

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton Parish Council held on Monday 9 February 2026 at 7.30pm at Gretton Village Hall, 61 Kirby

Road, Gretton NN17 3DB

**Present:** Cllrs Wright, Clare, Lilley, Husk, Nicholls, Page, Curtis and Freegard

**In Attendance:** S Gray (TSG)), Councillor's McDonald & O'Brien, C Watts Clerk, T Fox and two members of the Public

*Cllr Wright raised a point of order that the Agenda and Minutes of January and the Agenda of this meeting have been published in the Notice boards as the Parish Council are legally obliged to do so, the Agendas have only been published in the new website and not the old one. This is currently being worked on to provide a link between the new and old website until the old one is closed.*

*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. A member of the public asked if they could also record the meeting. The Chair shared this was okay*

**26/025** **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**

PCSO

Cllr Turner (Apology received post meeting)

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**26/026** **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

**26/027** **To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 12 January 2026**

Minutes signed without amendment

**RESOLVED:** Approved. Votes – all in favour.

**26/028** **Open Forum**

Both members of the public shared they were there to listen only

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**26/029** **To receive a report from Corby Rural Division, North Northamptonshire Council**

Cllr Obrien shared that there had been a full Council meeting on 11 December 2025 and the Budget was discussed. He shared that 4.99% increase was approved and will share a report with the Clerk that shows the breakdown of the areas these funds will be spent.

Cllr McDonald shared that NNC are still fighting for more budget from the Government.

The next full Council meeting is 19 February. Cllr McDonald also shared that NNC are looking to clean up the area of the Allotments on Kirby Road owned by NNC. Cllr Lilley shared that there is no running water. Ongoing projects are being discussed by NNC on how best to use the space.

The Chair asked if there was any update on the combined authority. No update as of now.

**A resident (Reb Newby) arrived during this discussion and left the meeting after its conclusion**

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**Cllr McDonald and Obrien left the meeting at 19.43pm**

**26/030**

**To receive a report from the Police.**

Crime report was received prior to the meeting

**RESOLVED:** Approved

**26/031**

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

No report received

**RESOLVED:** Noted

**26/032**

**Traffic Safety Group Update**

At the meeting S Gray shared that the Speed watch team had looked at Harringworth and Lydington Road were not suitable areas for mobile speed watch. The Speed gun has been purchased and is on route

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/033**

**Planning Applications**

**25/0209/LAPNEW**

Premises Licence Ground Rules Festival In The Grounds Of Deene Park

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright shared with the Parish Council was one point of difference in the conditions worth noting between this application from Ground Rules and the previous license for Illusive is that the Illusive license was applicable year-on-year for 'one weekend in September each year,' whereas Ground Rules have applied for specific dates in 2026. This does mean a new application would be needed to cover future years so if there are any issues coming out of this years event there is the opportunity to have input again into future consultations.

It was shared that Deene Parish Council have shared that they are objecting.

It was agreed that no comments were to be made at this time from Gretton Parish Council

**26/034**

**To receive report from Complaint meeting held 4 February 2026**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright, (the Chair) shared the report that reflected the Complaint meeting for the Council to review. Along with this report there is also an appendix document which is a written response from the resident involved. The Complaints Committee agreed that this will be entered into our Parish record alongside the report. These two documents will be published with the Minutes of this meeting.

As part of the report the Complaints committee have made some recommendations designed to improve Governance and Transparency regarding the Parish Council.

These included a dedicated Planning Committee which would bring the Council in line with other Parish Councils, going forward the Council to not treat any planning applications being retrospective as a basis for objection. Going forward the Parish Council to publish details of any presentations prior to the event and for it to be stored in Parish records. A review of the current Complaints Policy is recommended.

The Conclusion is that the Parish Council would like to thank Mr Forsey for working with the Complaints Committee on this matter. It has allowed the Council to reflect on these matters, and it will look to the Council being more robust going forward.

Cllr Wright invited Cllr's to comment on the report.

