

# **MINUTES**

## **GREATFORD ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 24th June 2025**

**in Greatford Village Hall**

### **Present:**

Cllr Phil Britton, Cllr Gemma Taylor, Cllr Tony Barker, Cllr Jason Halsey, Cllr Natalie Pretsell, Helen Britton (Clerk), SKDC Cllr Vanessa Smith, SKDC Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Cazz Anders, Elizabeth and Nigel Ashby, Rev. Aran Beesley, Toni Butcher, Rachel and Richard Barron-Clark, Rod Campbell, Ibis Channell, Steve Dean, Ross Edgar, Sheran Essex, Bridget Everitt, James Everitt, Cheryl Foreman, Peter Essex, Bob French, Chester and Kate Gilbert, Chris and Diana Granville-White, Alison Horton.

### **2025/26 -1 Opening of meeting**

### **2025/26 -2 Apologies for absence**

Kerry Hockham, Jeremy Hockham, Caroline Nathan, Mark Imray, Mareia Imray, Cllr Ashley Baxter.

### **2025/26 -3 Election of Chair**

Cllr Tony Barker proposed Phil Britton to be the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Natalie Pretsell .

### **2025/26 -4 Election of Vice Chair**

Cllr Gemma Taylor proposed Tony Barker to be the Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr Phil Britton.

### **2025/26 -5 Election of Responsible Financial Officer**

Cllr Phil Britton proposed Jason Halsey to be the Responsible Financial Officer, seconded by Cllr Tony Barker.

### **2025/26 -6 Declaration of pecuniary interest**

None to declare.

## **2025/26 -7 Approval of Minutes from April 2025**

Proposed by Cllr Tony Barker, seconded by Cllr Gemma Taylor.

## **2025/26 -8 Matters arising**

The Community Emergency Response Plan:

Grant French has formulated survey questions. To be sent out as a survey to parishioners. The PC will pay for this.

Community Speedwatch:

Online training is always available - ask the Clerk for details. Presence of trade vehicles has hindered campaigns but some dates are to be arranged soon.

## **2025/26 -9 Reports from District Councillors**

District Councillor's Report from Cllr Vanessa Smith:

Local Government Reorganisation: Plans to see abolition of the two tier system of District and County Councils replaced by single tier unitary authorities of around 500,000. Due for completion by 2028 but many uncertainties. SKDC are running information evenings for Town and Parish Councillors (11 June Deeping, 18 June Bourne, 17 and 23 June Grantham, 22 July Stamford)

(LGR is different to...) Devolution: We are now part of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority with oversight from our newly elected Reform Mayor

Local Plan Consultation on additional sites is due early July 2025. This is the Regulation 18 stage of the local plan. These additional sites are needed due to the increase in house building targets as set out by central government. This means SKDC have been asked to deliver 886 per year up from 701 per year (previous government target) for the plan period 2023-2043. Across the district this means that 17,720 homes need to be delivered during this time. Land earmarked for housing locally: Deeping 1890 (previous 971), Stamford 1850, Bourne 1037 (previous 457) Baston 283 (from 86), Langtoft remains 55, Thurlby remains 136 (and 1,055 for Deeping from the Peterborough local plan)

Current consultations <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/consultations>

Current consultation on Encouraging Biodiversity, closes 30th June

The Local Plan Consultation will open in July

SK Today: The next edition of SK Today will soon be online. The cover features the new colourful bin wagons. Inside stories include updates on CCTV, Great Big Spring Clean, FixMyStreet and other news. I would encourage residents to subscribe. SKToday subscribers also get informed about other council events and consultations.

Food waste collection: From 2026 as part of a national directive. Households will be given two bins (kitchen and outdoor) and a supply of liners. Collections will be weekly on usual bin day <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/types-waste/food-waste/5> Further details to follow.

SKDC are changing their bin routes later in the year. This may result in a change of collection day for residents. Over the past 12 years many houses have been built across the district and

bin routes need to be updated as a result. Further information will follow through various news channels. Households will also be written to.

