



Minutes of Great Barton Parish Council on Monday 15th June 2026 at 7.00pm

Councillor Maggie Dunn chaired the meeting along with Councillors, Peter Fisk Andy Baker, Gwyn James. Cllr Hopfensperger, and 1 member of the public were present.

1.	<u>Chairmans Welcome</u> Cllr Maggie Dunn welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone present that the public session is the opportunity for members of the public to raise any concerns. No fire alarms are scheduled, and the emergency exits were pointed out. Apologies received from Cllr Broughton i. There were no declarations of interest ii. No written requests for dispensation
2.	Open Public Session MOP queried if item 3 will be an open session as they would wait to speak then. Cllr Dunn confirmed it was.
3.	Update on Land North East Development Cllr Dunn reported that the temporary construction access had been approved by the Planning Committee and confirmed that the Construction Management Statement is now available on the planning portal. A member of the public expressed concern regarding the level of background reading and the absence of a site visit by some officers, noting that those who had previously supported referral subsequently changed their position. Cllr Dunn raised with Cllr Hopfensperger the issue of a councillor leaving part-way through the meeting and advised that, in such circumstances, a substitute should have been arranged. The following planning conditions were noted: Condition 57 (Construction Method Statement): remains open and there is still an opportunity to comment. A query was raised as to whether drainage matters have been fully considered. Condition 23 (Community Building): now states that the community building will not be delivered until the 900th home, rather than the previously understood trigger of 287 homes. This condition remains pending. Condition 71 (Traffic Calming): the requirement to “monitor” traffic calming has now been withdrawn. A member of the public requested that the Parish Council obtain and circulate the recent survey data referenced by Cllr Hopfensperger. Cllr Hopfensperger shared this during the meeting. MOP queried historic data, mentioned previously. Clerk to try to get via the Community Liaison Engineer. A member of the public asked that the Parish Council continue to press Vistry to engage more fully and integrate the development with Great Barton as per Condition 52. Clerk confirmed she has chase the community group at Vistry for an update.

