

Minutes of the Gawcott with Lenborough Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th March 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr White (Chair), Cllr Ulph, Cllr Bate, Cllr Tofield, Cllr Burgess and Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Gibbs and Buckinghamshire Councillors, Cllr Cornell and Cllr Fealey.

2. To receive declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 13th February 2025

The draft minutes were agreed unanimously and approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.

4. Public Participation Session

There were no members of the public present.

5. To receive updates from Buckinghamshire Councillors

There were no Buckinghamshire Councillors present, and no update was made.

6. Finance

a) To agree the March payment run as circulated

GAWCOTT WITH LENBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN March 2025

Payee	Detail	Amount
Replay Maintenance	Service agreement for all-weather pitch @ Richard Roper Fields	£1,921.50
Clerk	Clerk salary for February and any related expenses	£272.00
HMRC	Income tax for February	£68.00
Karen Richards	Cleaning of Pavilion for February & cleaning supplies	£164.97
	Total	£2,426.47
To be paid by Direct Debit/Standing order		
Bucks Council	Commercial waste removal	£27.10
ARG Hall	Securing playing fields & unlocking/locking all-weather pitch - Feb 2025	£180
E-on Next	Energy supply at the Pavilion - 1st December 24 - 3rd February 25	£928.94
Perceptive Creations	Website hosting	£30.00
Bucks Council	Waste collection	£30.40
	Total	£1,196.44

Cllrs unanimously agreed to the March payment run.

Cllrs expressed their concerns about the high energy costs due to the heat pump at the Pavillion. It was agreed to add the heat pump to the action list to be looked at again in Summer 2025. The Clerk will send a copy of the latest energy bill to Utility Aid to see if they can come up with a better deal for us. **Action: Clerk**

b) To agree the accounts to 28th February 2025 as circulated

Cllrs unanimously agreed to the accounts to 28th March 2025.

7. Planning: To discuss planning applications.

a) 25/00311/APP 2 The Barracks, Main Street

Householder application for single storey rear infill extension to existing kitchen

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

b) Ongoing planning matters

To receive the written report about ongoing planning matters in the Parish

Cllrs noted the appeal refusal to the application at Poppyfields, Tingewick Road.

It was agreed that no additional comments would be submitted to the appeals for applications at The Old Barn, Lenborough Road and Hollow Farm, Buckingham Road.

c) Any other planning matters of relevance to Gawcott

There was nothing to report.

8. To report on any Highways, Footpaths & Footways and Lighting matters

It was noted that the Parish Council's HS2 road fund application has made it through to stage 2 of the selection process. The PC has requested an additional MVAS and road narrowing. We should find out if we have been successful by the end of May 2025.

Traffic lights by Red Lions House have been removed as HGVs coming in from this direction currently cannot reach Calvert due to works to the gas mains. HGVs will return at some point.

The HS2 depot tour that Cllr White and Cllr Bate attended previously was mentioned and both advised it was a very useful visit. They hope to attend again in the summer, and Cllr Ulph has asked to be included.

Drainage improvement work in Main Street has been delayed but is due to commence on Monday 17th March.

9. To report on any Maintenance and Environment issues

- a) To consider moving to Sovereign for the annual play park inspection and maintenance

Sovereign has contacted the Parish Council offering a 5 year inspection and maintenance plan for £399 + VAT. Cllrs asked the Clerk to reach out to the Clerk's Forum to find out if anyone else has used them and their experiences with them before we decide whether to change from RoSPA. **Action: Clerk**

10. To provide updates for the Pavillion, Playing Fields and Play Area

Cllr White advised he had received a letter from the football club expressing that they felt the Parish Council had been disrespectful when the recent inspection took place.

Cllr White advised that grass cutting is to take place in the next week or so and will include the play area.

Cllr Burgess mentioned that as the area around the gap between the fields near the footpath is extremely wet, more people are walking their dogs in the playing field and there has been an increase in the amount of dog mess being left behind. She asked whether the plastic matting we have could be cut and laid where the ground is wet, and gravel added on top. The Parish Council already has the materials available. Cllrs will look to assess how practical it is to do the work, and the Clerk will engage with the maintenance man we use for odd jobs to find out costs and availability. **Action: Cllrs/Clerk**

11. To report on any other Parish Council business

- a) To note that Buckingham Football Club Youth will donate £300 to the village hall as a goodwill gesture for the village supporting their tournament being held on 7th and 8th June 2025

Council noted the payment, and the Clerk will contact them to find out if they require bank details to make the payment. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr White will add the notice of elections to the noticeboards on 18th March. **Action: Cllr White**

Cllr Ulph asked if there had been any response to the email sent to Callum Anderson MP regarding the Gawcott solar farm “soft loans” to school. The Clerk confirmed there had been no reply and will now chase him up and copy in members of his support team. **Action: Clerk**

12. To consider moving to .gov.uk email addresses for all Cllrs and the Clerk

The Clerk will pass on Perception Creation’s details to our new website provider for them to investigate migrating our current emails and the cost to do this. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk will also contact Cloudy IT for a price. **Action: Clerk**

13. To receive reports from the village hall, solar farm and community group

Cllr White advised that village hall bookings are down and there will be a deficit in the finances. They have the funds to operate for another 2 years, and the Parish Council will need to consider stepping in at some point to help.

There was nothing to report for the solar farm.

The Community Group has 3 events planned. One is tea on the green in June with a raffle raising money for the village hall. A bingo and fish and chip evening will take place in September and the Christmas tree lighting takes place in December. The group is looking into the possibility of involving the school again and a meeting will take place with the headteacher. An application for funds to replant the planters will be submitted shortly.

14. To provide updates on meetings, events and training

Cllr Ulph has agreed to meet with the charity who own the allotments to discuss our requirements for a shed of 8x6 to house the pump and generator. Cllr Ulph will contact the Clerk with his availability over the next 2 weeks. Once a date is agreed, the Clerk will share with Cllrs. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Ulph asked the Clerk to pull together a matrix providing a simple summary of the financial regulations. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk will update the action list and share with Cllrs. **Action: Clerk**

15. Future meetings

- a) To note the date of future meetings
17th April, 12th June, 10th July, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November and 11th December (no meeting in August).

The meeting on 17th April will start with the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm, followed by the April Parish Council meeting.

- b) To consider the proposed new date for the May Annual Parish Council meeting - Thursday 15th May 2025

Cllrs agreed to the Annual Parish Council meeting taking place on 15th May 2025.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 20.57.

Chair: Date:

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