NSIPs: It is anticipated that construction work on Mallard Pass may begin within the next 12 months. Kilinside: New proposal for up to 400MW solar farm next Great Casterton (Mallard Pass 350MW). Public consultation via Webinar 18th and 23rd June. <https://kilinsideenergypark.co.uk/>  
National Grid upgrade: Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire, likely to pass north of Bourne near Morton <https://www.nationalgrid.com/the-great-grid-upgrade/weston-marsh-to-east-leicestershire>

Greatford Specific:

Planning notification letters: I have raised concerns about the recent admin error with the planning team.

## **2025/26 -10 Financial matters**

As reported at the APM. There is an increased cost of cutting the Playing Field.

## **2025/26 -11 Finances: Section 1 of the Annual Audit Returns**

Cllr Jason Halsey presented Section 1 of the Annual Audit Returns for the year ended 31st March 2024, stating that members of Greatford Parish Council acknowledge responsibility for ensuring a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025. With thanks to James Everitt, the Accounting Statements were externally audited on 6th June 2024.

## **2025/26 -12 Finances: Section 2 of the Annual Audit Returns**

Cllr Jason Halsey presented the Parish Council Accounts for 2024/25 as set out in Section 2 of the Annual Audit Returns for the year ended 31st March 2025. Gross income was £11754. Expenditure was £9217 (including the summer playscheme, Playing Field grass-cutting, hedge-cutting, Clerk's fees, play-equipment inspection and renovation, Parish insurance, defibrillator number). Cllr Halsey was thanked, along with the Auditor, for their work in preparing this year's accounts.

## **2025/26 -13 Certificate of Exemption**

Cllr Jason Halsey presented the AGAR Certificate of Exemption Form 2 to be completed by smaller authorities where the gross income or gross expenditure did not exceed £25000 in the year of account ended 31st March 2025, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

## **2025/26 -14 Planning matters**

### **Application No: S25/0481**

Date Received: 18th March 2025

Applicant: Mr Jamie Burton

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

Location: Meadow Court Carby Road, Greatford

PC response - Neutral

Decision: For development to be withdrawn

**ENF24/0286 6th May 2025**

At the request of Parishioners and the PC, Cllr Smith enquired with LCC about site activity on land adjacent to Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4PU,  
LCC have established that, at this time, there is no breach of planning control, and this case will be closed.

**Application No: S25/0594**

Applicant: Dr Charles Lane

Proposal: Prior Approval Part 3 Class Q for the conversion of agricultural building to 4no. two storey dwellinghouses

Location: Yard To West Of Bluebell Barn , Greatford, PE9 4QA, ,

App Type: Prior Notification Part 3 Class Q

PC response - objection

SKDC refused permission for the following reason(s):-

1 On the basis of the information submitted, it is considered that by reason of the location and siting of the building it would make it otherwise impractical or undesirable for the building to change from agricultural use to a use falling within Class C3 (dwellinghouses) of the Schedule to the Use Classes Order given it would be sited within and adjacent to an active farm.

The applicant has failed to provide any robust evidence, which demonstrates the relationship between the application site and the active farm would not result in harm to the amenity level of future occupiers by virtue of noise and disturbance from the agricultural activities in close proximity to the proposed residential use.

The proposal is not therefore considered to comply with Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the General Permitted Development Order, failing to comply with condition Q.2 (1) (e).

The proposal is not therefore Permitted Development under Class Q.

**Application No: S25/0621**

Date Received: 10th April 2025

Applicant: Mr Yusuf Yeganeh

Proposal: Single storey 'link' extension between house and garage.

Location: The Poplars Carlby Road

Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4PR

PC response - support

Permission granted

**2025/26 -15 Summer playscheme**

Organised by Cllr Gemma Taylor and OneTouch Football. Taking place w/c 4th August. There are still a few spaces available. ACTION: Clerk to request grass is cut one week before.

**2025/26 -16 Play equipment**

Annual inspection to be carried out by Wicksteed. ACTION: To apply for funding from various sources to replace some pieces of equipment, as necessary.

## 2025/26 -17 Flood Wardens update

On June 6th the Flood Wardens (GFW), Cllr Jason Halsey, Ross Edgar and Ricjard McDermott, chaired the 1st multi agency flood response meeting. We were very pleased to have representatives from all relevant agencies; LCC Highways and LCC Flood Team, Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board plus support from councillors Vennessa Smith, Ashley Baxter, Tony Barker and Rosemary Trollope-Bellew .