Cllr Lilley raised a concern that a planning committee should be the ones to decide when a planning application was retrospective whether it is a consideration for us. Cllr Lilley raised that if retrospective planning application is not considered are the Parish Council in danger of setting a dangerous precedence?

Cllr Lilley raised that if the Parish Council are going to publish papers prior to public meetings, ie Planning meetings, then for balance and openness and fairness, should the applicant not do the same?

Cllr Wright responded that in terms of the Complaints committee they were making recommendations to the Council that this is the way the Council should proceed.

Cllr Wright responded that in terms of documents being put in the public domain, the committees view is for the Council to be open and transparent about their duties.

The Committee is asking the Council to accept this report.

The goal is to achieve these points by the April 2026 meeting for there be time to review.

Voted seven accepted the report one abstained.

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/035** **Permission requested from Gretton PSA to use the Sports Field for a Colour run on Friday 17 July 2026**

At the meeting it was agreed that the PSA and the Recreation Ground committee need to co-ordinate timings for the event with this being held the same weekend of the Fun day

Permission Granted

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/036** **To discuss an Action Plan for the Annual Parish meeting that is to be held in April 2026**

Cllr Wright shared that the Annual Parish meeting needs to be held between 1<sup>st</sup> March-1<sup>st</sup> June. It was agreed that last year's new format worked well and should be the same for this year. Historically it does not happen in May due to the Annual Parish Council meeting happening in this month

**Action:** The Chair and Clerk to look at dates in April with a Friday evening being the preferred time

**RESOLVED** Approved

**A member of the public left the meeting 20.05pm**

**26/037** **To receive update on the Gretton Recreation Ground Management Committee Terms of Reference**

Cllr Freegard shared that the Terms of Reference are still to be finalised.

**Action:** Cllr Freegard and Cllr Turner to work together on this to bring to the March meeting

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/038** **To receive an update on GSSC Lease**

At the meeting the Clerk shared that there had been correspondence from the Solicitor and the Secretary of GSSA.

**Action:** The Chair and the Clerk to discuss and share some dates for availability to meet with GSSC to discuss the final points

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/039** **To propose a motion to re instigate listing of the Community Assets as per the Neighbourhood Plan**

At the meeting Cllr Lilley shared that on listing of the Community Assets of the Village with NNC she was not made aware that they had changed the process of what was required. Authority from the parish Council is required to continue with the listing process as per the Neighbourhood Plan

**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/040** **To propose that copies of the title plans for all Parish Council owned properties are obtained**

At the meeting it was shared that location plans were needed to identify ownership of some land in the village where there was a large pothole. This highlighted the need for location and title plans for all Parish Council assets to be stored for future reference

**Action:** Cllr Wright to liaise with T Fox to ascertain the ones that the Parish Council do not have  
**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/041** **Proposal to seek tenders for Tree Survey of PC managed sites**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright shared the previous tree survey with all Cllr's. It was agreed that the Clerk to submit the Tender to the previous contractor for a quote  
**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/042** **Proposal to seek tenders for grass cutting and hedgerow maintenance at PC managed sites.**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright shared the tenders with all Cllr's. It was agreed that the Clerk to send the Tenders out to Contractors inviting them to submit a tender  
**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/043** **To Receive Councillors reports on their activities**

Reports were received from Cllr's Wright, Husk, Lilley, Nicholls, Freegard  
As per a request on Cllr Lilley's report in relation to an application for free trees to be obtained and planted at Stone Pit Close by the Nature Recovery Group, Cllr Wright confirmed that the Parish Council agreed to this request.  
As per Cllr Lilley's report a request for a Consultant to review the Neighbourhood Plan was discussed and Cllr Lilley to obtain a quote.  
**RESOLVED** Approved

**26/044** **Asset Inspection Cllr's involvement update**

Prior to the meeting Tim Fox provided the Asset Inspection report.  
At the meeting Cllr Wright thanked Tim Fox for his continued involvement on the monthly inspection. T Fox suggested that a minimum of two people should be involved in the monthly inspection and he is happy to continue for as long as needed. He asked that updates are provided when issues are resolved so that the report can be updated accordingly. It was also suggested that a list of named contractors be made available so that they may be contacted to provide quotes for work/repairs that may be needed. Cllr's Clare, Curtis and Nicholls have agreed to be involved in the inspections. It was also raised that the Sports and social Club needs to be inspected. Cllr Page has agreed to be involved in this. Information on how this is to be conducted will need to be shared.  
**Action:** The Clerk to liaise with Cllr's to move this forward.

