

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on Monday 9 June 2025 at 7.30pm at Gretton Village Hall, 61 Kirby

Road, Gretton NN17 3DB

Present: Cllrs Wright, Clare, Lilley, Husk, Nicholls, Spencer, Page, Turner, Curtis

In Attendance: T Smith(PLR & NHW)), S Grey (Traffic Committee member) Councillor's McDonald & O'Brien, C Watts Clerk

The Chair thanked and welcomed all for attending and shared with the members of the Public that they would have the opportunity to speak at the Open Forum for up to five minutes. He also shared that the meeting is being recorded for Minuting purposes by the Clerk, and once the Minutes have been signed and approved the recording is deleted.

25/101 **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

PCSO

RESOLVED: Approved

25/102 **To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.**

There were no declarations of interest

RESOLVED: Approved

25/103 **To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 12 May 2025**

Minutes signed without amendment.

RESOLVED: Approved. Votes – all in favour.

25/104 **Open Forum**

A resident attended the meeting in relation to planning application NC/25/00058/. He addressed the meeting and asked that the Parish Council focussed on the current application and none of the previous applications that have been submitted for this property. He raised the point that within the neighbourhood plan that Policy BE1 lacked definition and clarity and their opinion was it is open to challenge.

Cllr Wright shared that this item would be discussed later in the meeting as an Agenda item and that the resident is welcome to stay.

A resident attended the meeting in relation to planning application NC/25/00157/DPA. He shared the thoughts and planning behind the use of trucks to deliver supplies to the plot and apologised to the Council for the upset it had caused within the Village. He shared that he had rectified some of the issues and will continue to do so. The Chair shared that he had reported this issue to the local Police at the time and it shared that advance knowledge of the contractor's plans would have been beneficial to all. The Chair thanked him for attending the meeting. The resident has shared their contact details with the Clerk

A new resident attended the meeting to introduce themselves.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/105 **To receive a report from Corby Rural Division, North Northamptonshire Council**

At the meeting Cllr O'Brien shared that they are in the process of Inductions and Training. He shared that there is a new system in place for reporting issues. Cllr

McDonald shared that they have had a walk round the Village with resident R Newby to look at historical problems. Cllr O'Brien will share a detailed report of the issues that were discussed. Cllr Lilley asked for assistance on the traffic plan that has been previously worked on with NNC and Highways.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/106

To receive a report from the Police.

No report received due to PCSO being on annual leave

RESOLVED: Noted

25/107

To receive a report from the Police Liaison Representative and Gretton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

At the meeting T Smith reported that the issues on the Recreation ground are ongoing and an update to be provided by the PCSO. The next meeting of the Police Liaison forum will take place 27 June 2025

Cllr Wright thanked T Smith for attending this on the Parish Council's behalf

RESOLVED: Approved

25/108

Planning Applications

- **NC/25/00058/CO** - Change of Use from offices (B1) to dwelling house (C3) (Buckworth Barn). | 74 High Street, Gretton

It was raised at the meeting that BE1 requires a current valuation but that the valuation provided is for 2021

Cllr Wright proposed motion to support application, which was seconded by Cllr Nicholls, Votes were 4 in favour, 4 against and 1 abstain. With there being no majority the Chair had a deciding vote. He voted against the planning application with his casting vote due to maintaining the status quo of the Council's existing position. He raised the motion that the council wishes to object the planning application as it does not fulfil BE1. Votes for the objection of the planning application 4, Votes against the motion 4, abstain 1. Using the chair's casting vote with there being no majority, the chair voted to object to the planning application due to maintaining the status quo.

Action: The Clerk to update the Planning Department and the NNC Portal

- **NC/25/00153/DPA** - Proposed single storey rear extension including demolition of existing single storey rear extensions. 4 Harringworth Road Gretton
It was stated that no drastic changes Cllr Wright supported the application that was seconded by Cllr Turner.

Action: The Clerk to update the Planning Department and the NNC Portal

Voted All Approved.

- **NC/25/00157/DPA** – Construction of 3 residential dwellings with associated access and parking. 1 Hatton Lane Gretton
Cllr Lilley raised some concerns which the resident addressed at the meeting. The resident shared that the planning application is to be amended and will be resubmitted.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Planning Officer asking for guidance on submitting comments on this Planning application prior to the date set

NC/25/00159/DPA - Two storey side extension and single storey side/rear extension. 27 Kirby Road Gretton

It was raised that there are concerns with future parking due to the loss of a garage. Cllr Wright raised the motion for the above which was seconded by Cllr Lilley.

