

GREAT CRANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council meeting
held at 7 pm on 12 February 2026

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Barnwell Jane Mann Parish Clerk
Cllr Stuart Ablett
Cllr Amanda Bussey
Cllr Emily James
Cllr Isabelle James
Cllr Michael Procter
Cllr Colin Spickett Two members of the public

25.119 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from NNC Councillors Brian Bennyworth and Jim Hakewill.

25.120 Public session

A resident provided an update on the planning application for the pet crematorium. He advised that although the application had been approved there had been a change of circumstances and another business was now letting the premises.

Information was requested on how the precept was calculated. This was provided by the Chair.

25.121 Declarations of interest and a reminder for Councillors to update NNC register of interests

Cllr Barnwell declared an interest in his roles as Committee member for Kettering Neighbourhood Plan, Chair of Mawsley Parish Council and Chair of the Village Hall Committee, where he represented the Parish Council. New Councillors have now completed NNC register of interests.

25.122 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting held on Thursday 8 January 2026

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as accurate.

25.123 To receive an update on the neighbourhood plan and to consider next steps

The clerk had met with Joanna Mowatt to consider changes to the plan highlighted in the schedule of representations. The schedule was being updated and then would be shared with Councillors before publication on the website. This would be formally approved before being submitted to NNC. **Action point-JM**

25.124 Planning:

The clerk provided an update on the status of existing applications. There were no updates on planning enforcement issues.

25.125 To receive reports from North Northants Councillors:

- i. There were no NNC Councillors present.
- ii. Cllr Barnwell had attended the Community Governance Review event. It was decided that due to the tight timescales imposed that no changes would be suggested for this review.

25.126 Finance:

- i. The clerk reported on the current financial situation:

Neighbourhood Plan account	£557.79
Treasurers account	£4,144.13
Contingency account	£10,411.47
Total	£15,113.39

- ii. Previously authorised payments made following the last meeting were reported:
 - Clerk's January salary £449.36 and HMRC statutory deductions £134.11
 - Clerk's expenses for January £23.24 and speed watch equipment £150.00
 - NCALC training iro Michael Procter £42.00
 - Wreath RB £20.00
- iii. A schedule of payments due was authorised:
 - Clerk's salary and expenses and HMRC statutory deductions for February
 - NCALC training iro Michael Procter and Isabelle James £127.20
 - Uncontested election costs £25.00
- iv. Memberships to NACRE £42.00 and SLCC £158.00 for 2026/27 were approved.
- v. Parish Online subscription of £408.00 was approved.

- vi. The financial implications of NNC moving responsibility for the playground equipment to GPC from April 2027 was discussed. It was agreed to obtain some costings from other companies, possibly in conjunction with Loddington Parish Council. This could be compared with NNC's service level agreement and a decision made at the next meeting. **Action point-JM**
- vii. The clerk reported that she had requested a mowing schedule along with a map from NNC but this had not been forthcoming. The frequency of verge mowing was reducing from 6 to 3 cuts a year when Kier takes over. It was agreed to continue with Kier but carefully monitor the situation. The Section 136 alternative was found to be not viable.

25.127 Progress reports from previous meetings:

- i. Update pending on the Asset of Community value application. There has been some more interest. An Easter event will be arranged by The Three Cranes.
- ii. There was no update on paving issues at 8 Loddington Road. Cllr Spickett has now raised a complaint with NCC. **Action point: JM to remind JH**

25.128 Village matters:

- i. The NNC's proposal to move the vehicle activated sign on Broughton Hill to the village green was not approved. The village green was in the conservation area and the centre of the village. It was felt that the hedgerow around the current location should be cut back. **Action point-JM reply to NCC**
- ii. Cllr Isabelle James shared her ideas on initiatives which promote nature in the village. She felt that flower displays should be considered. **Action point-IJ to advise on costings**
- iii. The purchase of another bin in Bridle Way had been approved. The clerk was still awaiting costings for installation. **Action point-JM to contact NNC Cllrs to chase up**
- iv. Cllr James was still working on the Facebook agenda item. This can be removed from agenda at present.
- v. Painting of the lampposts had not been completed as painters were still unable to access lights in Cransley Hall. This was now an NNC matter. **Action point: NNC Cllrs** Cllrs Bussey and Spickett have compiled a list of further work required around the village. Quote from painters will be sought. **Action point-JM/AB**
- vi. Cllr Barnwell reported that the War memorial land registry application has now been completed.
- vii. There had been several volunteers for the Community association and a meeting would be arranged.
- viii. Cllr Barnwell provided an update on CVMH matters.

25.129 To receive an update from Parish Councillors on their specific roles:

- i. Cllr Bussey provided an update on Highways, parking and lighting issues. Potholes in Church Lane had been reported. Cllr Procter reported an issue with the numbering of street lights.
- ii. Cllr Ablett provided an update on the defibrillator.
- iii. Cllr Spickett reported that GPC were registered for speedwatch and a rota would be set up. He had also registered for a new initiative, 'crime prevention in a box'.
- iv. Cllr James advised that footpaths were in order.
- v. Cllr Barnwell provided an update on Neighbourhood Watch.
- vi. Cllr Isabelle James provided an update on her role as Climate & Nature Champion. A further NCALC meeting would take place in February.

25.130 To consider Councillor's training needs:

Cllr Emily James would like to attend the Community engagement course and social media course. Cllrs Michael Procter and Isabelle James have received induction training. Cllr Barnwell would be attending a course on trustee roles.

25.131 To receive reports from Councillors following attendance at NNC meetings:

Cllr Barnwell reported on the Community Governance Review meeting.
Cllr Procter reported on the Highways meeting.
Cllr Spickett reported on the Repairs and Complaints meetings.

25.132 To receive items for the next Cransley Chronicle edition:

Items: Summary of meeting, Cransley Village Association and Book Club.

25.133 Date of next meeting- 12 March 2026

The meeting closed at 8.38 pm.

Signed Date