**RESOLVED: Approved**

**26/045** **Update on 2026/27 Budget**

Prior to meeting Cllr Wright reshared the latest Budget asking if there was any feedback or additions to the report. There were no further comments and it was shared that the Council would be guided by the Finance committee.  
A motion was raised to approve the Budget.  
The Vote was 7 for the budget and 1 against.

**RESOLVED: Approved**

**26/046** **To Review GPC Complaints Policy**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Wright shared Gretton Parish Council's current Complaints Policy and NCALC's policy. It was agreed to review the existing policy as feedback was provided from the Complaints committee that the current process is a lengthy one. Points that were discussed included additional members could be requested for the Complaints committee along with rotation of the committees so that all Cllr's gain knowledge and experience.

**Action:** Cllr Wright to prepare a draft to be brought to the next meeting.

**RESOLVED: Approved**



26/054

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

Correspondence received from Deene Park asking to arrange an online meeting with the Parish Council and the Festival organisers of the event to be held at the Park.

It was agreed that the Parish Council will take up this offer

**Action:** The Clerk to reply

Correspondence received from D and S Fursdon in relation to collection of rents for the Allotments

Cllr Wright shared that himself and the clerk had visited Shirley and David at their home prior to this meeting and collected the annual rent and insurance monies.

Cllr Wright shared he had expressed the Parish Council's thanks for the work that they do in relation to the Allotments. They both shared they were happy to continue in this role. Mrs Fursdon also thanked the Parish Council for the letter she received on her retirement from the British Legion. Mrs Fursdon shared with Cllr Wright and the Clerk that she had been awarded a Nightingale brooch for her services to the Royal British Legion

Correspondence received from the former head of the Allotment association in relation to the handling of the annual insurance. As he is stepping down and has given up his allotment the replacement needs to have an allotment.

It was agreed that Cllr Freegard will take on this duty.

**Action:** Cllr Freegard to work with S Gray (previous head of the Allotment Society) on access to the website required for the Insurance cover

Correspondence received from a resident in relation to Street lighting in the Village.

The Clerk shared that a resident had asked if the Parish Council were able to assist in a request for a streetlight to be removed from outside their property.

It was shared that NNC are the correct authority to submit this request but a better course of action maybe a guard over the streetlight would be a better option

**Action:** The Clerk to reply to the resident

Correspondence received from a Commercial Enterprise in relation to Green Council Biodiversity Solutions.

It was agreed that this is not to be pursued at this time

**RESOLVED: Approved**

**A resident left the meeting 21.08**

**Cllr Clare left the room 21.09 and returned at 21.10**

26/055

**Councillor Questions**

Cllr Lilley asked about progress of the banners for parking at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Curtis shared that there had been an amendment to the design and it was ongoing.

**Action:** Cllr Curtis to provide an update and timeline

Cllr Nicholls asked about progress with the poster to share with away football teams.

**Action:** Cllr Freegard to provide update and timeline

Cllr Freegard shared his concerns re parking around the Recreation Ground

Cllr Lilley asked if a date had been set for a closed meeting to discuss duties of the Council as a whole.

**Action:** Cllr Wright and the clerk to check Cllr's availability.

The Clerk shared that there was an email received in relation to Pocket Park Finances.

The Finance Committee to have a zoom call to discuss prior to the Pocket Park's AGM

**RESOLVED: Approved**

26/055

**Date of Next Meeting**

9 March 2026

**RESOLVED: Approved**

26/057

**Close**

21.15

**RESOLVED: Approved**