

Crowland Parish Council

Minutes of Full Parish Council Meeting

Monday 11 August 2025 at 7pm in Crowland Community Hub, Hall Street, Crowland

Present: Cllrs. Bryan Alcock, Reg Boot, Jon Boor, Peter Davis, Annette Williams, Graham Searle, David Kempton, Jordon Bloom, Cathi Elphee, Darren Warner & Peter Stowe.

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

62) Apologies for Absence – Cllrs Jay Levesley, Katie Pepper & Jack Turner.

63) Declaration of Interests – Cllr Searle – re SHPVCS – non pecuniary

64) To approve the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – 7 July 2025

Min ref 57 should read Court not Road

Confidential minutes should read Peter Stowe, not Peter Snow.

Proposed by Cllr Boot, seconded by Cllr Bloom – all agreed, Cllr Kempton abstained.

		Action
65	To receive an update on progress & resolutions for the meeting held on 7 July 2025.	
	There have been ongoing issues regarding heavy lorries using Deeping Bank and the A1073, although the contract may have ended the damage to the bank needs to be reported on Fix My Street	GJH
66.	Chairman's Report.	
	A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Co-opted Cllr Stowe was welcomed to his first meeting. Following the meeting on the 30 June when representatives of the council met with SHDC regarding the future of CCTV we still await a full report. The Government re-organisation progresses slowly with various options being considered. Thanks were given to Paul for keeping on top of the grass cutting and watering, also to Tina Croxford for covering the Senior Clerk's absence on holiday.	
67.	Amenities Committee.	
	A report was distributed to members prior to the meeting. The inspection of the adventure playground equipment has taken place and we await the report. The skatepark has also been inspected and remedial work will be arranged post the school holiday. The pavilion replacement of cladding will start week commencing 26 August. As reported following the last council meeting with CTFC about the goals storage a secure area has been created next to the Implement shed and the Scout Hut. The grinding of one tree stump has been done. A memorandum of understanding will need to be to be agreed with CTFC setting out the responsibilities of each party. Proposed by Cllr Searle – Seconded by Cllr Kempton - and all agreed. Cllr Kempton reported that a final report for the new pavilion has been received and is underwhelming so more work in house will be needed by the Working Party.	
68.	Finance and Admin Committee	
	To consider the Chairmans report and any recommendations therein. A report was distributed prior to the meeting. The local government pay award has been agreed at 3.2% from 1 April for our office staff. There is an updated version published of the Financial Regulations which will need to be considered against our own published procedures.	

69. Accounts for Payment.	
<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. To note bank balances and investments at 31.07 2025 Account ending 338 £ 566,094.12 Account ending 461 £ 29,569.94 Petty cash £ 32.96 It was proposed, seconded and resolved, (a) Orders for payment made in the sums of £ 20,831.50 (b) Incomes received in the amounts of £ 7,117.54 Proposed by Cllr Davis– Seconded by Cllr Elphee - and all agreed.</p>	
70. Farms & Gardens Committee	
<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. An allotment inspection is due to be completed, currently we have 10 full allotments and 13 half allotments vacant. Adventure playground – weeds around the perimeter need strimming. Paul and Stuart are keeping up well with the work and watering at the moment.</p>	
71. Planning Committee	
<p>A report was distributed prior to the meeting. There were no further questions. The expected planning application from Allison Homes for 80 new dwellings has been received and will need review by the planning committee.</p>	
72. Safety & Security Committee	
<p>The latest crime figures will be available at the next meeting</p>	
73. Assets Working Party.	
<p>To consider the Chairman's report which was distributed prior to the meeting. No payment has been received for work on the attenuation pond this will be chased. Quotes will be requested for work that is needed to comply with the conditional requirements on the Cemetery planning application. Proposed Thorney Road development site – the developers have requested additional time to submit the planning application.</p>	
74. VJ Day celebrations	
<p>Cllr Williams has done a promotional poster. Cllr Stowe is writing the proclamation. There will be a 2 minutes silence at the cenotaph. The Beacon will be lit as part of a low key celebration on the 15 August.</p>	
75. Activities on the Snowden relating to the Rock bus.	
<p>In the absence of any promotion it has been suggested that an event is planned for later in the year.</p>	
76. Matters to be considered for inclusion on a future Council Agenda	
<p>None.</p>	

Crowland Parish Council

Minutes of Full Parish Council Meeting

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.

Sexual Harassment training: all Councillors and staff require training on the new regulations, the Deputy Clerk is looking at options to source a third-party trainer. Two sessions will be organised one in the afternoon and a second in the evening. Proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Ephee and agreed by all.	Action TC
Senior Clerk and RFO appointment: The Chairman advised that VH was a suitable candidate as recommended by the HR Committee, we have now received two references. Proposed by Cllr Elphee, seconded by Cllr Boor and agreed by all (with one abstention) that the Council proceed with the appointment of the applicant with reliance on the probationary period to assess suitability as per the contact amendments recommended by the HR committee, Tracey Kingston will be asked if necessary to provide training support on the financial systems to the new clerk during her probationary period.	
Car park resurfacing: the Clerk sent out the specification in June, we have one reply and the outstanding requests are being chased. Alternative contractors will be invited to quote if there is any further delay.	
Somerley Estates: the Chairman reported that a planning application has been submitted Which includes some of the land we both rent and sublet. Members agreed that we should contact our land agent for advice. Cllr Boor as Chairman of the Farms & Gardens sub committee will progress.	JB
Fire Risk assessments: members were advised that three assessments had been received, these will be actioned by the appropriate committees liaising with the health & Safety committee to ensure all recommendations including as a priority the fitting of a new fire door and the self closing door in the parish office. Proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Elphee and agreed by all.	
Tennis court refurbishment: Cllr Searle and the Chairman advised that there was some concern about the receipt of three quotes although the contractor chosen was the only supplier of the surface in the UK. We need to consider if we have followed due process as per our finance regulations. There is also some concern about the sustainability of the proposed surface. Members were advised that for now the project is on hold and Playtop the contractor will be advised.	GH
The meeting finished at 09.50 pm	