Action: The Clerk to contact the Planning Department and submit the comments on parking issues.

Voted All Approved

Two members of the public left the meeting at 20.26.

25/109

To Receive Councillors reports on their activities

Prior to the meeting, reports were received from the following Councillors from Village meetings they attended. (full reports available on the PC Website)

Cllr Wright

Cllr Clare

Cllr Nicholls

Cllr Turner

Cllr Lilley

At the meeting Cllr Lilley shared that workdays are being planned at the Community Orchard. She also shared that some trees have been lost due to weather and disease, community events are being planned and that there are now three benches in place. Cllr Wright raised the point of the Gretton to Corby Greenway project. Discussions needed as to how this project could be presented to the Village.

Action: Cllr Wright to contact A Merrick for advice on how to proceed with promoting it within the Village

RESOLVED: Approved

25/110

TVAS Update- Current Project Status

Both units are now in the Village in storage. The two sites need to be finalised with Cllr Nicholls to liaise with the contractor to arrange the Posts. The Section 50 licence detail and sites needs to be investigated.

Action: Cllr Wright to contact Kier

Prior to the meeting T Smith(PLR & NHW)shared a report on the Road Safety Speed awareness campaign (full reports available on the PC Website)

At the meeting S Grey (Traffic Committee member) informed the Parish Council he was stepping down as the Chair of the Traffic Committee. Cllr Wright thanked him for his time on the committee. On behalf of the Parish Council.

S Grey and T Smith left the meeting at 20.47

RESOLVED: Approved

25/111 Recreation Ground Sewage Update – Update on status of maintenance contract and testing of alert.

At the meeting Cllr Nicholls confirmed the Beacon had been tested. He shared that proper signage is required. As yet there is no specific service contract for maintenance, but one-off call outs will be available. An annual inspection was discussed in relation to insurance cover. 24 hours call out to be investigated.

Action: The Clerk to contact the original contractor for quote on call out fee.

25/112

Stone Pit Close – Consideration as to next action to be taken

At the meeting Cllr Wright shared that this field is currently listed as a grazing land and it has been vacant for 18 months. The change of use was discussed. Car park, Dog Walking field were two of the options raised.

A resident was present at the meeting and asked about the fencing and hedges between their land and the field with the question being asked where the boundary is.

Action: Cllr Nicholls, Curtis and Turner to conduct research the steps needed to change the use of the land and report back to the Parish Council.

Action: The Clerk to try and reach out to the previous tenant.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/113

A resident left the meeting, and a Comfort break was taken 21.03-21.06
Fulwell Avenue Allotments – Consideration as to whether to continue to pursue adoption.

At the meeting Cllr Wright shared that these are owned by NNC. It was agreed that no further action to be taken at this time.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/114 Gretton Parish Council's social media Presence – Proposal to develop Facebook page to Parish Council to communicate as an entity.

At the meeting Cllr Wright proposed that Gretton Parish Council develop a Facebook page that all Councillors can post on that will replace the existing one. This was seconded by Cllr Turner.

Action: Cllr Curtis to investigate the setting up of this

RESOLVED: Approved

25/115 Gretton Life – Proposal as to whether offer space in future editions to Unitary Councillors or local MP to provide report on their activities. With provision for Editor's discretion to reject articles if considered to be overly party political in content.

Cllr Wright shared that communication was received from the local MP in relation to this request. The request was discussed at the meeting and decided that this decision is deferred until a list of guidelines be drawn up for the next edition of Gretton Life.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/116

Allocation of Councillor Roles

At the meeting Cllr Wright shared that he had asked Cllr Lilley to remain part of the Finance Committee. Cllr Wright proposed this, and it was seconded by Cllr Clare

At the meeting the following roles were assigned for representation of the Council to attend the working group meetings within the Village.

The Community Orchard – Cllr Lilley, Curtis and Nicholls

Village hall - Cllr Clare, Lilley

Pocket Park – Cllr Spencer, Husk

Recreation Ground – Cllr Wright, Turner and Page

Traffic Safety Group- Cllr Clare and Wright

Sports and Social Club – Cllr Nicholls and Wright

School, Doctor's surgery and Bus - Cllr Husk and Nicholls

Nature Recovery Plan - Cllr Lilley and Wright.

