

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on Monday 10 November 2025 at 7.30pm at Gretton Village Hall, 61

Kirby Road, Gretton NN17 3DB

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

In Attendance: T Smith(PLR & NHW)), Councillor O'Brien, C Watts Clerk

Cllr Wright (Chair) 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

25/258 **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Cllr Turner

PCSO

NNC Cllr McDonald

RESOLVED: Approved

25/259 **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

25/260 **To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 13 October 2025**

Minutes signed without amendment.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/261 **To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on Monday 3 November 2025**

Minutes signed without amendment.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/262 **Open Forum**

A person with mobility issues from Hatton Lane was in attendance and shared their concerns that due to dangerous roads, overgrown hedges and inconsiderate parking they are unable to use their mobility scooter in and around the Village.

Gretton Good Neighbours and what they do was shared.

The Hedgerow and footpath by St James Church were discussed as being an issue.

The Parish Council have tried on in the past to work with the Diocese to resolve this long-term issue.

Action: Highways to be contacted sharing this issue to see if they can reach out to the Diocese.

A resident (R Newby) attended the meeting to share his frustration at the lack of action on the following points

Gretton Brook is flooded, Gully Cleaning is not being completed correctly, NNC and the Parish Council are not being seen to follow up on points he has raised.

Cllr Wright (The Chair) shared that he appreciates his frustration but that most of the issues are within the remit of NNC to resolve.

Cllr Wright also shared with the resident that there is an agenda item to be discussed steps needed to support the clerk to fulfil the duties required and that the Council are aware that there are tasks not being completed due to prioritising tasks and time constraints.

The resident has been asked to list his priorities and the clerk to reply

Action: The Clerk to contact Kier and ask for a copy of the Gully map and share with Mr Newby

NNC Cllr O'Brien shared that he is looking into the points that Mr Newby has shared with him

RESOLVED: Approved

25/263 **To receive a report from County Councillor**

Cllr O'Brien shared at the meeting that there was a charity ball held in Corby to raise funds for Kingswood Community Centre and Autumn Centre. £5000 was raised. He also shared that he is currently working on the issues of Fly tipping and Gretton Brook.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/264 **To receive a report from the Police.**

Report received and shared prior to the meeting

At the meeting it was shared that through Northamptonshire talking there is a Knife Amnesty event taking place on Friday 21st November from 1-3pm at the Sports and Social Club

Action: The Clerk to forward this email to all Cllr's.

RESOLVED: Approved

R Newby resident left the meeting 19.59pm

25/265 **To receive a report from the Police Liaison Representative and Gretton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator**

At the meeting T Smith PLR & NHW shared that he was unable to attend the online public meeting with Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Danielle Stone and Chief Constable Ivan Balhatchet due to being on holiday

RESOLVED: Approved

25/266 **Planning Applications**

25/01298/REM

Proposal: Location: Approval of Reserved Matters: Reserved Matters Application Pursuant to Outline Planning Permission 19/00351/OUT for 161 Dwellings and associated infrastructure associated with Parcel 6, Zone 2, Key Phase 1, including the discharge of condition 20 (Travel Plan) Priors Hall Site, Kirby Lane, Deene, NN17 3EJ

Action: No Comments

NC/24/00422/DPA

Re : Construction of short length of 1800 mm high wall in random coursed stone to match existing together with 1400 mm high Metal vertical railings with clear vision through. Farm style gate to be erected between railings and rear corner of property. All to private access drive.

At :33 High Street Gretton North Northamptonshire NN17 3DE

Action: The Clerk to reply asking why this application has come back to the Parish Council as there appears to be no change from the original application from July

25/0090/LBC

Proposal: Location: Listed Building Consent: Replace single glazing with Heritage Slim double-glazed units

6 Caistor Road, Gretton, NN17 3DL

Action: The Parish Council supports the replacement windows. The Clerk to reply

25/01292/LBC

Proposal: Location: Listed Building Consent: Installation of new air vent to external wall to meet current safety regulations,

74 High Street, Gretton, NN17 3DF

Action: No Comment

25/267

To Receive Councillors reports on their activities

Reports were received from Cllr's Wright, Husk Nicholls and Clare.

At the meeting Cllr Lilley shared that she has started the process of registering the community assets within the Village on the Community asset register.

Cllr Clare requested if the Parish Council would approve the purchase of a speed gun. This is to be raised as an Agenda item on the December meeting.

Cllr Clare and T Smith to provide a summary of the speed watch campaign at December meeting.

