

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7:30PM

Present: Cllrs Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, Sally Jackson, Anne Tuley, Kam Sisodia (from item 64) and Tony Weaver (from item 76).

Also in attendance: Angela Hankins (Clerk) and one resident (for item 63 only).

63. Public question time: a resident of Thorney Road reported concern about the volume of traffic tailing back when the railway crossing barriers are down. Residents' driveways are often blocked by queuing traffic preventing entrance / exit to their properties. Waiting vehicles often leave their engines running causing an abundance of fumes. The problem seems to be worsening.
Clerk to contact the Highways department regarding the problems.
64. Apologies: Cllr Sisodia had advised that he would be arriving late. Cllr Weaver was representing the parish council at a meeting in Glinton.
65. No declarations of interest were recorded.
66. The minutes of the meeting of 15th September 2025 were approved and signed as a true record.
67. Correspondence:
- 67.1 Concerns re obstruction of entrance/exit by stationary traffic at the railway crossing, covered at 63 above.
 - 67.2 Clerks & Councils Direct – the anticipated October Edition had not been received.
 - 67.3 MAGPAS donation – a letter of thanks had been received.
 - 67.4 Deeping PPG – members were advised of the disappointing response to the submitted questions. It was agreed that the parish council would like to continue to receive an invitation to any future liaison meetings.
68. Planning matters:
- 68.1 Members noted planning application 25/01257/CTR for trimming of lower branches and thinning out of upper branches of 2no. Oak trees at Chapel View, Cottage Deeping Road and the response of "No objections" from the parish council.
 - 68.2 Planning breaches – Cllr Clark advised that he had not taken any action yet but would do so before the next meeting.
 - 68.3 Planning appeal ref: APP/J0540/W/25/3370685, Land South of Peakirk Road (24/00483/OUT – Gladman development). Members noted the submission of comments. It was advised that Glinton Parish Council would not be taking legal action due to the exorbitant fees involved. It was noted that a further objection had been submitted in connection with a comment from Anglian Water that sewage could be diverted to the Peakirk Pumping Station if there was insufficient capacity in Glinton.
Clerk to request a list of dates from Anglian Water of callouts to the pumping stations over the last two years.
Cllrs Clark and Jackson confirmed their intention to attend the Planning Appeal in November. Cllr Weaver also hoping to attend.
 - 68.4 Members noted comments submitted, especially on reinstatement of the grass verge, in relation to planning application 25/01204/REM for reserved matters approval of appearance and landscaping pursuant to outline planning permission 23/01652/OUT for a 3-bed detached dwelling on plot adjacent to 46 St Pega's Road. It was agreed that the development would need to be carefully monitored once started.
 - 68.5 Members noted the Peterborough Local Plan which had been circulated prior to the meeting.
 - 68.6 Asset of Community Value - Cllr Crowson reported difficulties in submitting the completed application electronically.
Cllr Crowson to send a hard copy to the City Council with a digital copy to the clerk or send to Cllr Clark to submit electronically.

68.7 There were no other planning matters.

69. Commemorative bench –Cllr Clark provided details of a 2-seater wrought iron Remembrance Bench and advised the cost £489 (including delivery) +VAT. It was agreed that the bench would need to be securely bedded into a concrete base.

Clerk to contact the resident who made the request for a commemorative bench to show the intended bench.

70. Finance:

- 70.1 Approval given for payment of Home Working Allowance and salary payment to Mrs A Hankins for October.
- 70.2 Members authorised payment of grass-cutting costs for June to October to Mr R Harding in the sum of £1,000, noting a reduced schedule with some areas uncut.
- 70.3 Reimbursement of £227.95 to Cllr Clark for the purchase of a reconditioned laptop for the use of the clerk was approved.
- 70.4 Authorisation given to payment of invoice from CAPALC in the sum of £25 for bitesize Good Governance training.
- 70.5 Members authorised payment of an invoice from pcvs in the sum of £36 for payroll expenditure July-Sept.
- 70.6 Cllr Clark requested that any proposals for items of expenditure to be included in draft budget for 2026/27 should be submitted to the next meeting.
- 70.7 Other financial matters: Cllr Crowson requested permission to attend CAPALC's Chairmanship Training – agreed. Authority was given for the purchase of 3 litres of preservative to be used on the wooden benches adjacent to the Village Green, anticipated cost £38.98.

