

DRAFT MINUTES

GREATFORD ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in Greatford Village Hall

On 20th May 2026 at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllr Vanessa Smith, Cllr Tony Barker, Cllr Jason Halsey, Cllr Caroline Nathan, Kate Armstrong, Steve Armstrong, Elizabeth Ashby, Nigel Ashby, Helen Britton (Clerk), Steve Dean, Alex Doust, Alison Horton, Lois Webb.

2025/26 - 67 Opening of meeting

Cllr Tony Barker opened by saying that he would be chairing the meeting.

2025/26 - 68 Apologies for absence

Ibis Channell, Cllr Phil Britton, Cllr Gemma Taylor, Cllr Ashley Baxter.

2025/26 - 69 Election of Chair

Cllr Phil Britton was proposed by Cllr Tony Barker, seconded by Cllr Jason Halsey.

2025/26 - 70 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr Tony Barker was proposed by Cllr Caroline Nathan, seconded by Cllr Jason Halsey.

2025/26 - 71 Election of Responsible Financial Officer

Cllr Jason Halsey was proposed by Cllr Tony Barker and seconded by Cllr Caroline Nathan.

2025/26 - 72 Declaration of pecuniary interest

The Councillors gave registration of their pecuniary interests which they are required to declare under the Relevant Authorities Regulations 2012 to SKDC Electoral Services.

2025/26 - 73 Approval of Minutes from May 2026

Proposed by Cllr Tony Barker, seconded by Cllr Jason Halsey.

2025/26 - 74 Matters arising

On behalf of a parishioner, Cllr Phil Britton wrote to LCC regarding the re-positioning of the 30 speed sign on Stow Road. At a subsequent meeting with Graham Simpson from Lincolnshire Highways, and with Cllr Vanessa Smith and

others, it was agreed to move the signs further away from the village to down the road between houses and the pumping station; to move it further is not within current regulations. (LCC job no. 5878264)

2025/26 - 75 Reports from District Councillors

Cllr Vanessa Smith (SKDC Ward Councillor for Greatford gave two reports:

District Council matters:

Food waste: No issues have been raised

Outline application for 283 houses at Baston: s26/0710. Public consultation closes on 6th June 2026: I am opposed to this application because of its sheer size. It will have a tremendous impact on our local community. I do not think that any associated infrastructure put in place to support this development will be sufficient to mitigate its impact, particularly on the already congested A15. Furthermore, recent updates to the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (LMWLP) just a few meters from a proposed new quarry. It will affect Greatford residents due to traffic impacts and I would encourage residents and the parish council to comment.

Community Engagement evening outlining funding opportunities as supported by SKDC: This took place at Baston last week. Discussions held with regards - funds available per single application have been increased <https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/communityfund>. Small grant funds up to £2,000. Large grant funds up to £20,000

County Council matters:

Highways: Notes from meeting held with LCC Highways Officer 8.5.26:

- "Greatford, weight restriction. We have many requests across the county for access by HGVs to be controlled. Such restrictions must be supported by the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which involves extensive investigation, consultation and staff resource to deliver. The introduction of a restriction in any location will need to consider where restricted vehicles are likely to be diverted and the potential impact on the surrounding communities and it is for this reason that they are often introduced across a wider area, or zone. It's also worth bearing in mind that weight limits are currently enforced by the police who, owing to pressures on their own resources, may not be able to carry out this function effectively.
- In recognition of the increasing demand for this type of order, the council's position on the future delivery of weight limits throughout the county is currently being considered and we await the formal outcome of the County Councils Highway and Scrutiny Committee. Should members decide to pursue weight limit TROs, the formulation of a formal policy will then be required to establish a clear criteria for the implementation of this type of restriction. If Greatford would like to submit their suggestions I can place this on the future list, please be aware that even if a policy is progressed in future, the route may still not meet the criteria required for a weight limit TRO. This is therefore a possibility and for this reason we would not wish to raise expectations at this stage. In addition, should a weight limit be introduced, it is important to note that standard exemptions would still apply, meaning that certain HGVs would remain permitted to access the road where there is a legitimate requirement, such as for access, deliveries, or works.
- Greatford, Carlby Road junction Main Street, report of damaged kerbing, I have raised an enquiry for the local Highway Officer to inspect, he will issue any works necessary for intervention level defects.
- Greatford, Stow Road, relocating existing 30mph signs, works have been raised, job number 5878264.
- I have requested an update on the Greatford drainage issues."

Quarries

Lincolnshire County Council is developing their new LMWLP to 2041. It has been through the Regulation 18 process and amendments have been made. These have included dropping the site at West Deeping SG17. To pick up the shortfall the recently approved quarry at Thetford Farm, Baston for 2.4 million tonnes (which was not previously in the draft local plan) has now been included. Furthermore, an extension to this site, estimated to produce 2.3mt, will be included. Additionally, the site at Greatford, where planning was granted in 2022 before lapsing last year has also been included. This is estimated to produce 3.0mt. In the papers the LCC officers stated that King Street needed to

be increased to a width of 5.5m to permit development. The original Section 106 necessitated a widening to 6m not 5.5m and I have asked that this error is corrected. It is also worth noting that the original S106 required widening to the Stowe Crossroads. Personally, I think that should an application for this site come forward again I would push for widening to 6m for the entire permitted in and out route (to West Deeping) not just the Stowe crossroads.

