

Granborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Granborough Parish Council held in the Village Hall on

Tuesday 17th March 2026

Present: Cllrs Anderson, de Niese, Fenwick (Chair), Oakland, and Watson. Clerk & RFO: Lisa Prior and 5 members of the public.

MINUTES

168. Welcome & Apologies

- Apologies were received from Cllrs Ellerton and Smedley due to holidays. Apologies were also received from Cllr Gomm, who had another meeting earlier in the evening but would join the meeting late.

169. Declarations of Interest

- Cllr de Niese & Cllr Fenwick declared an interest in Agenda Item 173(d) Buckinghamshire Local Plan site engagement.

170. Previous Minutes

- a. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2026 were **approved**.
- b. The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 24th February 2026 were **approved**.

171. Open Forum

- A resident requested an update on local energy projects affecting the parish.
- A resident expressed concern regarding the number of developments and changes of use taking place within and around the village, including conversions of agricultural buildings and new structures.

172. Local Energy Infrastructure Projects

Updates were received on the following:

- a. Statera BESS; No updates available.
- b. Rosefield Solar Farm; The project is progressing through the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) process. The Planning Inspectorate has commenced the formal examination, with the first session having taken place. Information is available on the NSIP website.
- c. Longbreach; No updates available.

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- d. National Grid; No updates available.
- e. Statkraft; No updates available.

173. Planning

- a. Planning updates were noted. See Appendix B.
- b. Application PL/26/00625/FA – 2 Sovereign Close. Members discussed the proposal for the erection of a new double garage and associated works. It was **resolved** to submit a response of no objection. **Action:** Clerk to submit by the deadline of 2 April.
- c. Longacres Equestrian, Winslow Road; The Breach of Condition Notice issued by Buckinghamshire Council following expiry of the temporary consent was **noted**.
- d. Buckinghamshire Local Plan site engagement: An update was received regarding sites affecting Granborough. The consultee response submitted to Buckinghamshire Council on 16 March 2026, under instruction from the Chair to meet the consultation deadline, was read to Members and considered. Members resolved to formally ratify the submitted response. A copy of the response is attached as **Appendix C**. Cllr de Niese remained in the meeting but did not participate in the vote of this item.

174. Ward Councillor Report

Cllr Gomm provided an update on the following matters:

- Energy infrastructure projects: No significant updates were reported. It was noted that some previously approved schemes may not proceed due to grid connection constraints.
- 20mph speed limits; It was reported that neither Thames Valley Police nor Buckinghamshire Council currently support the introduction of a 20mph limit, citing enforcement concerns.
- Road markings: Requests for roundels and road painting within the parish will be added to the Ward Councillor's action list.
- Buckingham Household Recycling Centre: The site is expected to reopen at the end of March. Residents will be able to obtain a permit quickly.
- School Transport from Buckingham; Adjustments to bus arrangements mean that two buses now return at different times, which has been positively received by parents.
- Buckinghamshire Local Plan: The "Call for Sites" process was outlined, whereby landowners may submit land for consideration. Further consultation is anticipated in July, with the Local Plan scheduled for completion by December. The Ward Councillor suggested that it would be beneficial for the Parish Council to hold a public meeting to inform residents and gather views.

175. Finance

- a. The January and February 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 £12,490.51 as of 31 January 2026 was **approved**.

- d. The current account bank reconciliation figure of £11,946.10 as of 28 February 2026 was **approved**.
- e. The savings account bank reconciliation figure of £11,075.62 as of 31 January and 28 February 2026 was **approved**.
- f. It was **noted** that the quarterly bank account spot check had been completed by Cllr Ellerton.
- g. The submission and receipt of a VAT reclaim of £2,013.00 was **noted**.
- h. Defibrillator consumables contingency: This matter was discussed and it was **resolved** to set a contingency of £400.
- i. Renewal of the street-lighting electricity contract from 1 April 2026: Quotations were considered and members **resolved** to appoint SSE for a 12-month contract. It was further agreed that a quotation for a 3-year term be requested and, subject to a favourable price, the longer contract may be entered into.
- j. The opening of the Small Grants Scheme for applications was **noted**.
- k. It was **resolved** to appoint Brian Fludgate as Internal Auditor for the financial year ending 31 March 2026 at a cost of £62.

176. Policies & Procedures

- a. The proposed amendment to the Standing Orders to provide delegated authority for responding to planning applications when the Council is unable to meet, previously circulated to Members, was considered. It was **resolved** to adopt the amendment, subject to formal ratification at the Annual General Meeting.
- b. The Information Technology Policy was considered and **adopted** for compliance with AGAR Assertion 10.

