

GRETTON PARISH COUNCIL

Village Hall, 61 Kirby Road, Gretton
NN17 3DB

Email: clerk@grettonparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.grettonparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Minutes of the Meeting of Gretton
Parish Council held on Monday 7
September 2026 at 7.30pm at Gretton
Village Hall, 61 Kirby Road, Gretton NN17
3DB**

Present: Cllr's Clare, Freegard, Wright, Husk, Thomson, and Lilley

In Attendance: T Smith (PLR & NHW)), Councillor's McDonald & O'Brien, One member of the Public and C Watts Clerk

Cllr Clare (Chair) shared that the meeting is being recorded for Minuting purposes by the Clerk,

26/264 To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Cllr Curtis, PCSO, NNC Cllr McDonald
Cllr's Nicholls and Page (Resigned)

RESOLVED: Approved

26/265 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

26/266 To fill by co-option one Councillor vacancy due to resignation

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared an application from a resident with the Cllr's. Jacki Lilley was confirmed as co-opted onto the Parish Council.

The Clerk distributed the forms to the new Cllr to sign the declarations of acceptance of office

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

26/267 To appoint a Cllr to the Finance Committee

Cllr Lilley was appointed as a member of the Finance Committee to assist with the 2027/28 Budget

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

26/268 Open Forum

No members of the public were in attendance

Cllr Thomson raised with NNC Cllr O'Brien that there are no safety barriers or signage at the new Zebra crossing, and the road has not been repaired as was originally agreed

Action: The Clerk to provide detail to the NNC Cllr for him to follow up.

RESOLVED: Approved

26/269 To propose to amend the advertisement period from 21 to 14 working days in the Co-option Policy

At the meeting it was discussed that 21 working days was a lengthy time to advertise a post of Cllr in the Co-option Policy. It was agreed that the amendment to 14 days was the correct way forward

RESOLVED: Voted All Approved

26/270 To provide update received from Elections Office at NNC in relation to current Cllr Vacancies

At the meeting the Clerk shared that they had contacted the Elections office by telephone, and they would confirm via email if there had been any papers submitted

for the vacancy of a Cllr to replace S Nicholls. She shared that the Vacancy notice for the replacement of A Page is still live.

It was agreed that a Co-option poster will be published in and around the village if there are no applications to the Election department from their vacancy notice

Action: The Clerk to update the Cllr's when communication is received

RESOLVED: Approved

26/271 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held Monday 10 August 2026

The Minutes were signed without amendment.

RESOLVED: Approved

26/272 To appoint a Parish Council representative to attend the Gretton Sports and Social club committee meetings

Cllr Thomson agreed to be the Parish Council representative at the committee meetings.

Action: The Clerk to contact the secretary of the GSSC informing them and asking for Cllr Thomson to be informed of the meeting dates

RESOLVED: Approved

26/273 To receive a report from County Councillor

At the meeting Cllr O'Brian shared that he has been following up on Station Road pothole, Issues with the Zebra crossing and the poor repair of potholes on Fullwell Avenue. He provided an update on Fullwell Avenue that this was completed using a new method that did not need sealing. He shared he will be following up with the contractor on gravel left behind.

He also shared that the removal of the dog waste bin had been raised as a member's enquiry

RESOLVED: Approved

26/274 To receive a report from the Police.

No report received.

At the meeting the PLR representative was asked if he could reach out to the PCSO or the PC for Gretton could work together to produce this information

Action: T Smith to contact the PCSO and update the Clerk

RESOLVED: Approved

26/275 To receive a report from the Police Liaison Representative and Gretton Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.

At the meeting T Smith (PLR & NHW) shared that the issue of a stolen car had been resolved, Investigation on tools stolen from a vehicle was still ongoing. It was stated that the community of Gretton had come together positively to help replace the stolen items. T Smith also shared that the anti-fraud presentation by Northants police was successful

RESOLVED: Approved

26/276 Traffic Safety Group Update

T Smith shared that a Speedwatch campaign will be organised before the clocks change and full training will be provided on the use of the Speed gun. Cllr Freegard asked to be added to the Speed watch WhatsApp Group.

Cllr Clare thanked T Smith for his work on this

RESOLVED: Approved

26/277 Planning applications

26/02347/LBC

Listed Building Consent: Replace existing windows at Stonycroft, 12 Station Road, Gretton, NN17 3BU

At the meeting it was agreed that the Clerk to respond asking for more information as there was not detail on materials or other consultees on the NNC Portal against this application

Action: The Clerk to respond accordingly

RESOLVED: Approved

26/278

Asset Inspection Update

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared the Asset Inspection report from T Fox to the Cllr's for review. Items to be followed up on were

The Village Green and Ivy growing on the wall (Cllr's Wright and Lilley offered to assist)

Weed and vegetation at the Wagon Wash (Cllr Lilley to liaise with Douglas Hall from Nature Recovery)

Plumbing Issues at the Pavilion. (Clerk to contact local plumber)

The completion of the Electrical Inspection. (Clerk to confirm with GSSC)

RESOLVED: Approved

20.05pm The Tenants of the Fire Station Garage arrived

26/279

To Receive Councillors reports on their activities

Prior to the meeting reports were received by Cllr's Clare, Freegard, Wright, Husk, and Thomson

RESOLVED: Approved

26/280

To Discuss Quotes received for the following Repairs at the Pavilion

Two quotes were obtained and shared with all Cllr's prior to the meeting. They were discussed and one was selected by the Parish Council

Repair of Gym equipment

A quote was obtained by the supplier of the Gym equipment for the repair and inspection. This was discussed and approved by all Cllr's except for Cllr Lilley as she was not a Cllr prior to the meeting.

Action: The Clerk to contact the contractor for the work at the Pavilion and arrange a date for the work to start.

Action: The clerk to investigate when the last annual maintenance on the Gym equipment was carried out and confirm with the supplier that the repair quote has been approved

RESOLVED: Approved

26/281

To obtain quotes for clearance of Recreation Ground Car Park drains.

Cllr Wright shared with Cllr's that the car park drains do not connect into the main wastewater network, these flow into a soakaway beneath the Recreation Ground field, as such the drains are the Parish Council's responsibility to maintain as they are located on the part of the car park which we own. Over time the drains become silted up, causing rainwater to pool in the car park. It was agreed that quotes to be obtained.

Action: The Clerk to obtain quotes and check that availability is October school Half Term

RESOLVED: Approved

26/282 To consider the safety inspection arrangements for the Children's Play Area from April 2027.

At the meeting the current condition of the Play area was discussed as it is still maintained by NNC. It was agreed that pictures of the Play area be sent to NNC and asking for it be brought up to a safe standard before it is handed over to Gretton Parish Council to maintain. The quote that was received by NNC for them to continue the maintenance and charge the Parish Council was discussed along with potential issue with Insuring it in its current condition.

Action Cllr Fregard to provide photographs and send to the clerk

Action: The Clerk to contact NNC and share photographs of the current condition of the play area

RESOLVED: Approved

26/283 To Discuss Licensing Policy Consultation

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared an email in relation to the above. It was agreed that no response was needed

RESOLVED: Approved

26/284 To Consider the proposal received from Local MP for Parish Councils to have access to an NNC correspondence portal, providing a clear route for enquiries and helping to ensure that Councils and residents receive timely responses.

It was agreed that the Parish Council supported this proposal but that it would be better if only the Chair and the Clerk have access

Action: The Clerk to reply to the MP

RESOLVED: Approved

26/285 To Discuss Update received in relation to Community Governance Review

At the meeting it was discussed that potentially Gretton Parish Council will increase to 11 Cllr's. It was also discussed that the boundary to Harringworth should have been considered as the Picnic Area has fly tipping issues.

RESOLVED: Approved

26/286 Update on GSSC Lease and correspondence received from the Parish Council's solicitor

Prior to the meeting the Clerk shared an email received from the Parish Council's solicitor outlining final changes to the Lease. These were discussed at the meeting

and the Clerk to reply with the recommendations agreed by the Cllr's.

Action: The Clerk to reply to the Solicitor

RESOLVED: Approved

20.32pm NNC Cllr O'Brian left the meeting

26/287

To Receive an update on Fire Station Garage

At the meeting Cllr Clare shared that he and Cllr Freegard had met with the Tenants via video call. It was confirmed that there is a Tile missing on the roof and a bolt missing on the railings. The Tenants asked if the Parish Council would consider a longer lease? Points also discussed were Sealed bids, Open Auction and the option of selling the property. It was agreed that a corporate expression of Interest form to be drawn up and published and if no other interested parties come forward then the tenancy would be offered to the current tenants. The Tenants asked that if they were unsuccessful that they would be given sufficient time to clear the property.

Action: Cllr Freegard and the Clerk to work together on the Corporate Expression of Interest Form.

Action: The Clerk to confirm the insurance value of the property

RESOLVED: Approved

26/288

To Receive an update on the terms of reference for the Gretton Recreation Ground Management Committee and the next steps

Prior to the meeting Cllr Freegard shared the above and Cllr Wright replied with updates. These were discussed and agreed that the changes should be made. It was shared that meetings will be held every three months with the next meeting scheduled for 26th November 2026. All groups will be informed, and it was suggested that an annual calendar is created.

Action: Cllr Freegard to issue an Expression of Interest to all groups

RESOLVED: Approved

26/289

Ro Discuss Budget Considerations for 2027/28

The Clerk shared that prior to the meeting, funding projects had been shared from the Orchard Group and the Nature Recovery Group. Fencing round the play park was discussed. A consultation day for the upgrading of the play park was discussed.

Action: Cllr's Freegard and Lilley to work together on Community Engagement for a consultation day

RESOLVED: Approved

26/290

To receive and approve the Finance reports for June and July 2026

These were signed without amendment

RESOLVED: Approved

21.15pm T Smith left the meeting

- 26/291 Training update for new Clerk and Cllr**
At the meeting the Clerk shared that the new clerk, Cllr's Freegard and Thomson have been booked on training courses and Cllr Clare and the new clerk are attending the Annual NCALC Conference in early October. A Finance Training Course was discussed along with AGAR Going Digital and Climate Nature Champion.
Action: The Clerk to investigate dates for the Finance, AGAR and Climate courses.
RESOLVED: Approved
- 26/292 To receive a report on any correspondence received since the previous meeting.**
Correspondence received for invitation to Citizen Water Testing event.
Action: Clerk to share with Cllr Lilley
Correspondence received in relation to Offer of discounted storage facilities
Action: Clerk to share with working groups.
RESOLVED: Approved
- 26/293 Councillor questions.**
The question was asked who owns the Muga? It was confirmed that it is owned by the Parish Council.
The Football club have asked for an area of the Rec Ground to store goal posts. It was agreed that they need to provide a proper presentation with pictures quotes etc. Line marker paint was discussed and agreed this needs to be an agenda item
Action: The Clerk to send email address of all the secretaries of the groups who use the Rec Ground.
Action: Cllr Freegard to contact the groups confirming they need to go through the proper communication channels for requests for funding
The Social Club have asked for the opportunity to hire the recreation ground when Weldon are due to play. It was agreed that the Sports club should communicate with the groups who use the recreation ground more. It was agreed that once all Fixtures have been confirmed then the use of the Field can be looked at to accommodate a rolling program
Action: The Clerk to reply to the Sports Club.
Cllr Lilley asked for the correspondence received in relation to the S106 funding to be forwarded to her.
Parking on Huntsfield during Sunday football matches continues to be a problem. Cllr Freegard shared he is in touch with NNC and Housing for additional signage. It was discussed that the PCSO should be contacted to ask if they could attend on a Sunday morning to assess the situation
Action: The Clerk to contact the PCSO
RESOLVED: Approved
- 26/294 Date of Next Meeting.**
19 October 2026
RESOLVED: Approved
- 26/295 Close.**
22.03pm
RESOLVED: Approved

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