THE DISCRETION OF THE MAYOR</u>

The following information was exchanged by Councillors:

Cllr. P Copp – Cllr. Copp queried if there would be a press release regarding the newly appointed Councillors and if so, he would be happy to assist with a press release as he has experience in the area. He was advised that it would not be so much an official press release, rather an announcement on NTC's social media. This brought about a discussion between Council regarding building relationships with local media outlets.
Cllr. M Harry – Cllr. Harry advised he had been approached by a few people about the implementation of a traffic calming system around the Isambard Garden estate as there have been multiple reports from residents of dangerous driving.

There was no further exchange of information from other members.

4736 – <u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u>

The date of the next meeting was set for Monday 2nd November 2026.

Signed: ..... (Mayor/Chair)

Signed: ..... (Clerk/Proper Officer)

Date: .....