

The Annual Parish Meeting of Grandborough

Clerk: Tracie Ball
59, Meadow Road, Wolston, CV8 3HL
Tel: 07957589626
Email: grandboroughclerk@outlook.com

Minutes of the Grandborough Parish Annual Meeting held On Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Grandborough

Cllrs present: Cllr Jackson, Cllr McArthur, Cllr Lee, Cllr McBreen, and Cllr Davies

In attendance: Tracie Ball, Clerk and 15 members of the public.

Cllr Jackson welcomed the members of the public

Start 7:30

1. **Apologies for absence**

RESOLVED: Apologies, County & Borough Cllr Dale Keeling, accepted

2. **To approve minutes of the last meeting held on 7th May 2024**

Proposed Cllr Jackson seconded Cllr Davies - Unanimous

3. **Matters arising from the meeting**

None

4. **Report from Borough Councillor**

None

5. **Report from Warwickshire County Councillor**

None

6. **Reports from other bodies (if any)**

Grandborough Trust: Tracey Pawsey reported that last year grants were given for education travel, winter payments, biscuits to others. There has been good engagement with lonely people in the village. The trust only give financial help to individuals. There is low response rate, and help was sought to advertise the

Trust. Newsletter. Games days? People want company. – is it because its online they don't know about it. Can PC help with leaflet?. Christmas cards have been sent previously with contact numbers. On Notice board and in newsletter. Charity Comm – only individuals not Groups

Kay Worrell, a trustee for the Trust, who sadly died last year, has been replaced by Phil Blundred as a new Trustee.

Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council

Appendix 1

7. Open Forum

Nothing to report

Meeting Closed 19.55

Appendix 1

Report from Chairman of Grandborough Parish Council – Year 2024-2025

6th May 2025

Street Lighting

There are 12 streetlights in the Parish, 7 of which have been replaced since 2022.

In 2024, 5 old style streetlights failed: - one by the Church, one on in front of the Hollies, one in front of Three Ways, one on Aikman Green and one by Hockley Close. All were replaced by more efficient LED lights at a cost of £6,307.23 net by Warwickshire County Council (WCC). Since then, another 2 old style streetlights have failed. No.1 outside The Old Vicarage and No. 9 opposite Woolscott Manor. WCC have been asked to quote for these. It is likely that these will have to be done next year for budgetary reasons.

Defibrillator

The defibrillator pads were replaced in June 2024. The new ones have a life of two years.

In 2026 the batteries expire, and it is recommended to replace the defibrillator with a new unit circa £1,500. If possible, I will seek a grant to cover this.

Grass cutting contract and Lengthsman Scheme

RP Hall and Sons took over the grass cutting for 2024 and did a really good job.

They came in with the best quote for 2025 and have been awarded the work for 2025. A revised specification was drawn up to include some extra areas which are now included.

Tim Williams did good work in 2024 with a revised specification and has been retained as the Lengthsman for the village in 2025.

Hedge and tree cutting

A village tree and hedge survey was conducted by myself In October 2024 and several quotes obtained for trimming the trees and cutting the hedges. The specification this time requires trees to be trimmed back by 2 m from overhead cables. A purchase order has been placed with Barges Branches to do the work in September 2025.

National Grid will switch off the power to enable the trimming of any branches near power lines.

Ditches

The Parish Council maintains 6 lengths of ditches. A purchase was placed with ATK Arboriculture to clear the ditches. However, they were unable to do the work, so Shire Forestry & Fencing cleared the ditches at a cost of £4,580.00 net in September 2024. They did a great job including replacing the timbers that shore up the ditch that runs in front of the Village Green.

A purchase order has been placed with Barges Branches, who were the cheapest, to do the ditches in September 2025. This time the work should be a lot easier. With regards to other ditches in the Parish, I contacted the Environment Agency and WCC's Flood Risk Management Team for advice on the best way forward. In essence it is the responsibility of the landowner who owns the land that the ditch runs in or abuts to. The landowner has a riparian duty for the watercourses on their land.

I contacted several landowners to remind them of their duties and managed to get the Flood Risk Management Team to write to those landowners whose land had ditches that flow into the River Leam on the West side of the village. After various discussions the owners of the main ditch running perpendicular to Hill Road did a great job in clearing that section of ditch. I would like to thank them very much for doing this work.

The remaining unowned section of the ditch running along Hill Road is due to be cleared by WCC's Highways team in mid-July 2025. Work has already started on this.

Precept budget

A precept of £14,709 was approved by the councillors for 2025-2026. This is an increase of £2,919 over the 2024-2025 precept of £11,790. This increase was required to meet the increasing costs of maintaining the parish such as: -

- replacement streetlights
- ditch works
- hedge and tree works.

Car Park on land opposite the village hall

The developer, PPH Management Ltd., is still to do the bell mouth driveway to the 9 new properties just outside Grange Farm and the dropped curb for the village hall car park. I have contacted the Principal Planning Officer at Rugby Borough Council several times to get this resolved along with some other matters and I am awaiting further information.

Litter pickers

A massive thank you to those who litter pick while they walk/cycle the roads and paths of the parish.

Shoulder of Mutton

The 5-year listing of the Shoulder of Mutton public house as an asset of community value, with Rugby Borough Council, expires in December 2027.

"Essence of India" has moved from Marton to the Shoulder of Mutton to provide take aways and restaurant meals at the pub since March 2025.

Methodist Chapel

The Methodist Chapel on Church Road has had planning permission approved to form a residential annex accommodation.

Church Road drain works

The drain gully in front of Chapel House is due to be redone as water is pooling around the new gully. The new surface water channel at the junction of Sawbridge Road and Church Road is to have a higher curb detail installed to prevent water from running down Sawbridge Road. Both are due to be done in the summer of 2025.

Woolscott to A45 road works

I have placed a request with WCC's Highways to have the potholes and road edges repaired. The work is programmed in to be done in 2025. The road is also due to be re-surfaced in the future.

Road culverts, gullies and causeway repairs

WCC Highways have jetted the 3 main culverts and road gullies in the village. I have pointed out that there are 2 more culverts that need doing (5 sections in total) and these should be done on the next round. The jetting will now to be done on a 6 monthly basis as opposed to usual 18-month period.

Parts of the causeway was repaired last year. I have reported that more repairs are needed. These are due to be done soon.

Telephone box

The telephone box book swap on Main Street seems to be getting good use and is a useful village asset.

Village benches

The 2 most recent benches were rubbed down and stained to help preserve them.

Village Planters

Many thanks to those who tend and look after the planters in the village.

Village Hall Trustees

Many thanks to the two Village Hall Trustees Jayne Gray and Richard Lee for their work. Heather McBreen has agreed to be a Trustee in place of Jayne from the 6th May 2025.

Grandborough Trust

Many thanks to Tracy Pawsey who is chair of Grandborough Trust for her work.

Parish Council

Many thanks to the Parish Councillors and the Clerk who make up the team for their time and contribution over the past year.

Tracie Ball, the Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) has resigned from the position. I would like to thank Tracie for the work she has done over the last year.

We have advertised the position for a new Clerk and RFO