

**GRATELEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING – 7 APRIL 2026**



DRAFT - MINUTES

Item	Agenda Item
1	Cllr Wingfield welcomed everyone to the meeting at 7.30 pm.
2	Attendance & apologies for absence – apologies received from Cllr Flood and Cllr Donnelly – All councillors + 10 members of public present.
3	Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to items on this agenda – none declared.
4	Approval of draft minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2026 Clerk reported that she had mistakenly deducted monies for the brushcutter purchase from the lengthsman ear-marked funds in her update to the March meeting. This expenditure was met by a councillor grant and should not have been deducted from the ear-marked lengthsman monies. Lengthsman ear-marked funds have now been amended to £2000 from £1307.78 – the figure previously reported. Minutes formally approved with that amendment noted.
5	Action updates from meeting held on 3 March 2026 – action updates provided at relevant point on agenda.
6	County Councillor’s update – Cllr Donnelly had sent apologies and no update circulated prior to meeting.
7	Borough Councillor’s update - The full TVBC update and further details and links can be found on both the PC & TVBC websites, Cllr Hasselman provided updates on the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Government Reorganisation decision has been announced with the majority of the Test Valley set to become part of a new mid Hampshire Council.</li> <li>• Climate Change Grant launched for a second year – available to community groups and other not-for-profit organisations.</li> <li>• Community Councillor Grant has re-opened for applications.</li> <li>• Community Delivery Fund continues to support local groups to improve community spaces.</li> <li>• Tails Exploring Trails initiative will come to Bury Hill Meadows on 21 May – dog &amp; owner engagement event hosted by TVBC’s Animal Welfare Officers – places limited to 8 x places.</li> </ul>
8	TVBC Community Engagement Officer’s update – not present.
9	Clerk’s update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Vacancy – application for co-option received very recently – this application along with any further received will be considered and co-option will take place at the May meeting of the Parish Council.</li> <li>• Lengthsman Works – clerk has met with a number of contractors over the last few weeks with another couple to meet – awaiting quotes – update to be given at next meeting.</li> <li>• Speed Indication Devices (SID’s) – HCC Highways met with Highways Group volunteers to inspect suggested sites. Awaiting their assessment and detail of any equipment eg posts, extensions, brackets etc that may be required and costs.</li> <li>• Speedwatch Grant – the Hampshire &amp; Isle of Wight Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner grant application was successful, grant paperwork has been signed by Vice Chair and Clerk and returned. Funds awaited – no date confirmed, but anticipate receipt prior to the end of April.</li> </ul>
10	Financial update incl bank reconciliation & formal approval of payments

	<p>The bank balance as at 31 March 2026 is £5068.87, of which £1405.32 is being held for S Duffield (charity monies), £600 is ear-marked for NDP work and £2000 is ear-marked for lengthsman duties. Bank reconciliation to bank statement was checked and signed.</p> <p>The following payments were approved:-  18 March - £291.08 – TVBC for dog bin emptying 2025/26  20 March - £300.00 – HCC for SID site assessment fee</p>
11	<p>Planning applications</p> <p>Applications received since last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26/00669/FULLN – Kestrel, Station Road – demolish garage &amp; outbuilding, erect single storey rear extension and raise roof to form 3 bedrooms &amp; bathrooms with new dormers to enlarged roof space – response date 21 April 2026 – councillors agreed that there were no objections to this application.</li> <li>• 26/00642/FULLN (application received after publication of agenda) - Southdene, Cholderton Road – raise flat roof over existing side extension and provision of external cladding – response date 23 April 2026 – councillors agreed that there were no objections to this application.</li> </ul> <p>Updates on applications since last meeting:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26/00185/FULLN – Units 4 &amp; 5 Grateley Business Park, Cholderton Road, Grateley – current – will go to Northern Area Planning Committee – date to be confirmed</li> <li>• 26/00269/FULLN – White Gates, Old Stockbridge Rd, Over Wallop – demolition of existing dwelling and erection of self-build house &amp; associated landscaping/works - current</li> </ul>
12	<p>Locke Close Play Area update – weekly inspections taking place. Padlock on works access gate installed. Grass will need cutting as soon as contractor appointed.</p>
13	<p>Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) update – The Grateley Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group (GNDPSG) are arranging to meet with TVBC officers who may be able to offer some support to complete the Neighbourhood Plan. At this meeting the group will assess works still to be completed and estimated timescale/costs involved. Update to be provided at a future meeting. The Palestine &amp; Grateley Station Futures Group (P&amp;GSFG) updated councillors that they had met with the GNDPSG recently where they confirmed to the GNDPSG that they would be developing a Character Appraisal and Design Code (CADC) for Palestine &amp; Grateley Station and also offered support to the GNDPSG in producing similar for Grateley Village. Members of the GNDPSG would consider this offer and who would be best placed to take on this piece of work going forwards now that Jane Lynch had resigned as the lead. The P&amp;GSFG informed the meeting that the CADC for Palestine &amp; Grateley Station would be completed at pace with the potential for that to be used to inform any speculative planning applications that may be received prior to the finalisation of the TVBC Local Plan 2042.</p>
14	<p>Highways Update – Speedwatch group are awaiting approval for the intended deployment sites from Hampshire Constabulary. Cllr Hasselman advised that she would make contact with them requesting a response as quickly as possible. As soon as the grant monies are received the group are keen to start. A request was made of the Clerk to check that the equipment would be covered under the PC insurance policy. <b>ACTION – Clerk to check insurance policy.</b></p>
15	<p>Village Hall Update – Cllr Bradford reported that bookings are up year on year. AGM next week for the hall committee. Skittle ally has been refurbished and is available for use.</p>
16	<p>Correspondence received – Clerk advised no correspondence received.</p>
17	<p>Public participation/questions/comments – member of public asked why the Parish Council pay for the village hall BT line – Cllr Bradford advised that the internet connection is part of the community resilience plans and that the Council agreed to fund on that basis.</p>

18	Dates of Future Meetings:- Tuesday 5 May 2026 @ 7.30 pm – Annual Parish Meeting followed by Annual Council Meeting
19	Close of meeting – the meeting closed at 8.15pm