

DRAFT MINUTES

GREATFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 1st April 2025

Held at 7:30pm in Greatford Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Ashley Baxter (LCC), Cllr Vanessa Smith (SKDC), Parish Cllr Tony Barker, Parish Cllr Jason Halsey, Parish Cllr Phil Britton, Kate Armstrong, Steve Armstrong, Elizabeth Ashby, Nigel Ashby, Helen Britton (Clerk), Ibis Channell, Terry Cross, Ross Dykes, Ross Edgar, Bridget Everitt, Peter Essex, Sheran Essex, Maggie Doust, Alex Doust, Alison Horton, Mark Imray, Mariea Imray, Lorna Stonestreet, Lois Webb.

2024/25 - 47 Apologies for absence

Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Cllr Gemma Taylor, Cllr Natalie Pretsell, James Everitt, Kerry Hockham, Jeremy Hockham, Richard McDermott (Flood Warden)

2024/25 - 48 Approval of Minutes from 14.1.25

Proposed by Cllr Tony Barker, seconded by Cllr Phil Britton.

2024/25 - 49 Matters arising

600 Aquasacs are stored in the Village Hall. Parishioners may request to purchase a personal load of Aquasac.

ACTION: Clerk to send details to parishioners.

Further items addressed within the agenda.

2024/25 - 50 Reports from District Councillors

Report from Cllr Ashley Baxter (LCC):

Cllr Baxter and Alicia Kearns MP support the model of South Holland/ North Kesteven/ South Kesteven/ Rutland forming a unitary authority under the Government's proposals. Feedback from the Government will be by November '25.

LCC has proposed having a Flood Reserve Fund for capital projects.

Cllr Baxter and Cllr Smith spoke at the committee meeting at which the proposed amendment to the Greatford Quarry Planning Application was refused.

Plans to reopen the Deepings Leisure Centre have been blocked by The Anthem Trust, who run The Deepings School.

There is a Poet Laureate Competition.

Fix My Street is for all citizens to report a range of maintenance issues, e.g potholes, flytipping, street-lighting etc web <https://fixmystreet.lincolnshire.gov.uk/> or via FixMyStreet app

Report from Cllr Vanessa Smith (SKDC):

Local Government Reorganisation: This will see the abolition of the two tier system (District and County Councils) and new single tier (Unitary Authorities) formed. It is anticipated that reorganisation will be complete by 2028.

National government requested that existing authorities submit proposals to them on how they would like to do this by 21 March 2025. This was debated by SKDC Full Council on 18th March. Merging with Rutland CC, North Kesteven DC and South Holland DC to form a single unitary authority was agreed as the preferred option. This would give a total population of around 410,000. Feedback is now awaited from Westminster to enable councils to form final proposals which are due for submission by 28 November 2025. It is anticipated that SKDC will be conducting a public consultation within that time. LCC have submitted TWO different preferred models, opting to split Lincolnshire into two unitary authorities. This would put SKDC either in with the rest of LCC or in with Lincoln, North Kesteven, Boston and South Holland. (SKDC's proposed three unitary authority model was supported by NKDC but not by SHDC who opted for a two unitary authority model but different from LCC's with the South of Lincolnshire comprising NK, SK, SH, Boston and East Lindsey.) Rutland CC's website states that they are involved in three different options, one of which is the model put forward by SKDC.

2024/25 - 51 **Financial matters**

The cashbook balances with the most recent statement of February '25, at £9734.71. £5000 was received from SKDC for flood repairs which has been spent on riparian maintenance through the PC/ Flood Wardens. A new contract for cutting the grass at the Playing Field is slightly higher: £180 every 4 weeks in the growing season (including VAT which can be reclaimed). Cllr Halsey asked whether James Everitt would be able to audit this year's end of year accounts.

2024/25 - 52 **Planning matters**

S25/0031

LCC Ref. No. PL/0127/24

King Street Quarry

Particulars and location of development:

To vary condition 13 of planning permission S20/1351 to allow the mineral development to commence but restricting the exportation of any minerals from the site until works have been carried out to widen King Street, Greatford at Land at King Street, Greatford

Part II - Particulars of decision

The Lincolnshire County Council hereby give notice in pursuance of the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 that permission has been refused.

S24/2113

Date Registered: 13th November 2024

Applicant: Rosslyn Coulam

Proposal: Submission of details reserved by condition 3 of listed building consent S24/0916

Location: Bumble Bee Cottage Main Street, Greatford

Approved 28th January 2025.

S25/0131

Applicant: Stonemill Estates Ltd

Proposal: Proposed 2-storey side extension to dwelling, and detached double garage.

Location: 16 Stowe Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4PS,

Approved.

Application Type: Trees in CA - Section 211 Notice

Proposal: Section 211 notice to remove silver birch (T1) and ash tree (T3) as well as prune medium and small sized branches from horse chestnut (T2) back to boundary line.

