

GRAFHAM PARISH COUNCIL  
Parish Clerk: Mrs L Hazel, 2 Brampton Road, Grafham  
Chair: Mr I Gardener, 5 Haycraft Close, Grafham  
Tel: 07867 766445 email: [clerk@grafhampc.org](mailto:clerk@grafhampc.org)

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GRAFHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
ON TUESDAY 3rd June 2025

In attendance: David Russell (Vice-Chair), Patrick Curran, Diana Thomas and Jo Dunn

Public: 2 members of the public were present.

District / County Cllr: County Cllr Liam Beckett

Ian Gardener (Chairman) was not in attendance therefore David Russell (Vice-Chair) chaired this meeting.

**Public Forum**

A member of public asked for the legal definition of Quietway as opposed to Quiet Lane.

Noted: - Quiet Lane is a designated minor rural road intended to prioritise walking, wheeling, cycling, and other non-motorised activities by reducing traffic speed and flows. Quiet ways are a broader concept of cycle routes on low traffic roads, often part of a larger network. Quiet Lanes are a type of traffic calming measure while Quietway's can include various traffic calming networks.

The issue of dog fouling around the village was highlighted. The Parish Council agreed to place extra signage around the village asking owners to pick up after their dog(s).

**21/790 County and District Councillors Reports**

Please see report at end of minutes.

**21/791 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were noted and approved from Cllr Stephen Cawley, Ian Gardener and Sunil Gogna.

**21/792 Declarations of interest in any agenda item**

None.

**21/793 To approve the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 6th of May 2025**

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed.

**21/794 Matters arising from previous minutes not on the agenda**

**• Litter Pick Update**

The event was well attended with Ben Obese-Jecty MP offering his assistance. The amount of rubbish left behind outside the visitors centre by cars parking on the grass was noted.

**• EV Charging Point - Update**

The Clerk reported this has been delayed due to HDC experiencing difficulties with UKPN to address the incoming site power supply.

**• Brampton Land Charity Application Grant - Update** - Noted the Parish Council were not successful in their application. The Parish Council will now use Council funds to replace the bench.

**• MVAS Solar Panels - Update**

David Russell reported the solar panels will be installed shortly.

**• Village Shop Planning Application - Update**

Noted plans are being drawn up ready for a planning application to be submitted to HDC.

**• Anglian Water Update - Parking / Litter Grass Verges Outside Visitor Centre**

The Clerk reported she has been in communication with Anglian Water on this subject. Anglian Water have confirmed they do now own or are responsible for the grass verges outside the visitors centre.

Visitors are encourage to use the car park and take home their litter. As a temporary measure cones are to be placed on the grass verges to discourage vehicles from parking. The Parish Council and Anglian Water are to work together to come up with a permanent solution.

- 21/795 Brampton Road Quietway Update**  
 Note Design Showcase dates:  
 • Thursday 5th June for Grafham at the Hall between 4-7pm.  
 • Monday 9th for Brampton at the Hall between 4-6:45pm  
 NOTED.
- 21/796 Consider request from Resident to provide Allotments**  
 The Clerk provided background on this. This item was discussed in detail.  
 RESOLVED as this has been pursued several times over the years to no avail, the Parish Council do not own or are aware of any suitable land, that this matter will not be pursued further and the matter closed. The Clerk is too inform resident. **Action: Clerk.**
- 21/797 ROSPA Play Inspection**  
 • **Note Clerk Report / Recommendations**  
 NOTED. The Clerk was asked to contact the company who installed the climbing wall to ask they undertake remedial works as highlighted in the ROSPA report. No other actions are required.  
  
 Noted both members of public left here.
- 21/798 Community Action Plan - Annual Review**  
 This was reviewed and agreed subject to minor changes.
- 21/799 Polices - Approve Renewal / Updated Policies:**  
 • **Resolve to approve Filming at Meetings Policy**  
 RESOLVED to adopt this policy with immediate effect.
- 21/800 Planning Applications**  
 • **PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – APPLICATION REF. 25/00869/S73**  
**Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) of 20/02393/HHFUL to replace the approved site plan to accommodate the boundary treatment update - Brickbarn Cottage Church Road Grafham Huntingdon PE28 0BE**  
 RESOLVED to respond with “No Objections”.
- 21/7801 To Receive Written Reports for Noting:**  
 Village Hall Committee - PC  
 Village Shop - PC  
 Playing Field / Playground - JD  
 Highways + Footpaths - SG  
 Gigabit Broadband - DR  
 Trees / Hedge Cutting / Verge Maintenance AL  
 Wild Flower Meadow Update - AL  
 MVAS - DR  
 MUGA - PC  
 Village Hall Finance / Bookings - DT  
 Grass Cutting - IG / LH  
 NOTED and appended to these minutes (Appendix:A). The Clerk was asked to remove Gigabit Broadband from reports as it is no longer relevant.
- 21/802 Banking**  
**1.To approve / note the following payments**

1. Grafham Gossip	55
2. Solar Panels VH	15,480.01
3.Treadaway-Removal Bench	192
4.Treadaway - Bench concreting	123.36
5.Beam - Churchyard	170
6. L.Hazel - Reimbursement LR fee	14
7.Morelock - Solar Panels	1035.6
8.Treadaway -Weed spraying VH	72
9.Beam Grass Cut No 5	180
10. SLCC Membership Fee	64.6
11.L.Hazel Wages	380
12.I.Gardener Reimburesement Bench	489
13.I.Gardener Reimbursement Paint	133.37
14. Bank Service Charge	6
15. Wicksteed - Pedal Bike	808.44
16. D.Russell Reimbursement IONOS Invoice	138

APPROVED

**2. Report on current financial position.**

- **To receive financial situation of Council and to note Bank Reconciliation - NOTED**

- **Resolve to submit Village Shop Planning Application at £379.00**

APPROVED - The Parish Council felt it was important to support the local shop that provides an important service to residents. Approved under section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 for Parish and Town Councils in England

- **Consider Estimate from Darnell Electrics for annual light inspection at 3 hours to complete with 2x engineers priced at £45 per hour.**

NOTED. The Clerk was asked to seek further clarification on engineer prices. **Action: Clerk**

- **Consider St Neots Museum Donation Request**

RESOLVED not to make a donation at this time.

