

**GREAT CRANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Annual and Parish Council meeting**  
**held at 7.00 pm on 14 May 2026**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Richard Barnwell Jane Mann Parish Clerk  
Cllr Stuart Ablett  
Cllr Amanda Bussey  
Cllr Emily James  
Cllr Isabelle James  
Cllr Michael Procter One member of the public  
Cllr Colin Spickett NNC Cllr Jim Hakewill

**26.1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from NNC Cllrs Brian Bennyworth and Chris Kellett.

**26.2 To elect Chairman of Great Cransley Parish Council**

A nomination for Cllr Barnwell was received from Cllr Procter and seconded by Cllr Spickett. A second nomination was received for Cllr Bussey, who did not wish to stand for Chairman this year. It was therefore resolved to elect Cllr Barnwell as Chairman.

**26.3 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form by Chairman**

Cllr Barnwell signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

**26.4 To elect Vice Chairman of Great Cransley Parish Council**

A nomination for Cllr Bussey was received from Cllr Barnwell and seconded by Cllr Emily James. It was resolved to elect Cllr Bussey as Vice Chairman.

**26.5 Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form by Vice Chairman**

Cllr Bussey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

**26.6 Public session**

There were no items received.

**26.7 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. All Councillors have completed NNC register of interests.

**26.8 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting held on Thursday 9 April 2026**

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as accurate.

**26.9 Planning:**

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

**26.10 To receive an update on the neighbourhood plan**

It was reported that NNC had not yet completed their quick review prior to NPiers health check.

**26.11 To receive reports from North Northants Councillors:**

Cllr Hakewill provided an update on NNC issues. He reported that Cllr Kellett was now a cabinet member. He advised that the time limit for creation of the local plan was an ambitious 30 months.

**26.12 Finance:**

- i. The clerk reported on the current financial situation. It was agreed that as the precept had now been received that the remaining funds from the Treasurers account at the year end, £2,276.81 would be moved across to the Contingency account.

Neighbourhood Plan account	£558.49
Treasurers account	£14,373.85
Contingency account	£10,424.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>£25,356.95</b>

- ii. Cllr Bussey was appointed as internal control officer. Proposed by Cllr Ablett and seconded by Cllr Emily James.
- iii. Bank signatories were re-approved.
- iv. A list of due payments that arose on a regular basis were presented to Councillors and these were authorised for the year ahead provided that budgetary controls were adhered to:
  - Clerk's salary and statutory deductions
  - Clerk's expenses- working from home allowance £20 per month, stationery and printing
  - Insurance
  - NCALC, ICO and NACRE subscriptions
  - Website costs
  - Printing costs
  - Poppy wreath
  - Training costs

Previously authorised payments made following the last meeting were reported:

  - Community Heartbeat £162
  - NACRE Training RB £30
  - SLCC subscription £100
  - Clerk's April salary £449.56 and HMRC statutory deductions £133.91
  - Clerk's expenses for April £23.24
- v. A schedule of payments due was authorised:
  - Clerk's salary and expenses and HMRC statutory deductions May
  - Refurbishment of notice board £462.31 (from contingency funds)
  - Amanda Bussey-stationery £6.66
- vi. The insurance renewal with Zurich was approved but will need to be amended for new assets.

#### **26.13 Governance:**

- i. Great Cransley Parish Council certified themselves exempt from a limited assurance review.
- ii. The certificate of exemption was approved.
- iii. The Annual Internal Audit and Internal Audit reports were received and recommendations noted.
- iv. The Annual Governance Statement for 2025/26 was approved.
- v. The Annual Accounting Statement for 2025/26 was approved.
- vi. The Exercise of Public rights will be from Wednesday 3 June Tuesday to 14 July 2025.
- vii. Governance Policies and documents were reviewed and re-adopted:
  - Financial Regulations
  - Standing Orders
  - Scheme of delegation
  - NNC Code of conduct

#### **26.14 Progress reports from previous meetings:**

- i. It was agreed that Cllr Barnwell would speak to the home owners regarding the shrubs obscuring the vehicle activated sign on Broughton Hill. Cllr Hakewill would follow up on the other overgrown shrubs affecting painting of the lamp posts in Church Lane. **Action point RB and JH**
- ii. No further updates on the purchase of another bin in Bridle Way-**BB**.
- iii. Cllr Spickett reported that the paving issues outside 8 Loddington Road were finally resolved.

#### **26.15 To receive an update on village matters:**

Further village maintenance work was on hold until painting was complete.

#### **26.16 To receive an update from Parish Councillors on their specific roles:**

- i. Councillor's roles for the new year were confirmed. There was one change in that Cllr Procter was appointed to take on the role of Highways Officer.
- ii. Cllr Bussey provided an update on Highways, parking and lighting issues.
- iii. Cllr Ablett provided an update on the defibrillator.

- iv. Cllr Spickett provided an update on speedwatch.
- v. Cllr Emily James had nothing further to report on Footpaths.
- vi. Cllr Barnwell provided an update on Neighbourhood Watch.
- vii. Cllr Isabelle James provided an update on her role as Climate & Nature Champion.

**26.17 To consider Councillor's training needs**

Cllr James would still like to attend the Community engagement course and social media course.

**26.18 To receive items for the next Cransley Chronicle edition**

Items: Summary of meeting, Exercise of Public Rights, Councillor roles, Book club and Tresham Benefice.

**26.19 Date of next meeting- 11 June 2026**

It was decided that there would be no Parish Council meetings in August and December.

**The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.**

Signed ..... Date .....