

GREAT CRANSLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Parish Council meeting
held at 7 pm on 8 October 2026

PRESENT: Cllr Richard Barnwell Jane Mann Parish Clerk
Cllr Amanda Bussey
Cllr Emily James
Cllr Colin Spickett One member of the public

26.68 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Stuart Ablett, Isabelle James and Michael Procter. In addition, NNC Cllr Jim Hakewill.

26.69 Public session

A member of the Neighbourhood Plan Committee attended to advise the Parish Council that he still held considerable Neighbourhood Plan material, two maps and 18 boards, which he was willing to store until needed.

26.70 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 and there were no changes to report.

26.71 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting held on Thursday 10 September 2026

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as accurate.

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

It was reported that NNC had now informally reviewed the plan. The clerk had shared their findings with Joanna Mowat and they had worked through the comments and categorised them into those requiring action by a planning consultant and those that could be actioned by the Parish Council. It was pointed out that any actions related to national or local planning would be a task they have to do regardless of the progress of the plan. Cllr Barnwell reported that he had attended the NCALC conference and there was a guest speaker from ONH Planning for Good. It was agreed that the clerk should seek assistance from them. **Action point -JM**

26.73 Planning:

- i. There were no new planning applications since the last meeting.
- ii. Existing applications for tree work in Church Lane and change of use for Bottom Lodge had been approved. There were no updates on planning enforcement issues.

26.74 To receive reports from North Northants Councillors:

- i. There were no NNC Councillors present. Cllr Barnwell reported that he would be attending the next Local Area Partnership meeting.
- ii. Cllr Bennyworth had been chasing up NNC regarding the new litter bin. Their response however had been very disappointing.

26.75 Finance:

- i. The clerk reported on the current financial situation. Bank statements were available to Councillors to reconcile figures if required but it was noted that Cllr Bussey regularly reconciled figures with bank statements. Bank balances were now:

Neighbourhood Plan account	£559.66
Treasurers account	£7,603.06
Contingency account	£12,263.49
Total	£20,426.21

- ii. Previously authorised payments made following the last meeting were reported:
 - Clerk's September salary (including arrears) £538.50 and HMRC statutory deductions £173.24
 - Clerk's expenses for September £23.24
- iii. A schedule of payments due was authorised:
 - Clerk's salary and expenses and HMRC statutory deductions for October
 - NCALC Training courses

- Stationery items
- iv. The clerk reported that she was making a VAT reclaim of £645.62.
- v. In preparation for the 2027-28-year budget:
 - The clerk reported that NNC had provided their service level agreement for maintenance of the playground, which had been shared with councillors. Cllr Spickett advised that Rushton Parish Council were in a similar position as Great Cransley and Loddington. It had been suggested that if councils worked together this may reduce maintenance costs. It was agreed to hold fire with the service level agreement until further information was available. **Action point-CS**
 - Further painting work was required on village signage. John the Paint would be approached for a quote. **Action point-CS/AB**
 - Replacement of remembrance soldier figure for 2027. **Action point-RB**

26.76 Governance:

New policies were approved and adopted:

- Publication Scheme
- Complaints policy
- Data Protection policy
- Data Breach policy
- Records retention policy
- Subject access request

26.77 Progress reports from previous meetings:

- i. It was disappointed to note that the village mowing schedule had still not been resolved as NNC had not contacted Cllr Barnwell to arrange a visit as promised. **Action point JM to follow up**
- ii. This had been dealt with at agenda point 26,74.ii.
- iii. Following the last meeting and message in the Cransley Chronicle councillors were pleased to report that the anti-social behaviour (motorcycle and racing cars) had ceased.

26.78 Village matters:

- i. The clerk had provided councillors with two quotes for playground equipment surveys. It was decided to proceed with the quote from Wicksteed, which was a local company.
- ii. Cllr Barnwell provided an update on the Village Hall. He advised that the garage was being cleared out in order that it could be used for storage.

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

- i. Cllr Procter had not provided an update on Highways, parking and lighting.
- ii. Cllr Ablett had not provided an update on the defibrillator
- iii. Cllr Spickett was thanked for providing an update on his Police Liaison role.
- iv. Cllr Emily James would check on footpaths under the A43 bridge.
- v. Cllr Barnwell provided an update on Neighbourhood Watch. He had attended the annual conference.
- vi. Cllr Isabelle James had not provided an update on Climate and nature.

26.80 To consider Councillor's training needs:

Cllr Isabelle James had undertaken the project training. Cllr Spickett was due to attend training on organising public events.

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

Cllr Barnwell reported that he had attended the NCALC AGM and that he would be attending the next Local Area Partnership meeting.

26.82 To receive items for the next Cransley Chronicle edition:

Items: Summary of meeting; the Cransley association, Tresham Fellowship and speed watch update, and arrangements for Remembrance Day.

26.83 Date of next meeting- 12 November

The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.

Signed Date