177. Community Matters

- The Best Kept Village Competition was discussed. Members **resolved** to enter the competition in the Small Village category and approved the £25 entry fee. Members agreed that the initiative should be publicised via the Parish Council website and Facebook page to encourage community participation. **Action:** Cllr Oakland to draft wording for the website and Facebook. Clerk to submit application.

178. Highways & Footpaths & Rights of Way

- a. The proposal to support an initiative encouraging Buckinghamshire Council to adopt a 20mph speed limit in towns and villages; this proposal was discussed and it was **resolved** to support the initiative.
- b. An update from Buckinghamshire Highways regarding requests to refresh road markings within the village was received. Due to budget constraints, the works may be placed on a future programme. Members agreed that the Clerk should confirm the Parish Council wishes to remain on the list. **Action:** Clerk to email Highways.
- c. The condition of the sleeper bridge on footpath GRA/9505 was discussed; it was considered potentially hazardous in wet conditions and that recent works were insufficient. Members **resolved** to report the matter to Buckinghamshire Council for further action. **Action:** Clerk to report.

179. Play Area

- a. It was **noted** that repairs to the playground fencing have been completed at a cost of £534. Members expressed satisfaction with the quality of the work. **Action:** Clerk to send a letter of thanks to Robert Kemp.
- b. The deteriorating condition of the picnic table and benches was discussed; Members agreed that they are not currently considered unsafe but should be monitored.

CLlr Gomm arrived during Item 179 (Play Area). The Council returned to Item 174 (Ward Councillor Report) to receive his report, after which the agenda resumed.

180. Coronation Meadow

- The replacement of deteriorating signage near the pond and around the meadow was discussed; Members agreed that more substantial engraved signs are required as the existing laminated signs are no longer suitable. **Action:** CLlr Oakland to provide photographs, sizes and examples to enable the Clerk to obtain quotations.

181. Street Lighting & Parish Council Assets

- a. It was **noted** that street light no. 4 on Winslow Road has been repaired at a cost of £143.40.
- b. It was **noted** that street light no. 3 on Green Lane has failed and has been reported to E-on (20 February 2026).
- c. It was **noted** that street light no. 7 on Green Lane has failed and has been reported to E-on (20 February 2026).
- d. It was **noted** that street light no. 2 on Denham View is operating continuously and has been reported to E-on (9 March 2026).
- e. An update regarding the unauthorised movement of the Speed Indicator Device was received and possible action discussed; It was **noted** that the unit currently lacks adequate security. Members agreed that further advice should be sought and that the supplier be contacted regarding possible security solutions. **Action:** CLlr Fenwick to seek advice and Clerk to contact the supplier.

182. Devolved Services

- The Highways Devolved Services Agreement with Buckinghamshire Council for 2026–27 was **approved**.

183. Resilience Planning

- Progress on the Resilience Plan was discussed and councillor input noted on specific areas. Members agreed to continue developing the plan as a community initiative and to seek input from residents, including through a questionnaire. **Actions:** CLlr Anderson to incorporate the outcomes of this discussion into the draft Resilience Plan. CLlr Watson to investigate potential funding opportunities to support

community resilience initiatives. Cllr de Niese to incorporate the Resilience Plan within the Parish Council app, including provision for residents to register relevant skills, and to obtain information on vulnerability categories.

184. Website/Technology

- An update on the development of a Parish Council mobile app was received. Members **resolved** to proceed with its launch, subject to approval by Apple following the review process. It was agreed that the app should be circulated to members for testing prior to the May meeting.

185. Outside Body Updates

- a. Reports from recent meetings:
 - i. West Bucks Community Meeting on 11 March 2026. Cllr Anderson provided a brief update from the meeting, including initiatives relating to support for vulnerable residents and community activities.

186. Plans, Structures & Consultations

- a. The Local Transport Plan 5 public consultation was considered; Members **resolved** to submit a response. **Action:** Cllr Fenwick to draft a response and circulate it to all Councillors for approval prior to submission.

187. Next Meeting

- a. Items for the April agenda include adding Cllr Fenwick as an administrator to the Granborough portal and arranging training on its use and the refresh of animal species information notices at Coronation Meadow.
- b. Next meeting date confirmed: Tuesday 14 April 2026.

