



**Draft of the Minutes of Grafton Parish Council Meeting held at the Coronation Hall,
East Grafton on Monday 08 September 2025 at 19:30**

Item	Topic and Actions
1.	<p>Attendees: Mr Edward Nelson (Chair), Mr George Hosier, Mr Richard Pash, Mr Rupert Bentley & Miss Maria Vonsova (Clerk).</p> <p>Apologies for absence: Mr David Lemon, Mrs Ann Dudney, Mr Mike Hatherell</p> <p>Members of the Public: Mr David Wilson, Mrs Marijke Craig, Mr George Potter, Mrs Tamara Ray, Mrs Shirley Meyer, Mr Andre Sren, Mrs Fiona Sren.</p>
2.	<p>Matters arising from Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 07 July 2025: None. The minutes were proposed Mr Hosier, seconded by Mr Pash and signed by Mr Nelson.</p>
3.	<p>Public Forum: Mr Wilson brought to the attention ownership of the Coronation Hall and its carpark. He questioned if there is a possibility for the Hall's car park to be used by villages or visitors for parking while its free. Mr Craig supported Mr Wilson request stating the availability of the Hall's carpark will prevent visitors parking on the Green. Mr Hosier confirmed the Village Hall and the carpark belong to the parish council. However, it is the Coronation Hall Committee who is in charge of Coronation Hall and the car park. Mrs Craig presented a WhatsApp message from Mrs Natalie Neil, secretary of the Coronation Hall, referencing the possibility of using the carpark while free. Mrs Neil was advised to communicate with the Coronation Hall Committee about the feasibility of using the Hall's Carpark for visitor parking in the future.</p> <p>Mrs Shren inquired about the ownership of the Village Green. She sated she held a party last week at her house and some of her elderly friends tried to park on the Village Green. The owner of the area of the Village Green in question shouted at them of for parking on his land. This incident left, according to Mr Shren, the visitor visibly shaken. Mrs Shen said she felt bad as it was her fault not informing her guest on the availability of parking. Additionally, she added she was shocked and sadden by this incident because she believed this is a friendly village to live.</p> <p>Mrs Meyer expressed her concerns over what is and what is not allowed on the Village Green. She is a newcomer to this village and asked she is allowed to walk her dog on the Village Green. Mr Nelson suggested explanation of the "ownership rights" of the Village Green should be published in the Community News and on the Parish Website for wider public knowledge.</p> <p>Mr Wilson questioned why there is not a speed limit of 20mph on the road heading towards Sunflowers. Mr Nelson explained that the previous Traffic Survey organised by the Parish Council, due to previous concerns of alleged speeding did not indicate that a 20mph speed limit was warranted. Furthermore, Mr Nelson pointed out to achieve 20mph speed limit is a lengthy and costly process. First, a survey has to be requested from the Wiltshire council which parish paying half of the fee. The results are then submitted to Wiltshire Police for consideration. Wiltshire Council and then Highways England are consulted on the decision to implement a reduced speed limit. Due to the previous Traffic Surveys and lack of any incidents due to speeding being reported the chance of a reduction to 20mph is slim.</p> <p>Mr Potter raised couple of accidents on the Wilton Road, East Grafton. One in March and the recent one happened in the early hours of Monday 08 September where his car was hit and pushed, presumably by lorry, onto the payment. Mr Nelson stated that the Parish Council were in the process of installing a secondary SID position on Wilton Road to indicate drives speeds. Previous council discussions of speed reduction, traffic calming measures etc were also mentioned. Mr Nelson will raise the Resident's concern at the next LFHIG meeting with Wiltshire Council.</p> <p>Mrs Craig expressed her concerns for safety on the Village Green due to the overgrown Lime trees. She requested for some of them to be pollard. Mr Nelson clarified that the trees located on the Village Green are privately owned. He stressed that it is the responsibility of each respective owner to manage and maintain their trees accordingly. The Parish Council can only express concerns and request remediation.</p> <p>Action: The Coronation Hall Committee is to be contacted regards usage of Coronation Hall carpark by populus when free. The Parish Council will endeavour to publish in next Community News and parish website what can/cannot be undertaken on the village green to be, aware that this may be a private and not Parish Council matter.</p> <p>Mr Nelson to raise an issue of requesting a reduction in speed limit to 20pmh on the Wilton Road, East Grafton, with Wiltshire Council.</p>

4.	<p>Planning application:</p> <p>1. Application no: PL/2025/06648 Deadline: 17/09/2025</p> <p>Application type: Full planning permission.</p> <p>Proposal: Change of use of land to off-grid camp site plus retrospective permission for existing camping-related structures (washing up station and shower/compostable toilet facility).</p> <p>Address: Wild Camping, Wiltshire Site, Dark Lane, East Grafton, Marlborough Wiltshire.</p> <p>Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000G0eNe</p> <p>Mr Hosier at this point left the room and was called back after the committee took a decision on the planning application below:</p> <p>2. Application number: PL/2025/06918 Deadline: 19 September 2025</p> <p>Application type: Prior approval Part 3 Class R: Agricultural buildings to a flexible commercial use.</p> <p>Proposal: Change of use of agricultural building to a flexible commercial use falling within Class C1 (aparthotel).</p> <p>Address: Wexcombe Farmhouse, Wexcombe, Marlborough, SN8 3SQ</p> <p>Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000GCMpxIAH/pl202506918</p> <p>The committee agreed to support both of these applications.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to support the application on the Wiltshire website.</p>
5.	<p>Financial Review: Mr Bentley confirmed the Parish finances are in good order and the biggest expenditure is financing the Neighbourhood Plan (NP).</p> <p>Mr Pash announced £1000 donation from his work towards financing the last stages of NP.</p> <p>Action: Mr Bentley to update on the finances next scheduled meeting.</p>
6.	<p>Parish Updates:</p>
	<p>Coronation Hall/Solar Panels: There was no update from the Coronation Hall. Clerk to request an update the Coronation Hall Committee for the next scheduled meeting.</p> <p>Action: The Coronation Hall to update the Council at the next Parish meeting.</p>
	<p>Playing Field Maintenance: Mr Hatherell reported in his email that was little to update regarding the maintenance of the Playing Field this time.</p> <p>Action: Mr Hatherell to update the council on the Playing Field at the next Parish meeting.</p>
	<p>Speed Watch/SID: Clerk read synopsis from Mr Hatherell's email: The Speed Watch Group continues to carry out its duties. However, the Speed Indicator Device (SID) was not moved to the new location as previously agreed, due to the busy schedule of councillors involved.</p> <p>Action: Mr Hatherell is to update on the ongoings of the Speed Watch and SID next Parish meeting.</p>
	<p>PCAP: Mr Pash announced that Wiltshire Connect is expanding its services included Royal Bassett and Marlborough. Mrs Ray noted that this service is increasingly being used by younger generation particularly for social mobility.</p> <p>Furthermore, all four sails of the Wilton Windmill are due to be replaced. The new sails will be constructed from a lighter material, enabling the mill to operate in lower wind conditions.</p> <p>Action: Mr Pash to update on the PCAP next scheduled Parish meeting.</p>
	<p>Defibrillators: Mr Hosier announced that the defibrillator attached to the Village Hall was found to be insecure, hanging by a single screw and has since been repaired. He has identified a new supplier capable of providing material for all defibrillator units across the Parish. Mr Hosier confirmed that he is continuing work to update all defibrillators units to use a unified access code, which will be registered on the national database. He reassured the Council that in the event of an emergency, ambulance services have access to all defibrillators in the parish.</p> <p>Action: Mr Hosier to report on defibrillator progress and sharing the same access code for all defibrillators units in this Parish at the next Parish meeting</p>
	<p>Community Calendar: The updated community was emailed prior to the meeting by Mr Nelson.</p> <p>Action: Mr Nelson to publish any updates on the website.</p>
	<p>Neighbourhood Plan (NP): Mr Pash announced positive results from the Section 14 Community Survey. He is hoping the referendum, the final step of this NP takes place in the middle of the summer next year.</p> <p>Mr Pash presented Resilience Plan (RP), drafted by Mr Lemon, as part of the NP. The resilience plan scopes adverse such as heavy rainfall, high winds, snow & ice, heatwave & drought and failure of electricity supply. It proposes prevention, mitigation action, hub for material, contacts details of who to contact in the first instance. Mr Pash suggested the plan to be published on the parish website once agreed. Mrs Ray suggested the copy of the RP to be published as an insert in the next Community News for those who doesn't use an electronic device. Mr Potter suggested and volunteered for a buddy system, supporting fellow residents to be cooperated into the RP. Mr Pash agreed. The RP will be further discussed at the next Parish meeting, together with Mr Lemon.</p> <p>Action: Mr Pash to brief on the NP progress at the next Parish meeting.</p>
	<p>Parish Steward: There was no update on Parish Steward in Mr Lemon absence.</p> <p>Action: Mr Lemon to report on any updates.</p>
	<p>Discretionary Gully clearing service in Grafton Parish: The clerk announced the discretionary gully clearing service will take place this month.</p>

	Action: N/A.
	<p>Preparation for winter: The clerk announced that the parish Emergency Assistance Scheme Application for the 2025/26 winter season has been submitted to Wiltshire Council on the behalf of Mr Lemon. The following items were requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 bags of salt • 10 boxes (50 per box) of gel sacks • 2 Flood Sign • 2 “Drive Slowly Through Flood Water” signs <p>Installation of Salt Bins: Miss Vonsova presented a synopsis from an email received from Mrs Nicola Mundy, Weather and Drainage officer from Wiltshire Council (WC) regarding new salt bins for Grafton Parish: Wiltshire council policy does not install any new salt bins. Salt bins can be purchased from the internet and must be distinguishable from the Yellow Wiltshire Council bins either by different colour or labelled with Parish Council contacts.</p> <p>The clerk provided a price range for salt bins, noting that costs vary from approximately £30 to £500. Mr Nelson proposed that further information be obtained regarding suitable option purchasing a salt bin.</p> <p>Action: The potential purchase of a salt bin will be discussed on the next meeting</p>
	<p>Mrs Ray raised a question of recruiting new councillors and replacing the Clerk position. She proposed that both vacancies to advertised in the next Community News. Additionally, she recommended contacting the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC) for further guidance and support in the recruitment process.</p>
	<p>Fireworks and Carols on the Green: The date for the firework was set at 07 November. Mr Nelson suggested liaising with the new vicar regarding the carols on the green. As Mrs Whitcher used to organise Carols on the Greens the Parish is looking a volunteer to take up this task.</p> <p>Action: Mr Lemon to report on the outcome of the firework on the next meeting.</p>

Meeting adjourned at 21:05 with thanks to everybody who attended from the Chair, Mr Nelson.

Next Grafton Parish Council Meeting: 10 November 2025 at 19:30, Coronation Hall, East Grafton

Next Grafton Planning Meeting: 13 October 2025 at 18:00. The Thatch Barn, Wilton

Contact: clerk@graftonparish.com

website: www.graftonparish.com