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Graveley Parish Council Meeting Minutes
of the Full Parish Council taken on Wednesday 21st October 2026 at Graveley Village Hall, High Street, Graveley, Hertfordshire, SG4 7LB at 8.00pm

Council members present:	Cllr J Atkinson Cllr M Griffin – Chair Cllr H Lumley
In attendance:	D Galvan (Clerk & RFO to the Council) Cllr D Griffiths (NHC) Cllr S Jarvis (HCC)
26/072	**Apologies** Cllr J Risbridger
26/073	**Interests** Cllr Griffin made a declaration of interest for agenda item 26/077, with limited dispensation granted (agenda item 26/057(h)) and so that the meeting will not become inquorate, he will participate in the discussion/vote.
26/074	**Minutes** To confirm the Minutes of the Graveley Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 as a true and accurate record of proceedings. **Resolved**. Proposed by Cllr Griffin. Seconded by Cllr Atkinson, that these Minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and to be duly signed by the Chair. Unanimously agreed.
26/075	**Public Issues** A member of the public has mentioned the possible overpopulation of fish in the Graveley pond and whether that might impact the health of the fish. *Action: The Clerk will contact the relevant authority to see if they can come and assess this.*

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Graveley Parish Council minutes	Signed: _____
Meeting date: Wednesday 21st October 2026	Dated: _____

26/076	**Reports from County & District Councillors, Police and others** Cllr Griffiths reported that the Local Government reform had been paused indefinitely due to legal matters. He has written to the MP Alistair Strathern to ask to take stock of Parish Council powers. Local plan review was underway with briefings, meetings with developers. Cllr Jarvis reported the yellow lines have been painted on Oak Lane. The new SID is up in the area where the area was decided in the first place. Cllr Jarvis commented on a matter raised by the Clerk on a resident's behalf regarding the speeding on Church Lane and the damage to a fence caused. Cllr Jarvis stated that there might be some money at the end of the financial year to add chevron painted onto the road. He said that signs could go up but that would not necessarily stop speeding cars. *(See Clerks report for more info).*
26/077	**Finance** a) To authorise the payment schedule in accordance with the budget for October 2026. **Resolved**. Proposed by Cllr Lumley. Seconded by Cllr Atkinson, October 2026 payment schedule was authorised. Unanimously approved. b) To consider a grant application from Graveley Village Hall for air conditioning. Councillors discussed the request and agreed to support the grant application as it was in the community interest. It was agreed that the sum of £750 would be added to the budget/precept for 2027/2028 for this grant and therefore would be available in April 2027. *Action: Clerk to b/f to include on agenda for April 2027 meeting.* c) To review draft budget 2027/2028. The Clerk presented the draft budget and the councillors discussed the items included. It was agreed to increase the grass cutting at the playground by a further £100 to accommodate some additional grass cutting that might be needed for 2027/2028. With that amendment, the councillors agreed to vote on the 2027/2028 budget. **Resolved**. Proposed by Cllr Griffin. Seconded by Cllr Lumley. The 2027/2028 budget was approved. Unanimously approved.

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26/078	**Planning** a) Feedback from Cllr Lumley from the new local plan consultation meeting on 29th September 2026 at North Herts offices. In summary: Planning officers will make more decisions themselves and not via the Planning committee. In Graveley, 13.62 hectares identified for potential housing and commercial use, named as Land South of Ashbrook Gardens. An S106 officer has been recruited so as to improve working with Parish Councils. Testing sites by January 2027, draft allocation by August 2027. North Herts 'drop in session': Tuesday 27th October 2.30pm – 5.30pm at Graveley Village Hall. Speak to Planning Officers in person. Comments to close on 24th November at 5pm. b) To consider planning applications received during the period (Thursday 15th October to Wednesday 21st October 2026). • 26/02392/FP - Land South Of 14, High Street, Graveley, Hertfordshire, SG4 7LB. Full Planning Permission: Erection of one detached self-build dwelling including parking, cycle store, bin store, Air Source Heat Pump, alterations to ground levels and soft and hard landscaping. • 26/02602/PIP - Permission in Principle: Erection of up to 7 dwellings Land West Of High Street, Graveley, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG4 7LE.
26/079	**Review of Litter Picking Service Provision – Update from Councillors** Cllr Lumley said that the litter picker wished to stop working for the GPC. Options were discussed and the possibility of having village litter picking mornings whereby volunteers/residents help to keep the village tidy. It was agreed that Cllr Lumley will personally thank Paul again on behalf of the GPC for his service over the years.
26/080	**Graveley Parish Council meetings for 2027 - The following dates were agreed:-** Wednesday 20 January 2027 Wednesday 17 February 2027 Wednesday 17 March 2027 Wednesday 21 April 2027 Wednesday 19 May 2027 Wednesday 16 June 2027 Wednesday 21 July 2027 Wednesday 15 September 2027 Wednesday 20 October 2027 Wednesday 17 November 2027 **Resolved**. Proposed by Cllr Griffin. Seconded by Cllr Atkinson that the above dates to be the scheduled full council meeting dates. Unanimously agreed.

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26/081	**Clerks report** • The following planning applications received over summer when the GPC were not able to meet were: 1. 26/01989/FP at Graveley Fruit Farm, Jacks Hill. 2. 26/01915/FP at Former Pavilion, Jacks Hill Farm, Jacks Hill, SG4 7EQ 3. Planning application refusal for Application No 24/02355/FP. Manor Farm dormer windows. • The clerk has sent the follow up Local plan presentation slides to the GPC and information regarding the new National Scheme of Delegation (NSD) briefing notes. • The Clerk raised the issues with the dangerous corner at Chesfield Graveley Herts SG4 7BN on Back Lane which becomes Church Lane. The road sign 'Chesfield' is by the resident's driveway and the fence is being hit by drivers coming at speed and not rounding the sharp corner. There have been 10 incidents over the years and I have been informed that each time, it has been reported to Highways/police, but no action seems to be taken. *Update: Cllr Jarvis will look into the possibility of having a chevron sign painted on the other side of the road to help as better signage of the bend at the end of the financial year.* • There is still an ongoing issue with flooding to the vehicular entrance, main road, and public footpath outside The George car park. This has been reported to Highways again. The Clerk is waiting to hear back from The George to confirm if there has been any remedial work done. *Update: Clerk has asked Cllr Jarvis for his support and given him the reference number.* • Stable Yard Close houses are being offered for Shared Ownership with priority to applicants who meet the relevant local connection criteria. This has been advertised on the web site and the Clerk has sent this information onto people that have previously made enquiries. • Digital AGAR to be launched next spring 2027. The Clerk has attended a Zoom presentation introducing this. • Elections in May 2027 for Graveley. • September's precept has been received from NHC.
26/082	**Items for consideration at next meeting** To suggest agenda items for the next meeting of the Graveley Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 16th January 2027. • Playground signage for meadow area.
	Meeting closed at 8.55pm

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