GREATWORTH AND HALSE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the **Ordinary** meeting of Greatworth and Halse Parish Council, held in the Mission Hall, Halse on **Monday 22nd September 2025 at 7.30pm.**

PRESENT: Cllrs Bingham (Chair), Hewison, Lindop, Jackson, Robinson, Weller and the Clerk (R. Foote).
IN ATTENDANCE: 13 Members of the Public

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Smith - These were accepted. Cllr Robinson expressed a need to leave around 8pm.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **Approval and signature of the minutes of the annual meeting of 7th July 2025**
   These were approved and signed with no amendments made.
4. **Open Time:** One member of the public raised the issue of speeding in Halse. Questions were asked about the availability of speed data and whether access could be given to residents.
5. **To consider the Halse Village Association grant application for funds from the Solar Farm Grant**
   The application was withdrawn prior to the meeting; further information is required. A decision is deferred to a later meeting. Members of the Halse Village Association provided a brief update on their progress. **Cllrs Bingham and Robinson and the Clerk** to attend a separate meeting with the Halse Village Association.

Cllr Robinson left the meeting at 8.15pm

6. **Finance:**

   a) **To receive the Finance Report and consider invoices to be paid**
   The Clerk presented the financial report (see appendix A) which showed a balance of £32,323.17 and an expected balance of £31,687.11 once the remaining invoices have been settled. It was resolved to pay the following invoices:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	Rebecca Foote	Expenses	£94.06
2	Cheney Coaches	Banbury Bus	£290.00
3	PKF LittleJohn	Audit Fee	£252.00
		TOTAL	**£636.06**

   b) **To note the External Auditors report and conclusion of the 2024/25 audit**
   The Clerk presented the external auditors report which stated the council were working in accordance with proper practices, there were no causes for concern and no improvements were needed. All legislative and regulatory requirements were being met. The Conclusion of Audit Pro Forma was completed; review dates were set as 23rd September to 10th October 2025. The cost was set at £6.

   c) **To approve the payments to the Greatworth Charity, The Glimpse and Poors Close Charity.**
   RESOLVED: Payments of £500 to Greatworth Charity, £250 to The Glimpse and £250 to Poor Close Chairty were approved. **ACTION: Clerk** to arrange payments.

   d) **To approve the purchase of the village Christmas Tree and to set the budget**
   RESOLVED: There is no need for the purchase of a tree in Greatworth this year. It was agreed that Halse could purchase a Christmas Tree to be placed outside the Mission Hall. A maximum budget of £230 was agreed. **ACTION:** Halse Village Association to arrange the purchase of the Christmas Tree and submit an invoice for payment approval prior to December.

7. **To review the Small Village Grant Glimpse application received and vote on its approval**
   RESOLVED: A grant of £400 was unanimously approved; the £250 applied for plus an additional £150 as the Council felt extenuating circumstances applied. **ACTION: Clerk** to arrange the payment.
8. **To provide approval for the Clerk to use NCALC recommended Clear Utility in order to obtain best value for money with regards to the upcoming electricity contract expiration.**
   RESOLVED: It was unanimously approved for the Clerk to use Clear Utility and enter into the best contract available for electricity provision. **ACTION: Clerk** to arrange a new electricity contract with the best available deal.
9. **To discuss the replacement of the flower planters in Greatworth and Halse**
   Feedback was received that Halse did not wish to have flower planters however Greatworth did.
   RESOLVED: Cllr Bingham to arrange for Greatworth's planters to be renewed a budget of £300 (£50 per planter) was agreed. **Cllr Hewison** to obtain a majority consensus on whether Halse would like the planters to be renewed or removed.
10. **To review current planning applications and approve any formal responses**
    There are no current planning applications to review.
11. **Councillor Questions**
    Cllr Hewison asked who is responsible for cleaning the verges and ditches.
    Cllr Lindop asked if the moving of the Defibrillator could be added to November's Agenda.
12. **Date and location of the next meeting**
    The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 3rd November at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, Greatworth.
13. **Close**
    The meeting was closed at 9.05pm.

