



Podington Parish Council

28th August, 2026

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of Podington, Hinwick and Farndish Parish Council on Tuesday, 1st September 2026 at 7:30pm in the Podington United Services Club (Committee Room).

Members of the public welcome!

AGENDA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

[Standing Orders will be suspended to allow public participation for approximately 15 minutes, at the discretion of the Chairman, whereby the public can make comment and ask questions which the Council may add as an agenda item at a further meeting, after which the public must not take part at any other time during the meeting.]

- Report from Borough Councillor Alison Field-Foster, if available.

1. APOLOGIES AND ACCEPTANCE OF APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest. Members are reminded that under the Code of Conduct it is necessary to disclose the nature of, and reason for, their interest.

3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

- a. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th July 2026.
- b. To receive an update from the Clerk on actions and matters arising from the previous meeting.

4. HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY

- a. General highways update.
- b. Update following liaison with Andy Brotherton and Bedford Borough Council regarding outstanding highways issues across the parish.
- c. Village Street, Hinwick: surface dressing works and road closure issues.
- d. Other highways and rights of way matters.

5. VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS (VAS)

- a. VAS data and latest speed monitoring information.

6. PLANNING

- a. Planning application(s) received since the previous meeting.
- b. **Solar Farm:** update on the current position of the planning application and any further information or correspondence received from the applicant or Bedford Borough Council.
- c. **Planning Enforcement:** update on outstanding illegal/unauthorised building and development issues at two sites within the parish.
- d. Podington Padel Courts: update, if required.
- e. Other planning matters arising since the previous meeting.

7. PLAY AREA

- a. Update on maintenance and repair works agreed following the July inspection report.
- b. Any further maintenance or safety issues requiring action.

8. ALLOTMENTS

- a. General allotments update.
- b. **Allotment Holders Database:** update on the creation of a comprehensive database of current allotment holders and any outstanding information required.

9. STREETLIGHTS

- a. **LED Streetlight Upgrade:** update on implementation of the agreed programme to upgrade the remaining parish streetlights.
- b. Programme and timescale for completion.
- c. Financial position and any further expenditure requiring approval.

10. PHONE BOX LIBRARY

- a. Update on arrangements for the phone box library.

11. DEFIBRILLATORS

- a. Update on the Podington United Services Club defibrillator.
- b. Memorandum of Understanding between the Parish Council and Podington United Services Club.

12. SANTA POD

- a. **Joint Action Group (JAG):** update on the establishment of the proposed JAG involving Bedford Borough Council, Bedfordshire Police, Northamptonshire Police, Highways and other relevant stakeholders.
- b. **USC:** review of traffic, policing, anti-social behaviour and other issues arising from the Ultimate Street Car event.
- c. To consider evidence gathered from recent events and agree any representations or actions required.
- d. Future event management and liaison with Santa Pod Raceway.

13. POLICE & COMMUNITY SAFETY

- a. Update on matters arising from Inspector Goldsmith's attendance at the July meeting.
- b. Latest crime statistics and policing matters.
- c. Emergency response times and any further discussions concerning policing provision for the parish.
- d. Any other community safety matters.

14. FINANCE

- a. **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR):** update and consideration of any actions required.
- b. Presentation of current financial statement and budget position.
- c. Approval of payments and noting of income.
- d. **2027 Budget:** initial consideration/review of the Council's budget for the 2027 financial year.

15. CLERK SUCCESSION PLANNING

- a. Update on preparation of the revised Clerk job description.
- b. Update on local advertising and the proposed notice in *PodCast*.
- c. Update on external/professional recruitment options.
- d. Recruitment timetable ahead of the planned handover on **5th May 2027**.

16. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

To consider any environmental matters arising since the previous meeting.

17. CORRESPONDENCE / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

To consider information received and any action required from incoming correspondence.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

(All at 7:30pm at the Podington United Services Club)

- Tuesday, 3rd November 2026
- Tuesday, 5th January 2027
- Tuesday, 11th May 2027
- **Annual Village Meeting:** Tuesday, 4th May 2027