

MINUTES

GREATFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

25th November 2025 at 7:30pm

in Greatford Village Hall

Present:

SKDC Cllr Vanessa Smith, Cllr Tony Barker, Cllr Phillip Britton, Cllr Jason Halsey, Cllr Caroline Nathan, Cllr Gemma Taylor, Helen Britton (Clerk), David Anderson, Margaret Anderson, Kate Armstrong, Nigel Ashby, Ibis Channell, Alex Doust, Maggie Doust, Paul Doust, Ross Edgar, Sheran Essex, Peter Essex, Bridget Everitt, James Everitt, Bob French, Jeremy Hockham, Kerry Hockham, Bob Hogg, Alison Horton, Mark Imray, Mareia Imray, Donna Radley, Geoff Radley.

2025/26 -32 Apologies

Elizabeth Ashby, Cazz Anders, SKDC Cllr Rosemary Trollope-Bellew, Natalie Pretsell, Lois Webb.

2025/26 -33 Approval of Minutes from 9.9.25

Proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Halsey.

2025/26 -34 Matters arising

1 - Phone box (raised by Ibis Channell) The telephony has already been removed and the phonebox adopted by the Parish Council.

2 - Grit bin shovels (raised by Ibis Channell) Cllr Barker has offered to purchase some.

2025/26 -35 Co-option of Councillor

Caroline Nathan was unanimously co-opted to become the fifth Parish Councillor and was welcomed by the Chair, Cllr Barker.

2025/26 -36 Reports from Councillors

SKDC District Councillor V Smith Report Nov 2025

Local Government Reorganisation Debated at SKDC full council on 20th November. It was proposed that SKDC would put forward a model whereby the Lincolnshire County Council area would be divided in two new authorities. SKDC, NKDC and SHDC would form one local authority, leaving Boston, City of Lincoln, E Lindsey and W Lindsey to form the other. The two unitary authorities at the top of Lincolnshire (North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire) would be left as is or free to join with others as they saw fit. Rutland was dropped due to issues with cross border services and lack of firm commitment. Other authorities have other plans. All will be submitted to national government by 28th November. National Government will then undertake a formal consultation in March 2026 with a final decision on which model to go with and the new boundaries of the authorities being known in July 2026. It is hoped that elections to the new authority will take place in May 2027.

Food waste collection: From 2026 as part of a national directive. Households will be given two bins (5l kitchen and 23l outdoor), likely distributed January 2026. Collections due to start Mar/Apr 2026 Further details

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/types- waste/food-waste/5>

Mini Orchard: Grants available via SKDC - for up to £1500. Deadline 12th January 2026

2025/26 -37 Financial matters

Greatford Parish Accounts stand at £11751.40 in the running cash book and this amount tallies with the bank account statements up to the end of September. Advice to be sought as to how to hold funds, donated and granted, towards the replacement of playground equipment (£5050). The Parish Council will be contributing to the paving works at the Village Hall before the end of the financial year.

2025/26 -38 Planning matters

Application No: S25/1572

Date Received: 29th September 2025

Applicant: Mr Paul Doust

FIRST SCHEDULE

Use/operations/other matter

Erection of a 1.95 metre tall fence

SECOND SCHEDULE

Location: Glendower House Main Street

Greatford

Decision/Date 24th November 2025 Work allowed

Application No: S25/1644

Applicant: Keith Foreman

Proposal: Section 211 Notice to crown raise three Lime trees (G1) and Ash trees (T2 and T3) also fell Ash tree (T1).

Location: Becket House Belmesthorpe Road, Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4QA

Work Allowed 16th October 2025

Application No. S25/1949

Proposal: Five day emergency notice of my intent to remove and tidy up a broken limb on a Large Crack Willow tree.

Location: Greatford Mill, Carlby Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4QA

Work Allowed

Application No: S25/1726

Applicant: Johnson

Proposal: Application to reduce by approx. 2-3m and shape Goat Willow, and Maple protected by TPO 429 (A1 2021)

Location: Water Side 11 Greatford Gardens, Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4PX

Work Allowed 10th November 2025

Application No: S25/1904

Applicant: Mr & Ms James / Gemma Scott / Rogerson

Proposal: Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension.

Location: 2 Crown Cottages, Belmesthorpe Road, Greatford, Lincolnshire, PE9 4PP

Decision pending

David Anderson informed the meeting that the Greatford Hall gardener had entered his land and cut down trees in order to help a large vehicle to gain access to Greatford Hall, passing down his drive. This was done without his permission while he was away. Mr Anderson informed SKDC Planning who advised that the trees are to be replanted which the parishioners living at the Hall have agreed to.

2025/26 -39 Precept for 2025/26

To be deferred to a future Extraordinary Meeting prior to 16.1.26 deadline.

2025/26 -40 Traffic

The Parish Council has approached Graham Simpson, LCC Highways, to advise on measures to reduce speeding traffic. After discussion, it was agreed to pursue more speedwatch campaigns and five more parishioners volunteered to help. Parishioners are always welcome to offer to help run the speedwatch campaigns.

