



**Minutes of Grafton Parish Council Meeting held at the Coronation Hall, East Grafton
on Monday 9 March 2026 at 19:30**

Item	Topic and Actions
1.	Attendees: Mr Edward Nelson (Chair) Mr David Lemon (Vice chair) Mr Mike Hatherell, Mr Richard Pash, Mr George Hossier, Mr Rupert Bentley, Mrs Ann Dudney, Ms Debbie Thomas (Clerk) Apologies for absence: Mr Andy Pack Members of the public: David M Wilson, Annie Whitcher, Polly Percy
2.	Matters arising from Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 12th January 2026. None. The minutes were proposed by Mr Lemon, seconded by Mr Pash and signed by Mr Nelson.
3.	Public Forum: Council Membership Updates Mrs Dudney officially co-opted onto parish council. Declaration form signed during meeting. Unanimous vote approved Mr Bentley's co-option approved unanimously. Needs to sign acceptance form (not brought to meeting) It was brought to the Parish councils' attention that the Bedwin Link Scheme needs to be promoted more. This is a service that seems to be overlooked and not utilised enough. It is a volunteer driver service for parishioners to use for doctors' appointments etc, but not used enough. It was planned to get something into the Community News, to ensure that people knew about the service more and possibly an AGM presentation opportunity identified.
4.	Planning applications: Application number: PL/2026/01226 Deadline: 26 March 2026 Application type: Household planning permission Proposal: Replace shed with car port. Provision of solar panels to main house. Green house in garden. Address: Park Cottage, East Grafton, Marlborough, SN8 3DD Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000JIJ7V Application number: PL/2026/00800 Deadline: 12th March 2026 Application type: Full planning permission Proposal: Erection of detached dwelling and garage with associated parking, turning, landscaping, private amenity space and access arrangements. Address: Land at Manor Farm, East Grafton, Marlborough. SN8 3DB Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000JP4NFIA1/pl202600800 Application number: PL/2026/00951 Deadline: 17th March 2026 Application type: Household planning permission Proposal: Car port, Gazebo, Shed & improved access Address: East Grafton Farm House, East Grafton, Marlborough. SN8 3DF Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000JYPU5IAP/pl202600951 Application number: PL/2026/01047 Deadline: 10th March 2026 Application type: Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area Proposal: Crown reduce partially uprooted Black Walnut by up to 50% (just below historic scar) to suitable growth points. Address: Lansdown, East Grafton, Marlborough. SN8 3DF Link to the application: https://development.wiltshire.gov.uk/pr/s/planning-application/a0iQ300000Jegf7IAB/pl202601047
5.	Financial Review: - Budget surplus of £3,000 more than expected due to fundraising - Website payment arrears resolved - Standing order to increase from £27 to £37.50 monthly - Payment approved (Mr Hossier proposed, Mr Hatherell seconded)

	- Hall insurance cost-sharing reinstated 75% hall responsibility, 25% parish council - Covers last two years of arrears (~£1,500 total) - Hall recently received £1,250 charity donation - Approved 75/25 split (Mr Hossier proposed, Mr Lemon seconded)
6.	Neighbourhood Plan (NP)/Approval of Grafton Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Mr Pash explained the Neighbourhood Plan has been reviewed by an independent examiner, appointed by Wiltshire Council. All documents, public feedback and stakeholder input was reviewed and considered, to confirm whether a fair and balanced process had been run. A referendum will be held in the parish later in the year, organised by Wiltshire Council. Action: Mr Pash to brief on the NP progress at the next Parish meeting.
7.	Parish Updates: Discussions were made with regard to a property on the way out of the village which needed help from recent flooding. Wiltshire Council had declined responsibility (not carriageway water) Mr Lemon offered to dig drainage ditch with digger. Previous flood mitigation work completed upstream, which proved to help. Mr Lemon also installed land drains above Wilton to redirect field runoff. Marten wood had a drainage blockage cleared, preventing village flooding. Its good we are proactively protecting vulnerable properties. These land drainage improvements are on-going. Mrs Dudney was keen get more community engagement for the upcoming AGM in May. Post Covid, attendance numbers have declined. Historically there would be 30-50 attendees, now it's a minimal turnout. There were a few ideas to offer refreshments. Even to consider cheese/wine or alternative attractions. Organizations now submit reports rather than attending.
	Coronation Hall/Solar Panels/Availability of Coronation Hall Carpark: Clerk reported that an update had been requested from the Coronation Hall, however, no updated was received prior to the meeting. Action: Clerk to request an update from the Coronation Hall committee for the next meeting.
	Signpost for warning - horses on A338 near West Grafton: Wiltshire Council have deferred the decision to May/June due to budget constraints. It requires traffic survey and monitoring costs.
	Speedwatch: Looking for a new Co-ordinator. Mr Hatherell looking to step down from the role. Mr Hatherell will approach Mr Pack (new councillor) to take over.
	Roadworks: There are road works due in the village. Main A338 will be resurfaced between 30th March – 2nd April during the day and then back again between 7th April – 10th April.
8.	AOB: Meeting ended @ 20.50hrs

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

Next Grafton Parish Council Meeting: 11th May 2026 (AGM) at 19:30, Coronation Hall, East Grafton

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

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