	Cllr Hopfensperger advised she was happy to work together with this. Cllr James provided an update on the archaeological survey meeting we had with Vistry. And the support they were giving to undertake it. Chair Dunn advised a 2ft drop of a whole field was dug before they were able to do the archaeological dig. More information to be shared when we are able. Clerk confirmed a small article in the newsletter.														
4.	County Councillor Report from Cllr Hopfensperger Cllr Hopfensperger reported: • LGR being challenged with official letter of intent in from the administration for a judicial review. If you look on Essex challenge their document's show they are challenging not only the procedure but also the decision. This would cost circa £15,000 for just the letter. Although the work towards LGR is still going on, the speed has definitely slowed down. • Continuing to work with the Primary School with regards to safer walking to school with the new community engineer • Golden Garden meeting with Cllr Broughton in July following donation of equipment. • Barley Homes – Cllr Broughton attends as an observer (no voting rights) No update currently • Barking Dogs situation in the street has escalated and this has been raised internally at West Suffolk. Concerns over distress not only the barking. • Bin issues – Undelivered. Both Cllr Hopfensperger and Broughton have been working on this. Everyone should now have their bins. Cllr Baker advised there are bins constantly left out in the street taking up most of the pavement. Cllr Hopfensperger requested Clerk sent this to her to add to the complaint. Cllr Fisk queried Caravans at Thelnetham being used for immigrants. Currently an injunction is in place. Cllr Hopfensperger advised authorities are not involved in this locally. This is actioned centrally. MOP queried the small caddy's and compostable bags. Cllr Hopfensperger confirmed only the first bags are free and then Residents need to purchase bags moving forward. MOP queried the glass in the blue bin. Chair Dunn confirmed the reason for the paper and card in the Green Lid bin as it stops the contamination. The other items in the blue bin are not as easily contaminated. <i>Cllr Hopfensperger left at 20.11pm</i>														
5.	<u>District Councillor Report from Cllr Broughton</u> <i>Apologies received for Cllr Broughton</i>														
6.	To Sign the minutes of the Council meeting on Monday 18th May 2026 Cllr James proposed acceptance of the minutes to stand as an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded by Cllr Baker, agreed unanimously by those present.														
7.	<u>Council considered completed planning applications</u> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Grove House Livermere Road</td><td>DC/26/0335/HH</td><td>construct water feature in front garden</td><td>APPROVED</td></tr> <tr> <td>May Cottage School Lane</td><td>DC/26/0459/HH</td><td>a. single storey front extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) b. single storey rear extension c. first floor rear extension d. alterations to existing rear dormers to create one larger mono-pitched dormer e. alterations to fenestration to rear elevation</td><td>APPROVED</td></tr> <tr> <td>16 Downing Drive</td><td>DC/26/0519/HH</td><td>Single storey side extension</td><td>APPROVED</td></tr> </table>			Grove House Livermere Road	DC/26/0335/HH	construct water feature in front garden	APPROVED	May Cottage School Lane	DC/26/0459/HH	a. single storey front extension (following demolition of existing conservatory) b. single storey rear extension c. first floor rear extension d. alterations to existing rear dormers to create one larger mono-pitched dormer e. alterations to fenestration to rear elevation	APPROVED	16 Downing Drive	DC/26/0519/HH	Single storey side extension	APPROVED
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	1 Beech Park	DC/26/0595/TPO	two yew and one sycamore (marked T1, T2 and T3 on plan and within A1 on order) crown lift to 2.5 metres above ground level	APPROVED			
	1 Lodge Close	DC/26/0593/TPO	one Ash (on plan and with A1 on order) fell	APPROVED			
	Hi Ways, Mill Road	DC/26/0433/HH	render to all existing elevations b. one and half storey rear extension (following partial removal of one metre of existing outbuilding) c. infill of existing window to side elevation d. detached two bay cart lodge	APPROVED			
8.	<u>Council to consider the following planning applications</u> a) 18 Diomed Drive -DC/26/0687/HH -Householder planning application - a. cladding to front elevation b. widening of garage opening and replacement garage door c. replacement of existing front flat roof with pitched roof d. raising of retained flat roof to side elevation e. cladding to existing front and side elevations of garage f. insertion of door to existing ground floor south west elevation g. single storey side and rear extension following part demolition of existing extension. Cllrs resolved there was no objection in relation to this application. Proposed Cllr Baker, Seconded Cllr Fisk, all in favour.						
9	<u>Finance</u> a) Payments of Accounts and outstanding invoices. The Council resolved to pay the following Accounts. Proposed Cllr James Seconded Cllr Baker unanimous decision. Internet banking transactions entered by the Clerk, verified by Cllr James, verified and released by Cllr Dunn.						
	Inv Ref	Payee	Details	Power to pay	Pymt type	Total Invoice	VAT reclaim
	25	Jessica Langley	Monthly Salary up until 12th May	3	B/P	£1,055.71	
	26	HMRC	Ni & tax due previous month (after 6th before 22nd)	1	B/P	£130.96	
	27	Nest Pensions	Pension Contributions (paid 08/05)	1	DD	£39.44	
	28	O2	Clerks mobile phone contract	1	DD	£16.60	£2.77
	29	Unity Bank Trust	Unity Bank Service Charge Taken 30/06/26	1	SO	£7.00	
	30	Great Barton Thanks Giving Fund	Hall Hire - May - Full Council Meeting	3	B/P	£12.50	
	31	AMS	Conyers Green Grass Cut	5	B/P	£40.00	
	32	Citizens Advice Bureau WEST SUFFOK	Grant of £132 (Cheque 300052) 17/03/26 - 9.d)	3	Cheque	£132.00	
						£1,434.21	
	b) Responsible Financial Officer's Report including details of reserve budgets						
	<u>Bank balances</u>						
	Unity trusts Current Account			£5981.73			
	Unity Trust Savings Account			£101,621.28			
	Total balances			£107,603.01			
	Instant Access Interest			-			
	Moved from current account to savings account			-			
	Moved funds from Savings account to Current account			-			
	Credits received			Newsletter Advertising £100			

