



GENERAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 (various sections), a General Meeting of Grendon Underwood Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Main Street, Grendon Underwood on

Monday 23 March 2026 at 18.30hrs

Prior to the meeting being formally constituted for Council business, the Chairman held a discretionary Open Forum, for contributions from Parishioners and other stakeholders attending, (under adjournment): Items requiring decisions must be deferred for inclusion in the next agenda.

Bucks County Councillor Fealey raised the following:

- The Bucks County Plan has now been circulated. There is minimum impact for Grendon Underwood except for the Lawn Farm development. Next key stage is July 2026 when the Public Consultations begin.
- Scams – Bucks County Council (BCC) have been working with Thames Valley Police and Trading Standards to help combat scamming. Cllr Fealey left two posters that have been produced to firstly help prevent incoming scam telephone calls and secondly, assist with the installation of door cameras. **ACTION:** Cllr Martindale to upload the posters to the website.
- Meeting summons – County Cllr Fealey requested that Council meeting summons are issued to County Cllr Fealey and County Cllr Mahon going forward. **ACTION:** Clerk to forward meeting agenda to County Cllr Fealey and County Cllr Mahon when meeting summons issued.

In a Parishioner capacity Cllr Fealey questioned the 17% rise for 26/27 in the Parish precept.

Cllr Moloney confirmed the Council has relied heavily on volunteers but now pay for services such as the playground maintenance (£973.00 per annum), as legally this must be professional and independent. Repairs also require funding. In addition, the Council pays for the churchyard mowing at a cost of £1750.00 per annum.

The precept has increased, for the first time in 13 years, from £20871.00 to £24675.00. 40% of Parish income for previous years has been received in grants which have been spent on community projects and maintenance. Across 476 properties within the Parish there are 908 registered voters therefore the £3804.00 annual precept increase is £4.19 per annum per person, which equates to only 8 pence per week.

In the new fiscal year, the updated budget will be added to the website.

1. Attendances

Councillors Present – Cllr Moloney (Chairman), Cllr Martindale, Cllr Scanlon, Cllr Jackman, Cllr Benfield

In Attendance – Clerk, County Cllr Fealey (part attendance. County Cllr Fealey left at 6.43pm)

Members of the Public present. None

Apologies. None

Declaration of Disclosable Interests – Cllr Benfield, mowing.

2. **Minutes of last meeting.** Minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2026 had been circulated and were deemed to have been read. **MINUTE:** Agreed unanimously. **NOTED:** Chairman signed 23 February meeting minutes. Cllr Jackman (Acting Chairman) signed meeting minutes for 26 January and 24 June 2025.

3. **Matters deferred from previous meetings:**

a. Updates to domain name (gov.uk) – Cllr Martindale sought agreement to the new domain name. **MINUTE:** Domain name of ‘GrendonUnderwoodParishCouncil.gov.uk’ was agreed unanimously. **ACTION:** Clerk to confirm with TEEC.

4. **Planning Applications:**

- a. Reserved Matters – new prison PL125/32256/CONDA: Ongoing. The next quarterly stakeholder meeting is to be held on 31 March.
- b. PL/26/0038/VRC – Studley House, Main Street – variation of existing permissions to allow a change of material for rear door and a change in roof pitch. **MINUTE:** no comments
- c. PL/26/01570/PIP – Land to the southeast of Ivy Cottage – application for permission in principle for the erection of the minimum of 1 and maximum 5 dwellings **MINUTE:** Objection submitted on 13 March.
- d. PL/24/00753/ Appeal ref 25/00069/REF Land to the rear of Orchards Cottage **NOTED:** Disappointing the appeal has been upheld
- e. Rosefield solar farm **MINUTE:** Objection comments submitted by Council
- f. S106 – **MINUTE:** The Orchards Cottage S106 is earmarked for the recreation area on the playing field and consideration will be given to the refurbishment of Grendon Underwood Village Hall for any future S106 monies.

5. **Finance**

5.1 Invoices/quotes:

- Grendon Computers Ltd £120.00
- Kompan £304.60

MINUTE: All approved

5.2 Grants: incoming:
Cllr Moloney thanked Cllr Martindale for submitting the project details for the Rectory Grant. Cllr Martindale proposed the sequence of events within the submission is used as the template for the procurement policy going forward. **MINUTE:** Agreed unanimously. **ACTION:** Cllr Martindale to update the Procurement Policy for agreement in May.

5.3 Grants: outgoing:
None

5.4 Allocation of S106 funding following appeal approval of 4 (d)
See 4 (f)

5.5 Asset register 2026 – 2027 approval to inform insurer. **MINUTE:** Approved unanimously. **ACTION:** Clerk to update insurer.

6. Environment

- 6.1 Playground lease – **MINUTE:** Unanimous agreement to adopt plans submitted by Cllr Martindale. **ACTION:** Cllr Jackman to contact Will Abbott to update the plan.
- 6.2 Village Gates – Reported on Fix My Street. Not a BC priority.
MINUTE: Maintenance not currently scheduled due to other priorities.
- 6.3 Litter Bins – Clerk confirmed the installation work will be given to contractors by the end of the month and should be installed imminently.
- 6.4 Mowing – there is a 3-year mowing contract, with Benfield Landscapes, running from March to October each year at a cost of £4870 per annum (including £1750.00 for the churchyard mowing). The contract is currently in year 2.
ACTION: Clerk to notify Church Warden that the Parish Council is entering year 2, of 3, of supporting the Church with the mowing.
- 6.5 Springhill – Cllr Scanlon confirmed the liaison with Thames Valley Police in connection with the abandoned vehicles is ongoing.

7. Biodiversity

Cllr Moloney attended a Biodiversity course on 5 March. The content was not particularly relevant as the Parish Council do not own any land except the field and pond behind the churchyard. One notable update was the mandatory inclusion of Biodiversity on Parish Council's meeting agendas. **ACTION:** Cllr Martindale to update the Biodiversity Policy.

8. Health & Safety

- 8.1 Review status of Church crossing progress – **MINUTE:** this is now at the consultation stage. The timeline to formulate a construction plan is currently subject to weather conditions.
- 8.2 Playgrounds Inspection - **MINUTE:** Kompan annual inspection has been completed, and overall risk rating is low. Cllr Jackman submitted February and March local inspections in hardcopy for filing.
- 8.3 Defibrillators Inspection – Cllr Moloney confirmed inspections have been completed and will be uploaded to The Circuit.

9. Stakeholders

- 9.1 Saye & Sele Foundation – **NOTED:** No response has been received to the e-mail sent to Grendon Underwood School on 25 February. The trustee vacancy remains outstanding.
Cllr Jackman confirmed there are no further updates from Saye and Sele.
- 9.2 Police – Cllrs Moloney and Benfield confirmed communications continue.

10. Personnel – Confidential Information

The Parish Council will make a resolution to exclude the public from this part of the meeting in accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

The Clerk position is now permanent.

11. Open Forum for Members Only (under adjournment) for Councillors to bring items to go on the next agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

Cllr Scanlon confirmed construction traffic for the new prison has increased significantly. **ACTION:** Cllr Jackman to raise the effective management of increased traffic at next stakeholder meeting.

12. Date of Next General Meeting - confirmed 27 April 2026 at 1830 hrs.
MINUTE: Annual meeting schedule confirmed.

Signed as a true and accurate record Dated:

Cllr K Moloney, Chairman

DRAFT