

# Crowland Parish Council

## Minutes of Full Parish Council Meeting

**Monday 2 June 2025 at 7pm in Crowland Community Hub, Hall Street, Crowland**

**Present:** Cllrs. Bryan Alcock, Reg Boot, Jon Boor, Peter Davis, Annette Williams, Darren Warner, Katie Pepper, Graham Searle, Cathi Elphee, Jay Levesley & Jordon Bloom

**Also in attendance:** G Hawkes Clerk (minute taker).

**27) Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs David Kempton & Jack Turner. Dist Cllr Angela Harrison.

**28) Declaration of Interests** – Cllrs Boor & Alcock pecuniary re Land rent review  
Cllrs Elphee, Williams, Pepper & Alcock non pecuniary re Land rent review.

**29) To approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 12 May 2025**  
**Min ref 20 add or surveyor after the word consultant.**  
**Proposed by Cllr Boor, seconded by Cllr Davis – all agreed**

		Action
<b>30. To receive an update on progress &amp; resolutions for the meeting held on 12 May 2025.</b>		
	<p><b>Amenities:</b> The Clerk is liaising with Crowland Town F C to arrange an update meeting regarding the goals storage. The Clerk has had a meeting with M Beardsure to discuss the Abbey Clock and will request an update.</p> <p><b>Farms and Gardens:</b> The Clerk is liaising with National Grid to relocate the allotment electricity supply and discuss the cemetery extension, a site meeting will be arranged West Street bus stop, to be progressed.</p>	
<b>31. Chairman's Report.</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. He again thanked all involved in the VE day celebrations. The Mayoral Authority and new LCC are keeping a low profile at the moment. Work by Highways on the A16 to Radar Corner and the new surface work in the town are welcomed. Anti-Social behaviour remains an issue with a minority causing problems. HGV traffic along West Bank and Deeping High bank is causing a problem, the County Council and Environment Agency ought to be concerned at the situation (members agreed for the Clerk to write to see if the offending traffic can be rerouted. The Meridian public consultation was well attended and after a further meeting with their representatives, the Council now needs to consider our response to the latest proposals.</p>	
<b>32. Amenities Committee.</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed to members prior to the meeting. Cllr Searle confirmed that there is a meeting with the Sealed Knot reenactment to clarify the insurance and risk assessment position on 3 June. The next committee meeting is on 16 June.</p>	
<b>33. Finance and Admin Committee</b>		
	<p>To consider the Chairmans report and any recommendations therein. A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Minutes of the finance meeting last week will be provided before the next full council meeting. The Chairman reported that the accounts for the financial year 2024-25 had been completed. The internal auditors report has been received and recommends that reviewing the AGAR Section 1 boxes 1,4,5,6, and 8 are positive. Boxes 2,3 and 7 are negative. Box 2 and 3 as the purchase of the new gator was not accurately recorded and Box 7 relating to the regular review of financial controls. This is also reflected in his internal report with negatives in boxes B and L.</p>	

	<p><b>Proposed by Cllr Boor– Seconded by Cllr Davis- and all agreed.</b> Members then reviewed and approved the Statement of Accounts (section 2). Members agreed that the Chairman sign the annual return as approved. The Clerk will submit the audit and publish the relevant public notices.</p> <p><b>Proposed by Cllr Davis– Seconded by Cllr Elphee- and all agreed.</b></p>	
<b>34. Accounts for Payment.</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. To note bank balances and investments at 27.05. 2025 Account ending 338     £ 590,932.68 Account ending 461     £ 14,302.79 Petty cash                 £        32.96 It was proposed, seconded and resolved,     (a) Orders for payment made in the sums of £ 26,152.85     (b) Incomes received in the amounts of £ 38,277.46</p>	
<b>35. Farms &amp; Gardens Committee</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. There were no supplementary questions Cllr Boor advised that a second battery operated strimmer had now been purchased.</p>	
<b>36. Planning Committee</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. There were no further questions. The Clerk will write to BP regarding Ambury Gardens once he has been advised of the Land Registry title number.</p>	<b>GJH</b>
<b>37. Safety &amp; Security Committee</b>		
	<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. The latest crime figures were briefly reviewed. Cllr Davis as the new Chairman will review the risk assessment procedures for the Council buildings and machinery operation. The repair to the children's playground area needs to be chased.</p>	<b>PD/GJH</b>
<b>38. Assets Working Party.</b>		
	<p>To consider the Chairmans report which was distributed prior to the meeting. Proposed Thorney Road development site – the developers propose to submit revised plans within three months. A decision from SHDC planning on the new cemetery has been received, a query will be raised on the bio diversity condition and the council will now start to comply with the pre commencement conditions. Confirmation of completion of the deed of grant with Anglian Water is being chased.</p>	
<b>39. Report a meeting with Meridian Solar and consider a response</b>		
	<p>The Chairman reported that a further meeting had taken place with representatives of Meridian Solar, and provided a suggested response to the next phase of the consultation. <b>Proposed by Cllr Davis – Seconded by Cllr Searle - and all agreed.</b></p>	<b>GJH</b>
<b>40. VE day – recommendation for a donation</b>		
	<p>Point Blank a new local band performed at the celebrations for free, Cllr Elphee suggested that a donation be made of £100. <b>Proposed by Cllr Elphee – Seconded by Cllr Alcock - and all agreed.</b></p>	
<b>41. VJ 80<sup>th</sup> year celebrations</b>		
	<p>Cllr Elphee advised that there was nothing on the national websites. Locally it was suggested that the beacon be lit, including community singing and proclamation by the Town Crier which members agreed. A formal proposal will come forward from the Planning Committee.</p>	<b>CE</b>
<b>42. Matters to be considered for inclusion on a future Council Agenda</b>		
	Cllr Alcock reported that registration of the Council's land assets needs to be considered.	

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### CONFIDENTIAL

**“Closed Session”**

*The Public & Press were excluded from the meeting in accordance with the provision of Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960). The items to be discussed being of a confidential nature.*

43.	Cllr Davis suggested that the Council should mark the retirement of County Cllr Pepper and recognise his contribution to Crowland, this was agreed by members and he will progress.	Action PD
44.	Cllr Boor reported that our landlord the Sommerly Estate has served notice of a rent review. In order to protect our position in case of an uplift we need a plan in respect of our tenants. Members noted this and the Farms & Garden committee will consider and a proposal to Full Council	JB
45.	Sexual harassment – the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Chairman had attended a training course on the subject. The Council will need a simple policy and training plan for members and staff to be made aware, Cllr Williams and the deputy clerk will progress.	AW/TC
46.	The HR committee has recommended that a workman, who is due to have a hip replacement, be paid one month on full pay, then two months half pay then revert to SSP in month four. <b>Proposed by Cllr Boor, seconded by Cllr Williams, with two abstentions this was agreed by members.</b>	
47.	The HR committee have reviewed the senior clerks hours following the resignation of the RFO. They recommend that the senior clerks hours be increased to 85 hours per month from 01/05/2025. Consideration was also given to using the St Johns room as a private office area/meeting room. <b>Proposed by Cllr Warner, seconded by Cllr Elphee and agreed by all.</b>	

**The meeting finished at 9.10 pm.**