Payments made under S137*				None		
Reserves Balances						
GREAT BARTON PARISH COUNCIL RESERVES AS OF 12th June 2026						
RESERVE	AS of 12/06/2026	SPENT TO DATE	EARMARKED PROJECTS		CURRENT BALANCE	AVAILABLE TO SPEND
SMALL PROJECTS	£2,922.24	£73.00	None	£ -	£2,849.24	£2,849.24
LEGAL/CONSULT ATION*	£13,095.41		None	£ -	£13,095.41	£13,095.41
YOUTH PROJECT	£296.59		None	£ -	£296.59	£296.59
GENERAL	£12,657.47	£108.00	None	£ -	£12,549.47	£12,549.47
ALLOTMENTS	£60.00	£60.00		£ -	£0.00	£0.00
ASSET MAINTENANCE	£10,526.47		None	£ -	£10,526.47	£10,526.47
ASSET ACQUISITION	£10,847.61		(Precept Budget of £456)	£ -	£10,847.61	£10,847.61
ICEPITS WOOD*	£16,119.55		(Precept Budget of £2000)	£ -	£16,119.55	£16,119.55
S106 FUNDS	£10,024.00			£ -	£10,024.00	£10,024.00
TOTAL RESERVES	£76,549.34	£241.00		£ -	£76,308.34	£76,308.34
inc underspend						
c) Council approved PKF Littlejohn to be the external Auditors for the year 2025-2026. Proposed Cllr James, seconded by Cllr Fisk, Unanimous decision.						
d) Council considered the cost for replacement matta tiles that have failed at the playground, to be fitted FOC by MOP. Proposed Cllr Dunn, seconded by Cllr Fisk, Unanimous decision.						
10	Good Governance					
a) Members agreed to re adopt the LGA Code of Conduct without amendment.						
b) As part of the annual review, Council agreed that no changes were required and re-adopted the following policies without amendment: Dignity at Work; DSE Policy; Electronic Communications and Social Media; Environmental; Equal Opportunities and Diversity; Freedom of Information; Grant Awarding; Grievance and Disciplinary; Health and Safety; Internet Banking Risk Assessment Policy; IT Policy; Media Relations; Playground Accident; Pre-Planning Protocol; Sickness and Absence; Statement of Community Engagement; Suffolk Local Code of Conduct; and Website Cookie Policy.						
11	Non- Financial Items					
Cllr Fisk queried the status for the Schofield offer, and if we have contacted Suffolk County Farms for suitable land. Clerk confirmed we have confirmed we would accept a monetary gift in lieu of						

	land, but at this stage we haven't had a formal offer so not contact has been made with Suffolk County Farms.
12	<u>Chairman' and Councillor Reports</u> Footpaths: Cllr Fisk asked whether any update had been received from County Farms regarding the proposed new footpaths. The Clerk confirmed that no update had been provided to date, although Cllr Hopfensperger has also chased this. Cllr Baker recommended that the Clerk contact Cllr Vicky Armstrong or Cllr Jo Mason to progress the footpath suggestions. The Clerk advised that, in relation to Footpath 21, a positive update is hoped for shortly. Land North East Development – A143 Works: The Clerk reported that she had approached the workmen on the A143 following residents' concerns. The works were confirmed as fibre installation only, taking place for a couple of hours in the evening. The Clerk will request a village meeting with Vistry to help address residents' concerns. Highways – Vegetation Obstruction: Cllr James requested that the Clerk contact a resident on Fornham Road, and Highways, regarding overhanging branches and hedging that are restricting visibility for the ANPR Officer. Village Gates Installation: Cllr James confirmed that the final installation dates for the Village Gates are scheduled for 3rd July (concrete pads) and 7th July (gate installation). Cllr James advised a new post had been proposed for Livermere Road to support speed-monitoring. The second post was intended to replace the existing post on Mill Road with a taller version suitable for a solar panel. It is now considered that an extension to the existing Mill Road post would be more appropriate and cost-effective. If council agree it will be cheaper and Cllr James will need to apply to Suffolk County Council for approval. Council agreed a better solution overall. Cllr Fisk queried if we had received the breakdown for the skirting back. Clerk advised we did get it but not intime for the agenda so will be on Julys Agenda.
13	<u>Correspondence not covered elsewhere</u>
14	<u>Open Public Session – 10 Minutes</u>
15	<u>items to be carried forward to next meeting</u> Date of next meeting - Monday 20th July at 7.00pm for Full Council in the Community Room There being no further business the meeting finished at 20.45pm sign and date Print name Chairman Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.