

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

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GRAFHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
Monday 6th October 2026

In attendance: Ian Gardener (Chairman), David Russell (Vice-Chair), Diana Thomas, Alf Lesurf, Sunil Gogna, Patrick Curran and Nik Blackburn

Public: 5 members of public were in attendance.

District / County Cllr: Cllr Stephen Cawley, Cllr Liam Beckett.

Clerk: Lisa Hazel

Public Forum

The Chairman opened the meeting by confirming the Parish Council's LHI bid to reduce the speed limit Church Hill and Church Road down to 30mph has been successful. Thanks again were expressed to Sunil Gogna for his excellent presentation.

A resident asked about the upcoming Anglian Water road closures, Perry.

Public Forum

- 21/1023 County and District Councillors Reports**
See reports attached. Cllr Liam Beckett expressed his thanks to Sunil Gogna in helping the Parish Council to achieve a successful LHI bid.
- 21/1024 Apologies for absence**
None as everyone present.
- 21/1025 Declarations of interest in any agenda item**
None.

Noted Cllr Cawley left here along with members of the public.
- 21/1026 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2026**
The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- 21/1027 Pre-Submission Local Plan to 2046 and accompanying Habitats Regulations Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal**
 - Note 2 locations for Grafham
 - Resolve to make a response.

David Russell gave a short presentation on this. Noted the Parish Council is now being asked if the proposed plan is legally compliant and meets the test of soundness. David Russell confirmed Anglian Water have provided evidence of their sewage pump capacity in response to an Environmental Information Request (EIR) made by the PC, Consequently Graham cannot cope with any increase on housing until Anglian Water address this.

On a proposition by the Chairman and seconded by David Russell it was agreed to respond to the consultation with the Anglian Water evidence. A copy of the presentation and PC response is attached for reference. Appendix: A
- 21/1028 Matters arising from last meeting**
 - **Anglian Water Updates** - Noted Anglian Water will be in attendance at the November meeting. RESOLVED David Russell is to collate questions for Anglian Water to answer which will be sent in advance of the meeting.
 - **Repair Cafe - Note postponed** - The Clerk confirmed this has now been cancelled due to a lack of repairers coming forward to assist.
- 21/1029 Planning**

- PARISH COUNCIL CONSULTATION – APPLICATION REF. 26/01659/PIP Permission in principle for the conversion of a barn to a dwelling. Malt Acre Church Road Grafham Huntingdon PE28 0BB - NOTE PARISH COUNCILS RESPONSE.

Noted the Parish Council responded with 'No Objections'

- **To Note following surveys / Consultations and to consider Parish Council response:**
- **Cambridgeshire Rights of Way Improvement Survey - closing date 11th October 2026**
- **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review - Scoping Consultation & Call for Sites - closing date 12th October 2026**

All of the above Consultation's were noted. RESOLVED not to respond at this time.

- **Planning Powers for Mayors in England - NOTE Parish Councils Response**

The Clerk confirmed it was agreed not to send a response to this consultation.

21/1030

To Receive Written Reports for Noting:

Village Hall Committee - PC

Patrick Curran reported the following:-

Village Shop - Again good sales with ytd profit above last year

Village Hall - Again door lock issues, the VH have updated the risk assessment for the hall with new signs as appropriate.

Village Shop - PC

Thanks were formally expressed to David Russell and Martin Joyner for all their efforts to date in the rebuilding of the new shop.

David Russell reported on the following:

New Shop

- We have obtained Building Control approval. This was a struggle dealing with HDC's outsourced building inspection team. The approval has some conditions which we are confident that we can deal with.
- Having been accepted for the Thalia grant, we have submitted the Full Application to CCF, and should hear back by early October.
- We are dealing with the final Cabin details, ensuring it is compliant with the Building Regulations placed upon us.
- We are asking the building works contractor to confirm their quote.
- We are due a quote from Steve Treadaway to cut the hedge back before the new shop goes in.

Village Hall

- The Hall door lock has a mechanical fault, making it difficult to open the door. A new lock has been promised two weeks ago by the manufacturer, Simplex, but they've started using Amazon delivery and there is a problem. In the meantime, lifting the door handle, then pressing pushing it down seems to work.
- We have fitted a nappy changing table in the disabled toilet.

Playing Field - IG / LH - Nothing to report at this time.

Playground - NB - Nothing to report at this time.

Highways + Footpaths - SG - Nothing to report

Trees / Hedge Cutting / Verge Maintenance AL - Nothing to report.

Wild Flower Meadow Update - AL

Alf Lesurf highlighted the wildflower meadow is now being left to die back after a good summer display.

MUGA - PC - Nothing to report

Noted Cllr Liam Beckett left here

21/1031

Banking

1.To approve / note the following payments

Grafham Gossip	£55.00
Clerks Wages	£408.33
Sage Payroll	£1.20
PKF Littlejohn LPP - External Audit	£252.00
Knit and Knatter Donation (S137)	£50
Jill Tyack - VH plants	£14.00
Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance VH Tree	£360.00
BEAM Grass Cutting	£190.00
BEAM Church Grass Cutting	£150.00
Service Charge	£7.00
Noted and approved.	

2. Report on current financial position.

- **To receive financial situation of Council and to note Bank Reconciliation** - NOTED
- **Audit - Note conclusion of end of Audit** - NOTED
- **Note renewal of Insurance Policy**

The Clerk confirmed she sought 3 quotes. One company declined to quote, Zurich quoted £ 1,058.75 for one year and £973.32 per year for a 3 year contract and Clear Councils quoted £734.34 for one year. RESOLVED to renew the Insurance Policy with Clear Councils who is the existing provider.

- **Note Precept Request** - NOTED
- **Thoughts for next years budget items** - Members are to come back with suggestions for the next meeting.
- **Consider any quotes received.**

Under the Financial Regulations section: 4 the Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman of Council or Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items below [£500] - the following Quotes were accepted.

- Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance - Removal of old village hall sign posts £60.00 (inc VAT)
- Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance - Trim back vegetation Brampton Road opposite Van Diemens Way £360.00 (inc VAT)
- Verbal quote from BEAM to weed spray around the new hedge, children's play area and cut back of growth and vegetation along Buckden Road pass water tower to first sign £110.00 approximately.

21/1032

Correspondence

- How Are You Hunts Newsletter
- Notification of Event - Grafham Water Trail Races, Sunday, 11th October 2026
- Stagecoach Fare changes from 1st September 26
- TMC Incident Report
- Local Government Reorganisation update
- News from your Police and Crime Commissioner - Criminal funds reinvested into communities to prevent crime
- Combined Authority Members' Newsletter - September 2026
- Huntingdonshire community news: Care Network Cambridgeshire celebrates 40 years
- Wildlife Trust BCN - Apple and Harvest Fair 2026 - Ramsey Rural Museum and Walled Garden 11th October 2026
- Invitation to the RVT Service of Remembrance - St Neots

NOTED

21/1033

Any other business for information only

Noted there will be refreshments after the Remembrance Day service in the Grafham Trout. Noted the Chairman in association with the Clerk has purchased a new poppy wreath.

Christmas Tree - The Clerk was asked to look into obtaining a new village Christmas tree again for display in the same location as last year.

Noted the new village hall sign will shortly be installed.

21/1034

Note 2026 / 2027 dates for meetings:

- 2026 - 3rd November, 1st December
- 2027 - 5th January, 2nd February, 2nd March, 6th April

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.39pm