Cllr Husk shared that the Immediate Justice Programme would be able to work in the Community Orchard to clear brambles and along the Arnhill Road bridleway. As the Community Orchard is on Parish Council land, the Community Orchard Committee will be advised but are not required to be in attendance as adequate supervision will be provided by the scheme

RESOLVED: Approved

25/268

To Consider the Council's response to FOI requests

At the meeting the Chair shared that the Clerk has received two Freedom of Information requests. The Clerk also shared that she had received another request via email after the meeting that took place on 3 November. The Clerk shared that due to the increase in workload resulting from additional meetings she did not immediately reply to the email, consequently another two emails were received sharing that the correspondence and lack of information provided by the clerk was being shared with the monitoring officer. The Clerk has brought this to the Council to discuss whether this correspondence comes under the FOI Vexatious Policy.

Action: The Clerk will work with NCALC on the two Freedom of Information requests

Action: The Chair to distribute the FOI Vexatious Requests Complaints Policy to all Cllr's for review

RESOLVED: Approved

25/269

To Discuss Urban Highway Grass Cutting 2026/27

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared communication received from NNC in relation to the Parish Council receiving funds to take responsibility to cut the urban highways within Gretton.

Action: Cllr Wright to liaise with NNC for quotes for the additional cuts that would be required

RESOLVED: Approved

25/270 **To Discuss steps needed to support the Clerk to fulfil duties required**

At the meeting Cllr Wright shared that there had been discussions in the Finance meetings in relation to the duties of the role of the clerk and there currently appears to be a lack of capacity to complete all tasks needed. The Council are being asked for thoughts on recruiting on an additional person on a part time basis to assist. This would allow the current clerk to focus on training and attending meetings that they are currently unable to attend. The other option is for Cllr's to increase their availability to support the Clerk.

Action: The Clerk to put out of office on sharing that emails are monitored and will respond as soon as possible to help manage the tasks.

Action: Outstanding tasks to be shared with all Cllr's

Action: The current Job description of the clerk to be reviewed.

RESOLVED: Approved

T Smith(PLR & NHW) left the meeting 20.46pm

25/271 **To Discuss Councillor and Clerk Training**

At the meeting Cllr Wright shared that there are many training courses available to all Cllr's and the Clerk with NCalc that would enable us all to fulfil the roles as Cllr's. Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's to provide feedback on the Group Training courses that they have undertaken

Action: The Clerk to book two Cllr's on courses and to look at costings and dates for Finance training as a group for all Cllr's.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/272 **To Discuss and review the first draft of the 2026/27 Budget**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Lilley shared the first draft of the budget and a high-level summary of the parish Council's current finances.

At the meeting Cllr Wright thanked Cllr Lilley and the Clerk for their work on producing the first draft. Cllr Lilley shared that this budget is a best estimate of costs that can be expected based on the information we have to date. It was shared that there is another Finance meeting at the end of November for any final entries and the Budget will be added as an Agenda item for the December Council meeting for final review and approval

RESOLVED: Approved

25/273 **To discuss the takeover of banking for the Pocket Park**

At the meeting it was shared that the Finance committee had been discussing this and were asking the Cllr's if they were in agreement to takeover the Pocket Park accounts.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/274 **To Discuss the Parish Council's involvement in the BIG50 Vision**

Cllr Lilley shared that she is on the steering committee and is asking for the Parish Council to get involved and for Cllr's support

RESOLVED: Approved

25/275 **To Appoint a Climate & Nature Champion to represent the council in matters relating to climate change nature and environment**

At the meeting it was shared that this post remains unfilled.

Action: The Clerk will receive the correspondence and share with the Council

25/276 **Update on the new Domain and Website**

Due to Cllr Turner not in attendance at the meeting there is no update.

Action: The Clerk to follow up with Cllr Turner

25/277 **The Finance Committee to receive and approve for signature the minutes of the Finance meeting held on 8 October 2025**

Minutes signed without amendment.

RESOLVED: Approved

25/278 **Full Council to note Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on 8 October 2025**

The Minutes to be shared with full Council and carried forward to the next meeting

RESOLVED: Approved

25/279 **To receive Finance statements for July, August, September 2025**

Reports signed without amendment

RESOLVED: Approved

25/280 **To receive a report on any correspondence received since the previous meeting.**

Correspondence received from the office of Lee Barron MP in relation to a community water testing campaign.

Action: The Clerk to circulate the email within the Village

RESOLVED: Approved

25/281 **Councillor questions**

Cllr Nicholls has asked if he can organise the Pat Testing for the Sports and Social Club and the Pavilion with a resident of the village. All Cllr's agreed.

Cllr Nicholls has offered to obtain quotes for the upgrade of facilities within the toilets and changing rooms of the Pavilion.

The Beacon Process was discussed and the poster to be prepared and shared with the Council

The Disabled signs needed at the car park at the Recreation Ground were discussed.

Action: Cllr Wright to look into this

All Cllr's profiles on the Parish Council website need updating

RESOLVED: Approved

25/282 **Date of Next Meeting.**

17 November 2025

25/283 **Close.**

21.23pm