

Granborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council held in the Village Hall on
Tuesday 9th December 2025

Present: Cllrs Ellerton, Oakland (Chair), Smedley, and Watson. Clerk & RFO: Lisa Prior,
Buckinghamshire's Cllr Gomm and 1 member of the public.

MINUTES

130. Welcome & Apologies

- Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Anderson and Chair Cllr Fenwick (Cllr Oakland chaired the meeting in his absence). No apologies were received from Cllr de Niese prior to the meeting.

131. Declarations of Interest

- No declarations of interest were made in respect of any item on the agenda.

132. Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2025 were **approved**.

133. Open Forum

- No matters were raised by parishioners.

134. BESS Statera / Rosefield / Longbreach / National Grid / Statkraft

Council received updates on the following:

- a. Statera BESS; The Clerk reported that Statera was emailed on 18 November regarding the Community Fund, but no response has been received. Buckinghamshire Council officers have also been unable to make contact. It was noted that engagement should be coordinated through a single Parish Council-led group, with Cllr Gomm leading. **Action:** Clerk to chase Statera.
- b. Rosefield; East Claydon Parish Council recently hosted a well-received presentation on the application. Residents were encouraged to submit individual comments, and a leaflet from the meeting will be uploaded to the website by the Clerk.

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- c. Longbreach – No updates.
- d. National Grid – no updates.
- e. Statkraft – no updates.

135. Planning

- a. Planning updates were **noted**. See Appendix B.
- b. Council noted that application **25/01326/CPE (Brambles, 31A Green End)** is now the subject of a non-determination appeal (APP/J0405/X/25/3375179). It was decided that the Council would submit comments to the Planning Inspectorate.
Action: Cllr Smedley to draft the comments.
- c. Council received an update regarding Longacres, following the expiry of the temporary planning consent. It was **noted** that Cllr Gomm had previously been asked to investigate the matter and is currently awaiting a response from the enforcement team regarding a site visit and next steps.

136. Ward Councillor Report

Cllr Gomm provided a verbal update on Buckinghamshire Council matters. This included a Fire Authority consultation with proposed station closures in the south and Milton Keynes, and the loss of some fire engines. It was noted that Buckingham will retain a rural fire engine and that Winslow will remain an on-call station, although recruitment remains challenging. The importance of adequate fire cover was highlighted, particularly considering the proposed BESS development. Cllr Gomm to forward consultation details to the Clerk.

Support for British farmers was also raised, and it was agreed that this would be promoted where possible.

137. Finance

- a. The November accounts were **approved**. See Appendix A.
- b. Online payments were **ratified** and invoices over £200 were signed.
- c. The current account bank reconciliation figure of £14,719.94 as at 30th November 2025 was **approved**.
- d. The savings account bank reconciliation figure of £11,014.92 as at 30th November 2025 was **approved**.
- e. Council **approved** the budget for 2026/27 in the sum of £35,038.73 and **resolved** that the precept for 2026/27 be set at £28,100.

- f. Council **noted** that the Clerk has requested the Coronation Meadow rent invoice and payment details from Sidleys and is awaiting a response. **Action:** Clerk to chase.
- g. Council **noted** that the Christmas Tree donation has been paid to the 101 Club.
- h. Reimbursement to Cllr Smedley of £12 for a new laminator was **approved**.
- i. Payment of the annual website hosting invoice from Aubergine of £238.80 was **approved**.

138. Councillors / Clerk / Administration

- a. Parish Council meeting dates for 2026/2027 were **approved**.

139. Highways & Footpaths & Rights of Way

- a. Council received an update that the existing railway sleepers are rotting. It was noted that the issue has been reported to the Rights of Way team on several occasions but no response has been received. As a result, the Council expressed concern regarding the potential danger. Cllr Gomm advised that the bridge may need to be closed if no action is taken, which the Council was keen to avoid. The Council therefore agreed to source the required materials. **Action:** Cllr Ellerton will investigate options, and a budget of up to £200 was approved for this purpose.
- b. Council considered a resident request for improved road closure updates on the website and it was **resolved** that the Clerk has now set up alerts with one.network to receive notifications of local road closures, which will be published on the Parish Council website as required.
- c. The temporary Household Recycling Centre arrangements and outstanding queries were discussed. It was **noted** that there is currently some confusion and that further clarification is awaited. Cllr Gomm will seek further information and provide an update in due course.
- d. An update was received regarding the recent change to the Buckingham school bus timetable. It was **noted** that parents' input is being gathered and that Cllr Gomm is liaising with the relevant contacts to have the timetable amended. Cllr Gomm will share correspondence with the Council and keep members informed of any progress.