71. Maintenance:

- 71.1 Maintenance items agreed at the last meeting – update:
- Cllrs Crowson and Tuley had tried to clean the white village entrance gates, but this had not been very effective. Cllr Sisodia offered to try white garden furniture cleaner on the gates on Thorney Road.
 - Cllr Weaver still to undertake painting of the metal posts.
 - Cllr Clark has bought fresh putty ready for maintenance of the noticeboard.
 - Cllr Clark has replaced 5 of the wooden bollards on the Village Green and is arranging for a friend to make 2 good bollards out of 4 rotten bollards.
 - Provision to be made in the budget for 2026/27 for the purchase of further replacement bollards.
 - The clerk advised that a £200 good will donation towards the maintenance of the Village Green had been offered by Bacton Logistics.
- 71.2 Maintenance items raised with Peterborough City Council – the clerk reported that a city-wide survey of bin location and usage was currently underway. A response concerning the replacement of the dog waste bin on St Pega's Road is awaited.
- 71.3 Dog fouling remains a problem.
Cllr Jackson to check for spare copies of No Dog Fouling posters and template.
- 71.4 Graffiti –the clerk advised that she had spoken with members of the Northern Police Team and would be submitting photos of the locations affected.
- 71.5 Grass-cutting – it was agreed that quotes for the grass cutting contract for 2026/27 should be obtained with a focus on a regular cycle of cutting. The clerk recommended that quotes from contractors with commercial/ council experience should be sought, rather than contractors with domestic garden experience only.
- 71.6 To note any other items of maintenance – a quote had been received from Mr Harding for the trimming of the Yew Hedge on the Village Green, as per the previous cut. It was agreed to accept the quote, the clerk to advise accordingly.

72. Report in relation to Village Hall Trusteeship – Cllr Crowson advised that the Village Hall Committee is considering legal registration of the land on which the Village Hall sits with the Land Registry. As an

unincorporated charity the Village Hall cannot hold property in its own name. Vesting the land with a custodian trustee avoids the need to update the land ownership every time individual named trustees are appointed or removed. It would be possible for Peakirk Parish Council to act as the custodian trustee, holding the legal title to the land, but without any management responsibilities. Alternatively, the Charity Commission provides a free Official Custodian service with the same role. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council would decline the opportunity to act as custodian.

73. Allotment report – it was reported that very little interest had been expressed regarding an engagement event.
74. Speed Watch / VAS data – Cllr Crowson reported that no Speed Watch had been undertaken in the village during the summer months and disillusionment with the police response remains.
Cllr Clark to try to mend the old police-issued sign for use as a back-up replacement.
Cllrs Tuley and Crowson to receive help from Cllr Clark in downloading data from the Vehicle Activated Speed Signs.
Cllr Sisodia reported that due to the current road closure on Thorney for works by Anglian Water, affected traffic was using Meadow Road. Cllr Sisodia is liaising with Anglian Water regarding signage.
75. Engagement Survey – Cllr Jackson was unable to provide any update. Cllr Sisodia proposed a Village App as the best means of communication with residents.
76. Councillor's reports: Cllr Weaver reported on the public meeting he had attended on behalf of the parish council in relation to the proposed Gladman (Glinton/Peakirk) and other proposed residential sites in Glinton. Peakirk residents are encouraged to support action to object to the proposals by attending the Planning Appeal Public Inquiry (25th to 28th November at Sand Martin House, Fletton Quays or via Microsoft Teams if moved online) and to report any individual incidence of problems with sewage, traffic etc (ideally with photos) to the Glinton Parish Council Clerk by email – clerk@glinton-pc.gov.uk. It was stressed that individual responses with individual addresses carry more weight. Cllr Sisodia suggested a video of traffic congestion be sent.
Cllr Crowson to post information on the Village Facebook page.
Those wishing to attend the Public Inquiry should register in advance with planningappeals@peterborough.gov.uk.
77. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 17th November.

The meeting closed at 9:26pm.