Signed_____ Dated_____
Councillor Simon Bingham, Chairman

GREATWORTH AND HALSE PARISH COUNCIL

APPENDIX A

This report was presented by the Clerk for approval by the Council on 22nd September 2025

Balance in Unity Current Account (07/07/25): £32,323.17
Expected TOTAL balance once invoices settled: **£31,687.11**

SO/DD payments made since 07/07/25:

	Payee	Description	Type	Amount
1	Yu Energy	Electricity (July)	DD	£350.78
2	Yu Energy	Electricity (July)	DD	£16.87
3	ICO	ICO Annual Fee	DD	£47.00
4	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card (July)	DD	£109.18
5	Nest	Pension Contributions (July)	DD	£63.11
6	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary (July)	SO	£1031.66
7	HMRC	Employer's NI	DD	£276.60
8	Yu Energy	Electricity (August)	DD	£360.45
9	Yu Energy	Electricity (August)	DD	£17.50
10	Nest	Pension Contributions (Backdated)	DD	£261.65
11	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary (August)	SO	£1056.74
12	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card (August)	DD	£47.40
13	Yu Energy	Electricity (September	DD	£367.63
14	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card (September)	DD	£108.21
15	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary (September)	SO	£1056.74

Payments received since 07/07/25:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	J Burnham	Bus Donations (July, August & Sept)	£135.00
2	Grantscape	Monies for Playground	£45,510.00

Payments to be approved on 22/09/25:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	Rebecca Foote	Expenses	£94.06
2	Cheney Coaches	Banbury Bus	£290.00
3	PKF LittleJohn	Audit Fee	£252.00

		TOTAL	**£636.06**

		2024-2025	
EXPENDITURE		**Budget**	**Actual**
1. Lighting		**8000.00**	**2401.62**
Electricity supply		7000.00	2401.62
Street Light Repairs and Maintenance		1000.00	
2. Parks & Open Spaces		**9470.00**	**5698.80**
Grass cutting		3300.00	
Playground equip. inspection		170.00	196.80
Playground repairs/replacement		3000.00	
Notice boards			1584.00
Bus Shelter maintenance		500.00	
Bins		1000.00	1584.00
Defibrillator			
CIL			
General Maintenance		500.00	2334.00
Devolution of services		1000.00	
Sinking Fund Money		900.00	
4. General Administration		**17908.00**	**10170.71**
Audit charge		400.00	
Clerk's salary		12000.00	5422.86
Office Expenses		1000.00	698.86
Election expenses			
Insurances/Subscriptions/Membership Fee		2000.00	1152.44
Training costs		1500.00	362.40
Meeting room rental		250.00	
Leaflets & Advertising			
Website		400.00	411.59
Traffic calming measures			
Office equipment			
Banking Charges		108.00	1206.95
Other		250.00	915.61
Grants		**3,800.00**	**1,330.00**
Grants to Village Organisations		900.00	
Prizes			
Free Bus		1300.00	580.00
S. 137		1600.00	750.00
CIL			
Projects			**37,924.89**
Playground Development			37924.89
Community Minibus			
National Events		500.00	
Total Regular Expenditure		**39178.00**	**67696.73**
Miscellaneous Expenditure		**1200.00**	**8894.79**
Transfer Out			
To Deposit Account			**900.00**
Other		1200.00	
Vat Paid			7994.79
Total Expenditure		40378.00	76591.52
INCOME		**86655.00**	**23502.44**
Precept		39895.00	22935.00
Interest			
Newsletter			
Grants+Prizes		45510.00	
Donations			567.44
Wayleave			
Vat Repayment		1250.00	
Misc Transfers In			
CIL			
Total Income		86655.00	23502.44