The following updates and information received and discussed:

LCC - confirmed that a programme of works to restore the function of Main Street road drainage to its original design function. This will include re lining and root cutting. LCC will try to avoid digging up the road but this may be unavoidable and road closure may be required. Drain cleaning and inspection along Carlby road will be completed, contractor cleaning drains late June 6th was reported. Outcome not known at this time. LCC enquired if the land drains connected to the road drain system had already been cleared. GFW confirmed that this drain has been vastly improved and will receive close attention in Autumn.

LCC Flood Team and the EA confirmed that they are in partnership to fully update the hydraulic modelling in and around Greatford and the West Glen all the way downstream to Surfleet. This will take into account the recent history of flooding in Greatford. This is a directive of the Section 19 recommendation and will form the basis of future emergency response and justification of any capital schemes that may be designed. Phase 1 of this study is due for completion in August 2025, this phase is mostly hydraulic modelling update and evidence gathering. GPC and GFW will support this as we did during Section 19. Ultimately, this modelling will go on to support the design, options appraisal and funding options of flood prevention schemes - this is good news but the horizon is long term.

EA - confirmed the collaboration with EA as above and when complete will enter a public consultation on flood defence and prevention funding. Locally they confirmed cut channel maintenance will include removal of gravels that have accumulated in the first 20-30m of the gates, annual weed cutting. Temporary sand bags will be removed only when a permanent solution is in place. Work continues on Fitzwilliam sluice outcomes. EA are engaged with Greatford Hall regarding river bank integrity, this is ongoing. The EA agreed to follow up with Greatford Hall on plans to clear and maintain the drainage ditch adjacent to the public footpath that runs along the northern boundary through the woods. GFW have requested a digger to be used. It was requested that EA investigate reasons behind water remaining in the roadside channel opposite the pub and adjacent to Lois Webb's property. They need to establish if this is river water coming through the retaining wall or ground water. Cllr Baxter asked the EA if they would consider exploring the potential use of the new nature reserve/country park planned at gravel pits north of West Deeping as a flood mitigation to take capacity from the cut in times of high water levels/potential flood - EA noted this and suggested it would be good to discuss as a potential option.

IDB - although Greatford does not come under the jurisdiction of local IDB it is covered by the Extended Area of the Black Sluice IDB. It is confirmed that enforcement of riparian responsibility is delegated to Black Sluice IDB by LCC for Greatford and the surrounding area. The GPC and GFW will be requesting that the IDB politely reminds local land owners of their riparian responsibilities. The IDB will act for LCC who are the Enforcing Body. The IDB have also offered assistance with heavy equipment to help clear vegetation and any other problem areas where they can easily assist if they have machinery working nearby.

ACTION: GFW to map the riparian responsibilities within the Parish and hand this to the IBD.  
GFW to walk the ditches and offer out help to clear them.  
LCC will re-line Greatford's drains this year. Cllr Baxter and GFW continue to monitor this action.  
A silt-trap behind The Steadings is under discussion.  
The next multi-agency meeting is on 5.9.25  
Cllr Jason Halsey, GFW and the other Councillors involved, were thanked for their ongoing hard work and efforts in response to the flooding events.

## **2025/26 -18 Any other business**

### *Village Hall entrance upgrade:*

The PC will contribute to the Village Hall Management Committee's plans to create safe, ramped access to the VH.

### *PC-owned trees near noticeboard:*

Have been assessed to be safe by tree-surgeon.

### *Traffic through the village:*

Ibis Channell listed her ideas for slowing traffic. As previously discussed, these ideas have been explored during an on-the-ground meeting with LCC Highways Managers in July 2023 and reported on at subsequent PC meetings. All permissible actions have been actioned already.

### *Churchyard grass-cutting:*

It was agreed that the expenditure saved due to changes in grass-cutting practices can be used towards fuel and seeds instead.

### *Future GPC meeting dates:*

The GPC proposes to meet on the following Tuesday's:

9.9.25

25.11.25

27.1.26

31.3.26

Wed. 20.5.26

1.9.26

10.11.26

**The meeting closed at 8:35pm.**

**The next meeting is on Tuesday 9th September at 7:30pm.**