

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Email: [clerkgpc@btinternet.com](mailto:clerkgpc@btinternet.com)

[www.grettonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.grettonparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on Monday 3 November 2025 at 7.30pm at Gretton

Village Hall, 61 Kirby Road, Gretton NN17 3DB

**Present:** Cllrs Wright, Clare, Lilley, Husk, Nicholls, Page.

**In Attendance:** 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.*

*Cllr Wright also shared that the resident in attendance (Mr T Forsey) was also recording the meeting as their right to do so.*

**25/249**      **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

Cllr Curtis and Turner

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**25/250**      **To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright (Chair) asked all Cllr's under the Nolan Principles to consider the Objectivity Principle and reflect on it when making determinations on any Agenda items at this meeting.*

*There were no declarations of interest*

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**25/251**      **Open Forum**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright (Chair) asked Mr Forsey if there was anything other than the complaint that he wished to raise under the Open Forum section of the Agenda. Mr Forsey shared that he wished to raise all his points under the formal complaint*

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**25/252**      **To receive and hear formal complaint against conduct of Gretton Parish Council as a corporate body in accordance with the Council's Complaint Policy.**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright invited Mr Forsey to make his oral submission to the Council for five minutes as discussed.*

*Mr Forsey thanked the Chair and the Council for the opportunity to speak at this meeting.*

*Mr Forsey shared that before he would present his formal statement, he wished to clarify for the record his belief that there has been procedural irregularities of how Gretton Parish Council have handled this complaint thus far. To enable Mr Forsey to explain these points in his formal statement he has shared that his statement is seven minutes long. He asked if he would be allowed to complete his statement in full with no interruptions?*

*Cllr Wright agreed to Mr Forsey's request but shared that there may be points of order.*

*In delivering his formal statement Mr Forsey shared details of the basis of his view on the procedural irregularities of the handling of his complaint thus far, and the Parish Council's failure to follow their own procedures.*

*A point of order was raised when Mr Forsey raised a point in relation to an individual Councillor. The Chair stated that this complaint is against the Council and not an individual. The Chair stated that complaints against individual Councillors should be dealt with under the code of conduct and referred to the Monitoring Officer.*

*Mr Forsey proceeded with the core of his formal complaint being the inconsistent application of Policy BE1 from the Gretton Neighbourhood Plan being applied to Buckworth Barn and the Craxford Road Garage Site.*

*Mr Forsey raised the point that he has requested Freedom of Information bundles from the Clerk to ascertain the advice and information that the Chair has received from NCALC in relation to the handling of this complaint as per Gretton parish Council's Complaints Policy.*

*Cllr Wright thanked Mr Forsey for his presentation and shared with him that he has shared the correspondence emails between himself and Mr Forsey with the full Council prior to the meeting sharing that the Chair and Mr Forsey hold opposing views on this matter.*

*Cllr Wright shared that he has been receiving advice from NCALC as they are the Supporting Body for all Parish Councils.*

*Cllr Wright shared that he would be proceeding with this meeting under the terms that he had shared previously with the Cllr's and Mr Forsey.*

*Having received Mr Forsey's complaint that the application of policy BE1 being inconsistent, Cllr Wright shared that the Council would go through each of the applications that Mr Forsey referred to in his statement and Cllr's to consider those applications using the evidence that was available at the time the Planning applications were submitted.*

*At this point Mr Forsey asked where was this on the Agenda?*

*Cllr Wright shared that the Full Council are receiving and hearing the Complaint in accordance with Gretton Parish Council's complaints policy.*

*Mr Forsey asked to make another statement which Cllr Wright agreed to.*

*Mr Forsey shared that he is formally recording his objection to how the meeting is to continue and will withdraw from the meeting and refer the matter to the Monitoring Officer for independent investigation.*

*Mr Forsey requested any written notes from the meeting and left at 19.46*

*"The complainant delivered their formal statement under Item 25/252 and raised a procedural objection that the Council was proceeding contrary to Sections 4.4 to 4.8 of its Complaints Policy. The Council considered the procedural objection and resolved to continue, at which point the complainant recorded their objection and withdrew from the meeting."*

*Cllr Wright asked the Council to consider the following applications as if they were being presented to them today*

**NC/21/00200/COU - Change of use from offices to dwelling house**

**Application 27 April 2021 - refused 13 August 2021**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's how they would apply BE1 To this application.*