		Balance B/Fwd -1	28147.54		**28147.54**
08-Apr-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		17.63	28129.91
08-Apr-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		455.74	27674.17
16-Apr-25	Lloyds Bank	Adobe		19.97	27654.20
16-Apr-25	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		3.99	27650.21
16-Apr-25	Lloyds Bank	Virtual Landline		8.75	27641.46
16-Apr-25	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	27638.46
22-Apr-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1031.66	26606.80
25-Apr-25	HMRC	Employers NI		113.28	26493.52
29-Apr-25	WNC	Precept Payment	22935.00		49428.52
29-Apr-25	Nest	Pension Contributions		41.01	49387.51
30-Apr-25	Unity	Service Charge		6.00	49381.51
01-May-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	344.94		49726.45
02-May-25	HMRC	Employers NI		33.74	49692.71
06-May-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	38.50		49731.21
08-May-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		17.02	49714.19
08-May-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		396.43	49317.76
16-May-25	Lloyds Bank	Adobe		19.97	49297.79
16-May-25	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		3.99	49293.80
16-May-25	Lloyds Bank	SLCC Membership		245.00	49048.80
16-May-25	Lloyds Bank	Virtual Landline		8.75	49040.05
16-May-25	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	49037.05
20-May-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1031.66	48005.39
23-May-25	Nest	Pension Contributions		63.11	47942.28
28-May-25	Parish Online	Website Hosting		420.00	47522.28
31-May-25	Unity	Monthly Fee		6.00	47516.28
02-Jun-25	SLCC	Membership Fee Increase		22.92	47493.36
02-Jun-25	Transfer	Savings Transfer		900.00	46593.36
02-Jun-25	Cheney Coaches	Banbury Bus		290.00	46303.36
02-Jun-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Expenses		337.93	45965.43
09-Jun-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		17.23	45948.20
09-Jun-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		384.34	45563.86
13-Jun-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	49.00		45612.86
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	Adobe		19.97	45592.89
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		4.49	45588.40
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	Virtual Landline		8.75	45579.65
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	45576.65
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	Amazon -Office Supplies		15.67	45560.98
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	?Awaiting Bill to confirm		52.25	45508.73
16-Jun-25	Lloyds Bank	?Awaiting Bill to confirm		52.24	45456.49
20-Jun-25	Nest	Pension Contributions		63.11	45393.38
20-Jun-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1031.66	44361.72
20-Jun-25	DOCC Treecare	Tree work		1272.00	43089.72
20-Jun-25	DOCC Treecare	Tree work		1062.00	42027.72
30-Jun-25	Unity	Monthly Fee		6.00	42021.72
08-Jul-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		350.78	41670.94
08-Jul-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		16.87	41654.07
11-Jul-25	ICO	ICO Annual Fee		47.00	41607.07
11-Jul-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	40.00		41647.07
16-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	Names.co.uk		59.99	41587.08
16-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	Adobe		19.97	41567.11
16-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		4.49	41562.62
16-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	Amazon -Office Supplies		12.98	41549.64
16-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	Virtual Landline		8.75	41540.89
17-Jul-25	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	41537.89
17-Jul-25	Nest	Pension Contributions		63.11	41474.78
22-Jul-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1031.66	40443.12
22-Jul-25	Greatworth Methodist Chuch	Small Village Grant		250.00	40193.12
22-Jul-25	Brackley Hogwatch	Small Village Grant		250.00	39943.12
22-Jul-25	Marcus Young Ltd	Bins		1900.80	38042.32
22-Jul-25	NCALC	Training		42.00	38000.32
22-Jul-25	NCALC	Training		193.20	37807.12
22-Jul-25	NCALC	Training		127.20	37679.92
22-Jul-25	NCALC	Annual Membership		837.52	36842.40
22-Jul-25	Playsafety Ltd	RoSPA Inspections		196.80	36645.60
22-Jul-25	Cheney Coaches	Banbury Bus		290.00	36355.60
22-Jul-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Expenses		73.16	36282.44
24-Jul-25	HMRC	Employers NI		276.60	36005.84
31-Jul-25	Unity	Service Charge		6.00	35999.84
05-Aug-25	Rebecca Foote	Backdated Increase		239.48	35760.36
05-Aug-25	Greatworth Sports&Social Club	Small Village Grant		250.00	35510.36
07-Aug-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	51.00		35561.36
08-Aug-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		360.45	35200.91
08-Aug-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		17.50	35183.41
11-Aug-25	Nest	Pension Contributions		261.65	34921.76
18-Aug-25	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		4.49	34917.27
18-Aug-25	Lloyds Bank	Adobe		19.97	34897.30
18-Aug-25	Lloyds Bank	Virtual Landline		8.75	34888.55
18-Aug-25	Lloyds Bank	Amazon -Office Supplies		11.19	34877.36
18-Aug-25	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	34874.36
20-Aug-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1056.74	33817.62
27-Aug-25	Grantscape	Playground Grant	45510.00		79327.62
31-Aug-25	Unity	Service Charge		6.00	79321.62
08-Sep-25	Yu Energy	Electricity		367.63	78953.99
09-Sep-25	Wicksteed Leisure	Playground Replacement		15532.67	63421.32
09-Sep-25	Wicksteed Leisure	Playground Replacement		29977.20	33444.12
11-Sep-25	J Burnham	Bus Donations	44.00		33488.12
16-Sep-25	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card		108.21	33379.91
22-Sep-25	Rebecca Foote	Clerk's Salary		1056.74	32323.17