140. Play Area

- a. The estimated cost of £645 for the repair of 18 fence posts and 5 rails was **approved**, with a contingency of up to £750 if required. **Action:** Cllr Smedley to instruct Robert Kemp to proceed as soon as possible.

- b. The Clerk reported that no response has yet been received from Glendale regarding a quote for professional playground inspections. **Action:** Clerk to follow up.

141. Biodiversity & Coronation Meadow

- a. It was clarified that the Woodland Trust scheme applies only where the Parish Council owns land or has permission from a landowner. As the Parish Council does not currently own any land, **no further action** was required.
- b. It was **confirmed** that the Dark Skies Policy is now available on the website and on the village notice board.
- c. Council received an update from Cllr Ellerton regarding the play area and Coronation Meadow leases in relation to tree ownership and maintenance responsibilities. It was noted that the Meadow lease has been signed by the landlord and contains requirements for certain shrubs to be cut back, but makes no specific reference to tree risk or responsibility. The Council noted that **no further action** is required at this time as the matter is covered by the Parish Council's public liability insurance.

142. Street Lighting & Parish Council Assets

- a. Council **noted** that the street light failure at 40e Winslow Road, has now been repaired and that the invoice has been received from E.ON.
- b. Council **noted** that the street light failure on Marston Road, has now been repaired and that the invoice has been received from E.ON.
- c. Council discussed the request for a second defibrillator. Following discussion of the agreed budget and precept, it was confirmed that the Parish Council does not currently have the funds to proceed with the provision of a second unit.
Action: Cllr Ellerton will contact the resident who submitted the request to explain the situation and advise that alternative options, including crowdfunding, may be explored.
- d. Council considered adopting the telephone box as a Council asset following confirmation that there would be no additional insurance cost, and **resolved** that Granborough Parish Council will take it on as an asset.
Action: Clerk to email Paul Sutton to confirm.

143. Devolution

- a. Council noted the Buckinghamshire Council Highways Devolution Review update and discussed the implications for Granborough. It was agreed **that no further action** is required at present.

144. Resilience Planning

- Council received an update on the Resilience Plan and noted that well over 75% of the work has been completed by Cllr Anderson, with just the local information to agree. It was **noted** that no further support has been received from the Buckinghamshire Council resilience team despite attempts to make contact. It was agreed that Cllr Gomm would be approached to assist in progressing this matter. **Action:** Clerk to contact Cllr Gomm to request assistance with progressing the Resilience Plan.

145. Website / Technology

- a. Assertion 10: Digital & Data Compliance was not discussed due to the absence of Cllr de Niese and therefore was **deferred**.
- b. The potential creation of a Parish Council Facebook page was discussed, and it was **resolved** that an official page would be created for Granborough Parish Council. **Action:** Clerk to set up the account as Granborough Parish Council.

146. Outside Body Updates

- a. Council received the following reports, which were noted:
 - i. NBPPC (12th November); a brief report was provided by Cllr Smedley.
 - ii. Community Board Workshop (27th November); no report was available as Cllr Anderson was not in attendance.

There was no forthcoming outside body meetings to note.

147. Next Meeting

- a. Items for the January agenda were noted, including an issue with the Playground Inspection Rota system not updating.
- b. Next meeting confirmed as Tuesday, 13th January 2026.

Meeting closed at 21.10.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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Appendix A - Payments

Date	Description	Ref:	Expenditure	VAT
19.11.25	RTM Village Cut #0387	77	£620.40	£103.40
19.11.25	HMRC Employer NI - October	78	£49.12	£0.00
19.11.25	SSE Energy - October Invoice	79	£204.12	£9.72
19.11.25	Smarty Plan Reimbursement	80	£5.00	£0.00
19.11.25	101 Club - Christmas Tree Donation	81	£100.00	£0.00
19.11.25	Clerk expenses	82	£37.70	£0.00
30.11.25	Bank Charges	83	£6.00	£0.00

Appendix B – Planning Updates

Reference	Address	Status
25/01297/APP	Land North of East Claydon Substation (Statkraft)	Awaiting decision
23/00214/APP	20D Green End	Awaiting decision
22/01260/APP	The Crown Public House	Awaiting decision
25/01326/CPE	Brambles 31A Green End	Awaiting decision
25/01865/APP	Wings Farm, Marston Road, Solar Farm	Awaiting decision
25/01597/APP	Stately Stables, Winslow Road	Awaiting decision
25/01898/APP	40B Winslow Road	Approved

****Payments over £200, highlighted in yellow, are to be signed off by two Councillors.**

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