*It was agreed that the Council would have objected to this application under Gretton Neighbourhood Plan policy BE1 if this application was presented to them now*

**NC/23/00288/ COU - change of use from offices (B1) to dwelling house (C3)**

**(Buckworth Barn) 74 High Street Gretton**

**Application 1 August 2024 - refused 9 October 2023**

*20.00pm Cllr Page excused himself from the meeting on a personal matter and returned at 20.10pm*

*At the meeting Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's if they would apply BE1 To this application. The majority of the Council would have objected to this application under Gretton Neighbourhood Plan policy BE1 if this application was presented to them now*  
**NC/23/00402/DPA – change of use of commercial garage to a single dwelling and including the partial demolition of the garage and the construction of a two storey extension. Gretton Garage Site, Craxford Road, Gretton.**

**Application 17 October 2023 – permitted 11 December 2023**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's if they would apply BE1 To this application. Cllr Lilley shared for the benefit of the new Cllr's that at the time of the original Planning application BE1 was not applied as the premises had not been a business for 23 years, and that an original planning application to turn it into a house had been submitted in 1999 had been granted. This original Planning application lapsed. Cllr Wright raised the point that he would apply policy BE1 to this application due to the following part of BE1*

- a) The commercial premises or land in question has not been in active use for at least 12 months; and
- b) The commercial premises or land in question has no potential for either reoccupation or redevelopment for employment generating uses and as demonstrated through the results both of a full valuation report and a marketing campaign lasting for a continuous period of at least 6 months.

*The majority of the Council would have objected to this application under Gretton Neighbourhood Plan policy BE1 if this application was presented to them now but stated that they would take into consideration how long the premises had been empty.*

**NC/23/00495/COU - change of use from offices (B1) to dwelling house (C3) (Buckworth Barn) 74 High Street, Gretton**

**Application 21 December 2023 - permitted 4 April 2024**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's if they would apply BE1 To this application. It was agreed that the Council would have objected to this application under Gretton Neighbourhood Plan policy BE1 if this application was presented to them now*

**NC/25/00058/COU - change of use from offices (B1) to dwelling house (C3) (Buckworth Barn) 74 High Street, Gretton**

**Application 27 February 2025 - permitted 18 August 2025**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright asked the Cllr's if they would apply BE1 To this application. The majority of the Council would have objected to this application under Gretton Neighbourhood Plan policy BE1 if this application was presented to them now due to the Marketing evidence was not sufficient and current.*

*The Conclusion of this is that had the current Council been presented with the above applications today*

*Four of the applications the same decisions would have been submitted to NNC One application would have had a different decision (NC/23/00402/DPA)*

*It was agreed that an acknowledgement be shared with Mr Forsey that this Council would have viewed it differently. Cllr Wright shared that he believes that the previous Council acted in good faith and with a good conscience for the good of the Village at*

*the time and with the benefit of hindsight and experience the Council would act differently today.*

**Action:** Reply to be submitted to Mr Forsey sharing the outcome of his Complaint

**Action:** Cllr Lilley to share the crib sheet that can be referred to when Planning Applications are submitted

**RESOLVED:** Voted All Approved

**25/253**      **To appoint a three-member Complaint committee with full delegated power to bring the complaint to a conclusion.**

*At the meeting Cllr Wright, Nicholls and Husk were appointed as the committee. Points that were discussed as to how the meeting would be conducted if the complainant wants to pursue this matter.*

*It was decided at the meeting to not appoint an independent person at this time*

**RESOLVED:** Voted All Approved

**25/254**      **To resolve which member will be the Chairperson of the Complaint Committee**

*Cllr Wright was appointed as the Chairperson of the Complaints Committee*

**RESOLVED:** Voted All Approved

**25/255**      **Councillor questions**

*At the meeting the question was asked what the timings and next steps of the Complaint process is.*

*Cllr Wright shared that the following would take place.*

- *The outcome of the meeting would be shared with the Complainant.*
- *If the Complainant wished to pursue the matter further a meeting of the complaint committee would be arranged and publicly displayed in the usual way.*

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**25/256**      **Date of next meeting**

10 November 2025

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**25/257**      **Close**

21.30

**RESOLVED:** Approved

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

Signed: Chair

Date: