



**Minutes of Grafton Parish Council Meeting held at the Coronation Hall, East Grafton  
on Monday 12 January 2026 at 19:30**

Item	Topic and Actions
1.	<p><b>Attendees:</b> Mr Edward Nelson (Chair), Mr David Lemon (Vice-Chair), Mr Mike Hatherell, Mr Richard Pash, Mr Rupert Bentley, Miss Maria Vonsova &amp; Ms Debbie Thomas (Clerk).</p> <p><b>Apologies for absence:</b> n/a</p> <p><b>Members of the Public:</b> 17 members of the public</p>
2.	<p><b>Matters arising from Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10 November 2025:</b> None. The minutes were proposed by Mr Lemon, seconded by Mr Bentley and signed by Mr Nelson.</p>
3.	<p><b>Public Forum:</b> Potholes and Road conditions – The state of the A338 through the village was discussed with concerns raised about the hazard posed by potholes. Several members of the public voiced their worries. The A338 was scheduled for resurfacing last year, but was cancelled due to costs and cuts. Some resurfacing work of the A338 is now set to begin 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.</p> <p>Mr Lemon encouraged parishioners to download the Wiltshire Council App to report potholes and other issues, highlighting that increased usage would help target hotspots and prompt council action.</p> <p>Mr Lemon also reminded parishioners that gritting salt/sandbags are available at Manor Farm for use in icy/flooded conditions.</p>
4.	<p><b>Planning applications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <p><b>Application number: PL/2025/08985 Deadline: 13 January 2026</b></p> <p>Application type: Full planning permission</p> <p>Proposal: Erection of 1 no. dwelling with associated access, parking, landscaping and private amenity space</p> <p>Address: Land in East Grafton, East Grafton, SN8 3DB</p> </li> <li> <p><b>Application number: PL/2025/08977 Deadline: 13 January 2026</b></p> <p>Application type: Full planning permission</p> <p>Proposal: Erection of 4 no. new dwellings with associated access, parking, landscaping a private amenity space</p> <p>Address: Land in East Grafton (to the north of the A338), East Grafton SN8 3DB</p> <p>Link to the application:  <a href="https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000Hpxyi">https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000Hpxyi</a></p> </li> </ul> <p>A large number of the public members expressed concerns with regards to these applications. They included concerns about conservation, erosion and a greater impact on the village and it was agreed that the council would not support these applications.</p>
5.	<p><b>Financial Review/ Precepts for 2026/2027:</b></p> <p>Mr Bentley highlighted the financial position of the parish with lower reserves than last year. He stressed the importance of ensuring that expenditure does not exceed available finances for the remainder of the financial year. On parish funding: the Parish received a £1000 grant from the Zurich Foundation and funds from the village firework event.</p> <p><b>Precepts for 2026/2027:</b> The clerk informed the council that the Council Tax Base for the 2026/2027 precept is due to be received. Chairman Mr Edward Nelson proposed and Richard Pash seconded the acceptance of the Precept.</p>
6.	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan (NP)/Approval of Grafton Parish Neighbourhood Plan:</b></p> <p>Mr Pash explained that Wiltshire Council were running an eight-week consultation from 24 November 2025 until 19 January 2026, inviting comments on the published plans. This had been advertised on Parish Notice boards, and in the November and December editions of the Community News. Paper copies of the plan were available at the Coronation Hall and at the Swan in Wilton. Further details can be found <a href="http://Graftonparish.com">Graftonparish.com</a></p> <p>Action: Mr Pash to brief on the NP progress at the next Parish meeting.</p>
7.	<p><b>Parish Updates:</b></p> <p><b>Coronation Hall/Solar Panels/Availability of Coronation Hall Carpark:</b></p> <p>Clerk reported that an update had been requested from the Coronation Hall, however, no updated was received prior to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Clerk to request an update from the Coronation Hall committee for the next meeting.</p>
	<p><b>Playing Field Maintenance:</b></p> <p>A new sign has been installed asking users to take their rubbish with them, and the bins have been removed as they will not be emptied by the council.</p> <p>A contractor has been appointed to address the large dead tree, as it is deemed to be a danger. Sunflowers are funding this work.</p>

	A new Oak tree has been purchased to replace the removed Ash tree in the playing field hedgerow.
	<b>Signpost for warning - horses on A338 near West Grafton:</b> The application for these signs has been submitted, with the Parish to pay 50% of the cost.
	<b>Speedwatch:</b> The speedwatch team operates every 3 weeks with volunteer efforts.
	<b>PCAP:</b> Mr Pash explained that the next Quarterly PCAP meeting would be on January 16th, so there was nothing new to report. Action: Mr Pash to update on the PCAP next scheduled Parish meeting.
	<b>Parish Funding:</b> The Parish received a £1000 grant and funds from the village firework event.
	<b>Defibrillators:</b> Mr Hosier advised the defibrillator is in good condition and is all up to date. The code for its use is due to published in the Community News shortly after an issue arose with its use.
	<b>Father Christmas:</b> We are looking for further help for Santa for 2026.
	<b>Roadworks:</b> There are several upcoming road works and closures .. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire hydrant replacement works at Appletree Cottage, Hollow Lane. 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026</li> <li>• A338 thru East Grafton – Inlay resurfacing including associated ironworks and road markings - 0700-1800hrs – 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> March 2026</li> </ul>
<b>8.</b>	<b>AOB:</b> Maria Vonsova has resigned as Parish Clerk. Debbie Thomas will take over following a hand over. This will be ongoing. Training for the new Parish Clerk and new councillor, Andy Pack was proposed by Richard Pash and seconded by Ed Nelson.

Meeting adjourned at 21:00 with thanks to everybody who attended from the Chair Mr Nelson.

**Next Grafton Parish Council Meeting: 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 19:30, Coronation Hall, East Grafton**

**Next Grafton Planning Meeting: 13 April 2026 at 18:00, The Thatch Barn, Wilton**

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