- **Note VAT refund has been submitted - NOTED.**

**21/803**

**Correspondence for Information Only**

- HDC Press Release - District Council announces latest round of CIL
- CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough: updated planning guide and news update
- County Lines in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Seminar 17th + 18th June 2025
- Anglian Water - Woodland Project
- HDC Water System Management Discussion Forum - Thursday 10th July
- Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Newsletter
- CAPAL The Great Collaboration working together on Climate and Environmental Issues
- HDC Press Release - Sawtry resident prosecuted for Fraud
- Mens Health Event - 7th June 2025

NOTED.

**21/804**

**Any other business for information only**

The Clerk highlighted she has had a donation request from Grafham Beer Festival. This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

**21/805**

**Note 2025 dates for meetings:** 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November, 2nd December. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.07pm.

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Cllr Liam Beckett - MONTHLY REPORT JUNE 2025

**COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING**

The County Council held its annual meeting on Tuesday 20 May. Lucy Nethsingha was re-elected as Leader of the Council. The meeting appointed Chairs and Vice Chairs of its committees, and representatives to some of its major partners.

I am now a member of the Children and Young People Committee, and the Environment and Green Investment Committee.

Attention was drawn to the 'extraordinary challenges' of the rising number of older people needing social care and of children with special needs and disabilities. The new Liberal Democrat administration will 'make sure our council continues to be more caring, better connected and that Cambridgeshire continues to be a wonderful environment for all to thrive'.

**ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT**

Disposable vapes ban

From 1 June it will be illegal to sell or supply disposable vapes. The government ban is being introduced to tackle the impact of these items on the environment.

It is also hoped the move will help cut the number of children and young people vaping. Retailers caught breaking the law in England face a minimum £200 fine, with a prison sentence of up to two years for repeat offences. Trading Standards will be able to seize any single-use vapes they find. It is estimated that almost five million single-use vapes a week are either littered or thrown away in general waste in the UK.

Fire service issues battery charging safety reminder

Charging batteries have caused six fires in homes across the county so far this year. Firefighters have been called to fires involving batteries being overcharged, resulting in thermal runaway from the lithium-ion contained in them and causing significant damage to people's homes.

## **Highways**

### A1307 maintenance works continue

Maintenance work continues on the A1307 (the old A14), with 40MPH speed limits expected to be lifted by the end of the summer. The County Council took over responsibility for this road from National Highways last year, with serious outstanding issues with the barriers between Godmanchester and Huntingdon and drainage problems at both Fenstanton and Hemingford. Highways & Transport Committee chair Cllr Alex Beckett and Cllr Lorna Dupre pressed County Council officers a few months ago to try to expedite this work, which has taken much longer than initially hoped, so it is excellent news that an end is in sight for these temporary speed restrictions.

### Temporary Road Closure – Brampton to Grafham

Cambridgeshire county council will be closing the road on the 13<sup>th</sup> August between 08:00 and 17:00 to investigate a potential sinkhole lying close to the Brampton wood car park.

### Temporary Road Closure – Buckden Road Slip Road

I would also like to highlight that the slip road near to Buckden roundabout (northbound A1, leading to Brampton) will be closed overnight from the 7<sup>th</sup> July to the 8<sup>th</sup> July between 9pm and 5am.

### Local Grants – Currently Open to Applications

#### A428 Community Fund

Grants of up to £15,000 are available for projects in Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire that support local economy, skills and employment; support and connect communities and/or enhance the environment.

Applications open between now and 1<sup>st</sup> August

#### Thalia WB Community Fund

The Thalia WB (formerly Amey) Community Fund is part of the national Landfill Communities Fund scheme. The fund offers grants for capital projects to improve the local environment, including public buildings and amenities, habitats and architecture. Grants between £10,000 and £50,000.

Apply by 1 September for projects starting December

Apply by 1 December for projects starting March

### Brampton to Buckden Quietway

I felt that the consultation event on the 15<sup>th</sup> May went well. Residents views have been taken into account and the new Quietway proposal will be open to all traffic at low speeds. Local schools have been contacted to involve local children in designing artwork for the route to help encourage active travel modes alongside other encouragements such as informational boards along the route, seating, road markings and road-width 'gates' that all foster a sense of being inside a zone meant for pedestrians and slower traffic. Funding has been primary from Active Travel England and this is the first scheme in the county, putting Grafham and Brampton on the map for innovative new rural ideas to encourage active travel.

There are two 'design showcase' drop in sessions upcoming:

- Thursday 5 June, 4-7pm, Grafham Village Hall, Van Diemens Way, Grafham, Huntingdon, PE28 0GB
- Monday 9 June, 4-6.45pm, Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton, Huntingdon, PE28 4TB

### Meet your Councillor

Brampton Co-Op (High Street) – 5<sup>th</sup> July 10:30-11:30

### **I can also be contacted...**

- By email [liam.beckett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:liam.beckett@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)
- By phone 07312 081892

Cllr Liam Beckett

County Councillor for the Brampton and Buckden Division