2025/26 -41 Flood Wardens report

Cllr Halsey's report:

All 3 flood wardens walked the length of the village water system on October 18th, noting and clearing obstructions. Paul at The Steadings very kindly diverted his excavator to remove at least 2 fallen groups of trees from the river and re-profiled and cleared a good number of roadside field drains.

Recent high intensity rainfall events associated with Storm Claudia were the first real test for much of the work and improvements made since January 2025. The Flood Wardens and many others kept a close eye on online gauges and our rivers and ditches. River levels remained within the Normal High zone. Some road drains were identified as blocked and reported or cleared manually. Field drains and ditches seemed to be running well with further improvements to come. We would like to thank everyone for their observations and photos. Please continue to report issues on 'Fix my Street' as this helps to build a bigger body of evidence, even if it feels like nothing is being done.

Flood Warden, Richard McDermott's report:

LCC Drainage Main St/Carlby Road

Building on the work earlier in the year, LCC have done more work this year to get us winter ready and explore the collapsed drain. Root cutting and clearing happened in November and further CCTV work done by AJet. Following this work it became clear that the Main Street drain "collapse" was more than one issue. It is now clear that as part of the mains drainage works undertaken (we believe by Barhale for Anglian Water) c. 10-12 years ago that AW installed a chamber on and through the highway's drain, breaking its flow. This chamber can be seen at the end of the Barron-Clarke's drive. It was therefore acting as a soak away at best.

LCC have therefore put in place a repair/work around to enable the drains to flow as well as they can given this restriction. This enables Main Street to cope with medium levels of rainfall as demonstrated last week. The drains worked reasonably well. However this is not a full long term repair and the LCC officer indicated he will be putting in a request for a new system (initial request already in/already started process) but this will need some design and also discussion with Anglian Water, from whom I fully expect LCC will request a contribution. Whilst this happens I still think it's important LCC understand the importance of a swift resolution of the drainage issue so we get this new system for Main Street ASAP, so I will be flagging with Cllr Baxter, Debbie Barnes/Andrew Crookham and copy in Alicia Kearns and LCC officers, highlighting the need for this to be expedited and to ask for a commitment for appropriate leadership cover and confirmation of all the resource and support required to make this happen. Thanks to all the villagers who helped empty drains and are keeping them clean. Please let's keep leaves and seeds out of these drains as much as possible. On fine days like today it's great to see drains (highways and otherwise) and ditches draining the water away so the system can clear (eg Carlby Road flowing under road through stables into the river, or at the Steadings and along Belmesthorpe Road the ditches draining fields and going out along that system and eventually through the cut). If we can get all field ditches and drains working like these it will be a massive help to us all.

LCC also confirmed re the other drain at the end Carlby Road that keeps flooding, that it may be that it heads out of the village north and into the field, which would explain whilst it's not clearing. They are going to get CCTV in there to properly see what's going on and report back on next steps but at the moment it appears to act as a soak away. Until we get its purpose/ status confirmed we don't know what the next steps will be.

Flood Warden, Ross Edgar's report:

On 5th November we met with LCC flood risk officers and staff from Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board. We had a walk around some of Ashton Estates land with a director for the estate and also George Bremner that manages their land. LCC and BSIDB were happy with the way they are managing their ditches.

Ashton Estates agreed to upgrade a culvert pipe on the ditch east of the village leaving the village towards Wilsthorpe Road. They haven't yet confirmed if this has been done. I'm talking to them regularly and chasing for this to be done. We then walked around some other land and water systems around the village with LCC and BSIDB. They were particularly interested in the ditch that runs along the footpath behind Greatford Gardens/Greatford Hall. As a result, LCC are writing to the Hall to remind them of the riparian responsibilities and asking them to improve the ditch for water to run freely. A number of other recommendations were made for residents to remove gates and bridges constructed across the ditches. These recommendations have largely been accepted and actioned immediately, which should be commended. We (Flood Wardens) are in constant contact with LCC flood risk staff, working on a number of areas for improvement.

Parishioners are asked to report matters on Fix My Street, in part, to build a full picture of matters pertaining to flooding, such as blocked drains.

The Chair thanked the Flood Wardens for their work on behalf of the parishioners.

2025/26 -42 Community Emergency Response Team update

Alison Horton gave an update on behalf of the CER Team. In the event of a flood, cars may be parked on the Playing Field, at the owners' own risk. Kimberley Pickett, LCC Resilience, will give a presentation and Q and A on 17th January 2026 about the role of the CER TEam. Further details in due course.

2025/26 -43 Mallard Pass Solar Farm update (Community Benefit Fund)

Cllr Britton attended a meeting earlier this evening to discuss the Community Benefit Fund offered. The Parishes affected have requested that Mallard Pass Ltd provides a better offer.

2025/26 -44 School bus service for Greatford children

Cllr Taylor and the Parish Council will continue to explore options for a bus service for 10+ Greatford children who are at or soon to be at school in Bourne. Delaines are unable to provide a suitable service.

2025/26 -45 Any other business

To request a road-sweeper runs through the village.

To decide a date for a litter-pick.

It will be Terry Townsin's Memorial 29th November at 11am followed by the Wake at The Hare and Hounds Church Christmas Crib Service - Tuesday 23rd December 2-3pm

The meeting closed at 9:20pm.

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 27th January 2026 at 7:30pm.**