Furthermore, given the proximity of this site to the planned housing at Baston I would question the viability of the site. The public will be given an opportunity to comment on these plans during the regulation 19 consultation which is due to commence next month and will run for 6 weeks. After this consultation is complete it is anticipated that the plans will be sent to the Secretary of State for final sign off.

When these draft plans were discussed at the LCC Environment last Friday, Cllr Baxter kindly asked the LCCs to define cumulative impact. Officers were unable to give a clear answer to this question. The draft plans state that quarrying at both of these sites will have no cumulative impact. I believe that proposing two quarries, either side of Baston, just 1.5 miles apart will result in an unacceptable cumulative impact for Baston residents.

I would encourage everyone to comment on the draft LMWLP when the regulation 19 consultation is launched next month.

2025/26 - 76 Financial matters

Cllr Tony Barker thanked Cllr Jason Halsey (RFO) for preparing the AGAR and to parishioner, James Everitt, for auditing it once again. Cllr Jason Halsey declared that the bank accounts are reconciled with a balance of £15353.37.

2025/26 - 77 Finances: Section 1 of the Annual Audit Returns

Proposed by Cllr Jason Halsey, seconded by Cllr Caroline Nathan.

2025/26 - 78 Finances: Section 2 of the Annual Audit Returns

Proposed by Cllr Jason Halsey, seconded by Cllr Tony Barker.

2025/26 - 79 Certificate of Exemption

Proposed by Cllr Jason Halsey, seconded by Cllr Caroline Nathan.

2025/26 - 80 Planning matters

Application No: S26/0326

Date Received: 2nd March 2026

Applicant: Mrs Kate Gilbert

Proposal: T1 Ash tree to be removed to ground level, replaced with one 8/10 Quercus coccinea, or Liquidambar styraciflua, or Davidia involucrata tree. The tree is to be planted in the 2026/27 planting season and maintained thereafter

Location: Musgrave House Main Street Greatford Lincolnshire PE9 4QA

Decision/Date: Work Allowed 27th April 2026

Greatford Parish Councillors continue to attend meetings and to examine numerous, lengthy and continual Discharge Consent documents associated with the Mallard Pass Solar Farm, such as surface water treatment, soil management and construction. Cllr Phil Britton continues to be part of the Mallard Pass Action Group, liaising at all times with the group to respond to these consents in line with representing the parishioners of Greatford, especially regarding protection against future flooding and heavy vehicle traffic.

Deadlines 9th and 16th June for the following:

SKDC Planning Applications:

S25/2288 and S26/0092 (Mallard Pass Solar Farm Discharge Consents).

Rutland County Council Discharge Consents:

2026/0590/MALDIS, 2026/0597/MALDIS, 2026/0590/MALDIS, 2026/0592/MALDIS, 2026/0593/MALDIS, 2026/0596/MALDIS, 2026/0595/MALDIS, 2026/0608/MALDIS

Cllrs Tony Barker and Caroline Nathan had attended a meeting regarding the community benefit fund from Mallard Pass. The next general meeting about the CBF is on 25.5.26. There will be a direct meeting with Mallard Pass on 3.6.26 to discuss the flood mitigation needs of Greatford specifically.

Cllr Tony Barker thanked Trevor Burfield and Alicia Kearns MP for their input. He urged Cllr Ashley Baxter to respond to GPC's request from the last meeting asking that appropriate expertise from Lincolnshire County Council is utilised to scrutinise the discharge documents so that SKDC, the deciding body, may make fully-informed decisions.

2025/26 - 81 Roads and traffic

See 2025/26 - 74 Matters Arising.

Cllr Ashley Baxter is working on a weight limit for Greatford. Baston's weight limit is yet to be installed at the time of the meeting.

There was a successful recent speedwatch campaign; seven drivers will be receiving letters from the Police. Another campaign is scheduled in the coming weeks.

2025/26 - 82 Play equipment

Cllr Caroline Nathan reported that following the Annual inspection, the swings and the goal nets needed to be taken out of action immediately. Ever since, she has been working hard to receive the necessary quotations and is hopeful that the swings can be installed by the school summer holidays.

2025/26 - 83 Summer playscheme

This will run for one week, w/c 3rd August. More details in due course from Cllr Gemma Taylor.

2025/26 - 84 Flood Wardens update

Cllr Jason Halsey reported that the threshold surveys have been carried out as part of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LCC) Hydrology Report. This will lead to modelling of potential flood impacts. The IDB has inspected works carried out by landowners and is enforcing work yet to be done. The Flood Wardens will be organising another multi-agency meeting.

2025/26 - 85 Any other business

The organisers of the Langtoft Fun Run (May '27) have asked if any Greatfordians would like to volunteer with marshaling etc.

Cllrs Tony Barker and Caroline Nathan attended the outgoing Stamford Mayor's Civic Dinner, engaging with the Mayor-elect, Jane Kingman, about matters that affect Greatford, such as flooding.

Alsion Horton (Village Hall Management Committee) flagged two events; 4.6.26 Grow Your Own Medicine Cabinet, to which everyone is welcome for £5 (towards the VHMC), and that the Hall is being used on 13.6.26 for an event by the RAFA.

The meeting closed at 9pm and the next meeting is on Tuesday 1st September 2026