

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF GRAFHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
Tuesday 7th July 2026

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

Public: No members of public were in attendance.

District / County Cllr: None in attendance.

Clerk: Lisa Hazel

Public Forum

No members of public present.

The Chairman started the meeting by thanking David Russell for chairing the last meeting.

The Chairman provided members with an update on the Grafham to Brampton Quietway. It was noted pre-patching works (filling in the potholes) will be carried out from 27th – 31st July, under a five-day road closure. The full re-surfacing of the road will be carried out later, at the same time as the main Quiet Lane works, under a second road closure. Dates to be confirmed.

21/992 County and District Councillors Reports

None present. The Clerk confirmed she would forward on any reports received.

21/993 Apologies for absence

Apologies were noted and approved from Alf Lesurf. Noted apologies have also been received from Cllr Stephen Cawley and Cllr Liam Beckett.

21/994 Declarations of interest in any agenda item

None.

21/995 To approve the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 2nd June 2026

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

21/996 Matters arising from last meeting

• Anglian Water - Resolve to agree response deadline date

David Russell gave the Chairman a brief overview of the presentation held at the last meeting. Noted Anglian Water were asked several questions at the meeting, some of which were technical that they were unable to answer and to which they agreed to go back and research. RESOLVED David Russell to draft a letter to be sent to Anglian Water asking for a more technically complete response.

David Russell also highlighted the issues with the sewage system.

NOTED In wet weather the sewer system in Grafham frequently surcharges and under more extreme events sewage escapes from manholes in the village. RESOLVED to send a FOI asking if the sewer pumping station and or pumping main has sufficient capacity.

• Football Club - Container Update

Patrick Curran provided an update highlighting the Football Club appears to be having issues in the background. The Chairman expressed disappointment that not once did the Football Club keep the Parish Council updated on matters or provided a suggested way forward during this time.

NOTED the Football Club has completely withdrawn from hiring the playing field and have now removed their container.

21/997 Village Hall Sign Artwork

- To discuss sign designs

Members considered all suggested artwork as put forward by Alf Lesurf. All of the options were discussed in detail and members decided on 2 different designs they preferred subject to minor changes to one of the draft artworks. The Clerk is to contact Alf Lesurf to ask him to make the changes as suggested to the artwork and then contact House of Flags for a quote to produce the 2 different signs. C/F to September meeting. **Action: Clerk.**

21/998

Planning

- None received

21/999

LHI Bid update

The Chairman provided an update.

NOTED the draft LHI feasibility report has been received. In the report it puts forward a recommendation that the speed limit is reduced to 40mph for Church Road and Church Hill along with confirmation of proposed cost to the Council.

The Parish Council confirmed this is not acceptable and they would like the speed limit reduced to 30mph inline with the Quietway and current speed limit for the village. Members also felt that the Parish Councils financial donation towards the scheme would not represent value for money if the speed limit was only reduced by 20mph.

RESOLVED the Clerk is to respond confirming the PC would like the speed limit reduced to 30mph and not 40mph as suggested and if this is not agreed to the PC will withdraw from the scheme.

21/1000

Repair Cafe

- Resolve to agree a date and format

RESOLVED to hold the first Repair Cafe on the 24th or 31st of October in the Village Hall. Several members offered their assistance on the day. A budget of £60 was agreed. The Clerk is to organise this. **Action: Clerk**

21/1001

Playground Brampton Road

- **Resolve to undertake hedge + vegetation trim and consider any quotes received**

The following quotes were considered:

1. Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance £240 (Inc VAT) - trim hedge and vegetation around swings, children's play area,
2. Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance £360 (Inc VAT) - remove lower limbs of tree overhanging footpath, entrance village hall.

RESOLVED to accept both quotes.

21/1002

To Receive Written Reports for Noting:

Village Hall Committee - PC

Village Shop - PC

Playing Field / Playground IG / LH

Highways + Footpaths - SG

Trees / Hedge Cutting / Verge Maintenance AL

Wild Flower Meadow Update - AL

MUGA - PC

Noted and attached Appendix: A

21/1003

Banking

1.To approve / note the following payments

Grafham Gossip	£55.00
BEAM Grass Cutting (No: 6)	£190
Reimbursement David Russell - Bird Spikes	£30.99
HDC Litter Bin Emptying	£303.17
Reimbursement David Russell - Annual Email Fees	£151.20
Reimbursement L Hazel - Laptop Dongle	£11.99
Reimbursement David Russell - PC Microphone	£59.49
Grant Grafham Beer Festival (S137 Grant)	£450.00
Cambridgeshire Garden & Property Maintenance - Vegetation Clearance	£300.00
Sage Payroll x 2	£2.40
Clerks Wages	£408.33
Clerk Reimbursement - Amazon, Metal Post + Tape	£49.47
Service Charge	£7.00
Clerk Wages	£408.33

2. Report on current financial position.

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

21/1004

Correspondence

- North Huntingdon Cumulative Impacts Working Group Newsletter + Group Update – Open Letter to Huntingdonshire District Council
- HDC Press release - Communities Benefit from Improved Spaces as New Funding Launches
- Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme - Summer 2026
- Become an Events Producer Free Summer Course in Cambridge for people age 16-20
- Combined Authority Newsletter
- HDC Press release - Local Visitor Economy Partnership
- CCC Woodland Creation Initiative
- HDC Press Release - Returns for a Second Year to Celebrate Huntingdonshire's Wildlife and Nature
- Youth Employment Strategy Survey
- Youth Voice Census
- Press Release - HDC Outlines Ecological Approach and Parking Solution for the Hinchbrook Aqua Park Proposal
- Communities Service Bulletin
- Cambridgeshire Events Diary - July 2026

NOTED

21/1005

Any other business for information only

• MG Car meet - update for information

NOTED communication has been received with a potential new date of August. The Parish Council confirmed they were happy for this to go ahead subject to the following: the event is adequately insured and copies of documentation be provided, any potential damage is repaired, the area is to be left as it is found, bins are to be provided and a litter pick of the area carried out after and the village hall is to be hired out for the duration of the event ensuring facilities are provided for all in attendance.

Nik Blackburn highlighted tree branches have been fly tipped along Church Road. The Clerk is to report this on the online portal. **Action: Clerk.**

David Russell suggested the Community Action Plan update for this year be deferred to next year.

Diana Thomas confirmed she has had a financial request for £50 from Knit and Knitter to purchase more wool for the group and for the remembrance day poppy display. Members agreed they were happy in principal but as it is not an agenda item they could not make a formal decision. This is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

21/1006

Note 2026 / 2027 dates for meetings:

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

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50pm.

DRAFT