Meeting closed at 21.11

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Initials: _____

Appendix A - Payments

Date	Description	Ref:	Income	Expenditure	VAT
15.01.26	HMRC Employer NI - December	94		£49.12	£0.00
15.01.26	SSE Energy - December Invoice	95		£268.13	£12.77
15.01.26	Parish Online	96		£45.00	£7.50
15.01.26	Bucks Council -dog waste empty	97		£590.40	£98.40
15.01.26	Web Medical - Defib Pads	98		£75.18	£12.53
15.01.26	Smarty Plan Reimbursement	99		£5.00	£0.00
15.01.26	Clerk Expenses - Jan 26	100		£37.70	£0.00
19.01.26	HMRC VAT Reclaim	101	£2,013.00	£0.00	£0.00
30.01.26	Clerk Salary	102		£***.**	£0.00
31.01.26	Bank Charges	103		£6.00	£0.00
17.02.26	EON - Street Light repairs	104		£143.40	£23.90
17.02.26	SSE Energy - January Invoice	105		£256.19	£12.20
17.02.26	HMRC Employer NI - January	106		£49.12	£0.00
17.02.26	Smarty Plan Reimbursement	107		£5.00	£0.00
06.02.26	ICO Annual Fee	108		£47.00	£0.00
25.02.26	Clerk expenses Feb 26	109		£37.70	£0.00
28.02.26	Bank Charges	110		£6.00	£0.00

****Payments over £200, highlighted in yellow, are approved by two Councillors.**

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	Appeal lodged
25/01865/APP	Wings Farm, Marston Road, Solar Farm (Longbreach)	Awaiting decision
25/01597/APP	Stately Stables, Winslow Road	Awaiting decision
PL/25/4582/FA	Land & barn rear of 8 Green Lane	Registered
PL/25/5690/OA	Land at Marston Road	Refused
PL/26/00064/FA	Ley House Winslow Road	Conditional Permission
PL/25/6558/FA	28 Green End	Conditional Permission
PL/26/00625/FA	2 Sovereign Close	Registered

Appendix C – Granborough Parish Council Response regarding Local Plan sites

SITES IDENTIFIED IN GRANBOROUGH PARISH BY BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL (BC) IN THE CONSULTATION.

1. There are four sites shown on the interactive map.
 - Stately Stables Winslow Road OPUS ref. 4080. Considered by BC to be suitable for five pitches for Gypsies and Travellers.
 - Longacre site Winslow Road OPUS ref 6527. Considered by BC to be suitable for five pitches for Gypsies and Travellers.
 - Land and Buildings at Rookery Farm Hogshaw Road Granborough OPUS ref. 674 Considered by BC to be suitable for housing (26.7 units).
 - Land near 15 Marston Road OPUS ref 3370. Considered by BC to be unsuitable for housing development as it would cause unacceptable harm on the landscape, unacceptable intrusion into the open countryside and is an unsustainable location.
2. GRANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL(GPC) OBSERVATIONS

Stately Stables Winslow Road. This site already has planning permission for use as a Traveller's site for one static mobile home plus additional outbuildings and parking of ancillary vehicles (e.g. touring caravan). In addition, planning permission has been sought for two additional static mobile homes specifically for family members of the owner of the land who is resident at the site. The site has also been registered as a camp site through the "Campfire Companions Club" thus not requiring planning permission for that use and currently there are a number of "Shepards' huts" on site. Whilst GPC would consider that such use could cause unacceptable harm on the landscape, be an unacceptable intrusion into the open countryside, and is an unsustainable location, due to the current use this site is possibly preferable to any other site in the village should it be progressed within the Buckinghamshire Local Plan.

Longacre site Winslow Road OPUS ref 6527 This site previously had planning permission for equine activities but on a temporary basis which expired in 2025 and the site is understood to be vacant. GPC strongly objects to the proposal that this site should be allocated for travellers. Granborough already has one traveller site (see above) and sufficient potential sites have already been identified in other parts of the county to meet the specified need for sites. This site is also of significant visual importance when approaching Granborough from the north due to its hilltop location, and as such GPC it would consider that such use could cause unacceptable harm on

the landscape, and be an unacceptable intrusion into the open countryside, and is an unsustainable location.

Land and Buildings at Rookery Farm Hogshaw Road. This site lies partly within and immediately adjacent to the settlement boundary within the Granborough Neighbourhood Plan and is currently the farmyard and farm buildings adjacent to the Grade 2 listed Rookery Farm farmhouse. Whilst in principle the use for residential development may be acceptable as the conversion of the farm buildings could possibly be viewed as permitted development, the suggested number of twenty-six units (based on density calculation) is considered to be greatly in excess of what could be located on the site. Such numbers would not retain any of the character of the existing and nearby properties (some of which are also listed). Granborough is a small village designated as tier 4, it lacks both school and shop and has an infrequent bus service heading both north and south. As such it is not a suitable location for any sizeable development as suggested by the consultation document.

- **Land near 15 Marston Road.** This site lies outside the settlement boundary contained within the Granborough Neighbourhood Plan, BC has stated that they considered it to be unsuitable for housing development as it would cause unacceptable harm on landscape, unacceptable intrusion into the open countryside, and is an unsustainable location and settlement pattern. GPC supports this view and has expressed that as part of its consultation response to an outline planning application (ref.PL/25/5690/OA) Which has just been refused by Buckinghamshire Council for five houses on a part of the site fronting onto Marston Road.