At the meeting it was shared that there are other external rural meetings that take place throughout the year, and it was agreed that as and when they are to take place a representative of the Parish Council would attend.

Cllr Wright raised a motion to block approve all the above role allocations and Cllr Turner seconded the motion.

25/117 **RESOLVED: Voted All Approved**
To adopt the constitution of the Community Orchard Group

Prior to the meeting Cllr Lilley shared a document for all the Cllr's to review

At the meeting it was raised that the Community Orchard Management appears to have a lot of power in the document. It was also raised that the document appears to show that only the Chair of the Orchard Community Management is the only person who can call an EGM.

Action: Cllr Lilley will take these points back to the Orchard committee for discussing and amendments to be made

25/118 **Bank Mandate – Proposal of New signatories**

At the meeting it was shared that currently Cllr Lilley, Wright and previous vice chair are signatories of the Parish Council bank account. The Clerk has access to make payments and view the full account.

Cllr Wright proposed a motion for the previous Vice chair to be removed as a signatory and Cllr's Clare and Spencer to be added. Cllr Lilley seconded this motion.

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

25/119 **Receive the report of Actual 24/25 Income & Expenditure vs 2024/25 Budget**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright shared the above report.

The review of this is to be carried forward to the next meeting

RESOLVED: Approved

25/120 **Approve and sign the 2024/25 AGAR report**

Prior to the meeting the AGAR was shared with all Cllr's.

At the meeting no comments were raised. Cllr Wright proposed a motion that the AGAR report was accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Turner.

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

25/121 **To receive a report on any correspondence received since the previous meeting.**

1. New Road name for development north of Halley Road Corby
At the meeting it was decided that the Parish Council need not reply.
2. Tree packs Grant
At the meeting it was agreed that the correspondence to be shared with the Recreation Ground and Pocket Park
Action: The Clerk will forward the email to the above groups
3. Parking complaint from a resident

This has been forwarded to the PCSO

4. Request from a resident in relation to overgrown Ivy on Village Green Wall
The Clerk to reach out to the Mowing contractor and report back to the Council
5. Recreation Ground Management committee proposal
This proposal is for a dedicated group representing the Parish Council to coordinate the running of the ground and its facilities
At the meeting Cllr Turner shared with the Cllr's that the proposal of forming a sub-committee would act as main point of contact for all clubs and users.
Action: The Clerk would reply informing the committee that there are ongoing discussions and will update in due course
6. Overgrown Hedgerow at property on station road
At the meeting the clerk shared that the resident and Highways have cut back the hedges.
7. Renaming of Pavilion proposal from a Gretton resident
At the meeting it was agreed that this will be added as an Agenda item at the next meeting for discussion.
Action: The Clerk to reply to the Resident sharing that this will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.
8. Paddock Park spend request
At the meeting it was agreed that the Parish Council would purchase items on behalf of the Paddock Park.
Action: Cllr Wright to purchase these items
9. Northants Ground care invoice
The Clerk to shared that the invoice that was received was in line with the Tender for the first hedge cut of the Village. The clerk has asked for approval to pay.
RESOLVED: Voted All Approved
10. Asset Inspection email from Tim Fox
At the meeting it was agreed that this report would be discussed at the next meeting
Action: The Clerk to reply to T Fox thanking him for the report and the Council will be on touch.
11. Correspondence received from a resident in relation to Planning Application NC/24/00422/DPA
At the meeting the NNC Ward Cllr shared that they were aware of this issue and were in contact with the Planning Department
12. Receiving Planning Applications after the publication of Agenda's
The Clerk shared that The Planning officer had asked for a Planning Application not on the Agenda to be considered at this meeting.
At the meeting it was agreed that the Clerk would reply to the Planning Officer that it does need to be an Agenda Item for the Council to pass comment and this is why an extension has been requested.
Action: The Clerk to reply to the Planning Department
13. Parish Councillors Email Domain

At the meeting Cllr Turner shared that he is looking into the options of all Cllr's having a Cllr correspondence email that the Council can have access to in cases of historical data and sharing of information.

Action: Cllr Turner will share his findings with all the Cllr's and this will be added as an Agenda item at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/122

Councillor Questions

At the meeting Cllr Husk shared that there is a tree branch issue at the Pocket Park.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/123

Date of Next Meeting

14 July 2025

RESOLVED: Approved

25/124

Close

22.20

RESOLVED: Approved

Councillors' reports are available on the PC Website at <https://www.grettonparishcouncil.co.uk/>