Minutes of the Meeting of Caldecott Parish Council held on Thursday 12th November 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present 2026/65

Cllrs B Hook (Chair), A MacDermott (Retiring Chair), P Clark, L McCole, K Lawrie and D Young, County Cllr A Brown, Mrs J Medwell (Clerk) and one member of the public.

Apologies 2026/66

There were none

Election of Chair and Vice Chair 2026/67

At this point Cllr MacDermott resigned both as Chair and Councillor.

The position of Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr McCole nominated Cllr Hook and was seconded by Cllr Clark. Cllr Hook **agreed** to become Chair.

The Chair duly signed the Declaration of Office, witnessed by the Responsible Financial Officer.

The position of Vice Chair was open to all Councillors. Cllr Clark nominated Cllr McCole and was seconded by Cllr Lawrie. Cllr McCole **agreed** to become Chair.

The Vice Chair duly signed the Declaration of Office, witnessed by the Responsible Financial Officer.

Mr MacDermott was thanked for all his contribution both as Councillor and Chair and duly left the meeting.

Declarations 2026/68

There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
There were no changes to the Members' Register of Interests.

Minutes 2026/69

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2026 were approved as a true record of the meeting and duly signed by the Chair.

Proposed Cllr Young Seconded Cllr McCole

Matters Arising 2026/70

Cllr Lawrie was thanked for providing and siting the Tommy-style lamp-post signs and large poppies around the village.

Open Forum 2026/71

No additional matters were raised during the public representation period.
The Council referred to a recent representation regarding football nuisance on the village green. This had been resolved and the football posts relocated to the playing field.

Highways and Rights of Way 2026/72

Update – There was no update to report. Cllr Clark will follow up with RCC whether a date for the detailed inspection for the bridge has been scheduled and the outcome of the Highway Inspectors review of the main road in relation to the school bus collection. **PC**

Community Speedwatch – Cllr McCole reported on a successful Community Speedwatch session held between 3 and 17 October. During this period, 71 drivers were recorded exceeding the speed limit, with the highest recorded speed being 51 mph. One driver was also observed overtaking.

It was noted that the police speed enforcement van had attended the village on a couple of occasions recently.

Parish Assets 2026/73

Routine Inspection: Cllr Hook had provided an update prior to the meeting following his routine inspection of parish assets. No significant issues were reported. Cllr McCole advised that she had ordered new batteries for the defibrillator.

The Council discussed arrangements for the daily raising of the Union Jack flag and considered how responsibility for this could be shared. It was suggested that a rota system be introduced, with volunteers sought through an advertisement in the village. Cllr Hook agreed to speak to Mrs Davidson to establish whether she wished to continue undertaking this responsibility. **BH**

Play Area: The Clerk will contact Seagrave Inspections to arrange the annual inspection of the play area. Cllr Lawrie volunteered to undertake the regular routine inspections. **JM** **KL**

Cllr Hook raised concerns regarding the spring mechanism on the zip wire, which, although still operational, requires replacement. It was agreed that the Council would await the recommendations of the annual inspection before deciding on any further action. In the meantime, RCC Cllr Brown undertook to inspect the spring and establish whether a local engineer could carry out the replacement. **AB**

The Council thanked Cllr Lawrie for providing and fitting plastic bird spikes to help deter the persistent bird fouling around the swings.

Deed of Easement: The Council considered a request for a deed of easement relating to land at the entrance to the playing field. The request concerned the neighbouring field, which has a right of access over this area. It was noted that no further action was required at this stage and that the matter would remain under consideration should any further information or proposals be received.

Planning 2026/74

a) 2026/1206/FUL Proposed change of use of ancillary storage building to form annex/holiday let at 2 Mill Lane.

The Council had no objection to this application.

b) 2026/0021/APPEAL Demolition of existing buildings (Sui Generis) and erection of 3 dwellings (C3) with associated hard standing & landscaping at Meadow Farm

The Council noted this appeal.

Finance 2026/75

a) Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2026/27

It was noted that the Council's previous Internal Auditor had retired. The Clerk had approached LRALC regarding its Internal Audit Service; however, it had not confirmed whether there would be any availability. The Council therefore agreed to explore alternative options.

The Clerk will approach a resident and existing parish clerk within the village to establish whether they would be willing to undertake the role. **JM**

b) To approve Budget 2027/28 and To set Precept

The Council considered the budget for next year. It felt it prudent to keep an allocation for village maintenance and improvements, contingency and also for replacing the zip-wire spring.

Signed …… (Chair) Dated ……

The Council **Resolved to Agree** the Caldecott Parish Council budget (see appendix) for 2027/28

Proposed by Cllr McCole Seconded by Cllr Hook All in favour

The Parish Council **Resolved to Agree** the level of precept set at £9,074.00 for the financial year 2027-28. This equates to an increase on last year's figures of 4.65%.

Proposed by Cllr McCole Seconded by Cllr Hook All in favour

The Clerk will submit the precept demand to RCC. **JM**

c) The payments and financial information circulated prior to the meeting were considered and approved:

Payee	Details	Total Amount	VAT Element	Legal Authority
S Morphy	Mowing	£160.00		OSA 1906 s.15

d) Bank Reconciliation

Current Account	£1,798.79
Savings Account	£9,314.43
Total Reserve	£11,113.22

The Bank Reconciliation was also considered and approved.
Proposed Cllr McCole. Seconded Cllr Lawrie

The Council **agreed** to add Cllr Lawrie as a bank signatory to replace Mr MacDermott.

All matters pertaining to finance are displayed on the website on www.caldecott-pc.gov.uk

Correspondence 2026/76

County Councillor Update

County Councillor Brown provided an update on matters relating to Rutland County Council. The new Local Plan for 2021–2041 was in its final stages and will be approved by Full Council in late December. The annual housing requirement for Rutland was expected to reduce from 269 to 123 homes, which it was hoped would help reduce speculative development across the county.

Councillor Brown also confirmed that devolution would be progressing, with a mayor to be appointed and the election of which was expected to take place in 2028.

An update was also provided on the Rutland Sea Dragon project. Councillor Brown advised that a planning application had been submitted for alterations to Rutland County Museum, which would include dedicated space to accommodate the Sea Dragon.

Next Meeting 2026/77

The next meeting of Caldecott Parish Council will be held on Thursday 7th January 2027 in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.39 pm

Signed …… (Chair) Dated ……