Location: Meadow Court , Carlby Road, Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4PR

Work allowed.

S25/0090

Applicant: Mr Jamie Burton

Proposal: Section 211 Notice to re-pollard 3.no Willow Trees (T1, T2, T3) and remove 4-5 metres of growth back to old cutting points.

Location: Meadow Court Carlby Road

Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4PR

Work Allowed 26th February 2025

S25/0174

Date Received: 30th January 2025

Applicant: Mr Jamie Burton

Proposal: Section 211 notice to remove two Lime trees (T1 & T2).

Location: Meadow Court Carlby Road

Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4PR

Work Allowed 12th March 2025

S25/0481

Applicant: Mr Jamie Burton

Proposal: Section 211 Notice for the removal of 3.no Beech trees.

Location: Meadow Court ,Carlby Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4PR

App Type: Trees in CA - Section 211 Notice

Deadline 8th April

The Chair reported that the activity at Freemans Pit is being looked into by the Planning Enforcement Officer, on request of parishioners.

2024/25 - 53 **Flood Warden update and Flood Response presentation**

Cllr Halsey presented an update on the report that was prepared by the Flood Wardens and given in January '25.

The first 3 months of 2025 have seen record dryness but the groundwater levels are still extremely high.

In summary:

- 1) The Environment Agency promises to fix the Shillingthorpe Gauge. Readings from Burton Coggles currently provide a better 'warning system'. A proposal to use a field adjacent to Shillingthorpe for flood relief has been agreed with the landowner. ACTION: To access funds to do the necessary groundworks, including the Chair to write to Alicia Kearns requesting that Greatford be put on the Environment Agency's Flood Protection Projects Funding List '25/'26.
- 2) The Flood Wardens have been in communication with The Internal Drainage Board who have given helpful advice but are unable to take over Greatford. ACTION: The Flood Wardens are to attend the IDB AGM..
- 3) The EA is due to dredge the third of The Cut up to the Sluice in '25. A diving survey showed blocked culverts from The Cut into Main Street. The EA are considering redesigning The Cut which was engineered over 70 years ago.
- 4) Greatford Hall's land agent is in discussion with the EA about repairs to the river bank identified in the LCC Section 19 report.The ditch at the rear is due to be cleared.
- 5) The EA are looking into the integrity of the stone wall within the waterway adjacent to Bridge Cottages/ opposite the Pub along Main Street.
- 6) The EA will update the PC about the future of the Fitzwilliam Sluice.
- 7) LCC carried out some jetting and CCTV work and identified a collapsed drain near Old House/ Barns. ACTION: Flood Wardens to contact LCC to continue CCTV/ jetting work along Carlby Road and Baston Road as they were not done.

- 8) The West Glen river downstream of Greatford has undergone significant clearance/ tunnelling.
- 9) Carlby Road bridge requires more capacity as it is a blocking point but this is not able to be done.
- 10) ACTION: Names of large landowners with Riparian Responsibilities to be given to Cllr Baxter - LCC is able to enforce these in order to protect communities.

Cllr Halsey thanked Richard McDermott and Ross Edgar joining him as Flood Wardens and for all their hard work on behalf of parishioners. His thanks was echoed by the other Parish Councillors and all in attendance at the meeting. Their next aim is to form a multi-agency group.

2024/25 - 54 Summer Playscheme

The third scheme organised by Cllr Taylor, and run by OneTouch Football, will run for one week from 4th August. It is free for Greatford parents and grandparents. The booking link can be sent to all those interested and will then be opened up to other villages.

2024/25 - 55 Litter

A very successful litter-picking event was held on 29.3.25. Thank you to everyone who pitched in.

2024/25 - 56 Update - meeting with Alicia Kearns MP about Community Benefit Fund from Mallard Pass

Cllr Britton, Cllr Halsey and Cllr Barker attended a meeting about the Community Benefit Fund in connection with MPSF, which is due to commence in 2026. Funds will be sought to contribute to mitigating future flooding, such as ditch maintenance, as well as other projects.

2024/25 - 57 Greatford Community Emergency Resilience Plan (CERP)

Alison Horton and Cllr Barker reported that a group of parishioners has met twice and the next step is for a survey to be sent out to all parishioners to ascertain need and availability to offer assistance. ACTION: Clerk to communicate with Geoff Cooper who is leading this.

2024/25 - 58 Speedwatch

Four volunteers were present and plan to do another campaign. ACTION: Further volunteers are needed for more frequent campaigns to run (online training) - please contact the Clerk.

2024/25 - 59 Any other business

Ibis Channell suggested that the PC purchase a shovel to be kept in the salt-bin. The Breedons Community Meeting will be attended by Cllr Halsey on 10.4.25.

The meeting closed at 9:20pm

The next meeting is on Thursday 24th June 2025.