



GREATWORTH AND HALSE PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE REPORT 06/07/2026



MINUTES

of the **Ordinary** meeting of Greatworth and Halse Parish Council, held in the Methodist Church, Greatworth on **Monday 6th July 2026 at 7.30pm.**

PRESENT: Cllrs Bingham (Chair), Hewison, Jackson, Weller and the Clerk (S. Smith).

IN ATTENDANCE: 1 member of the public was present

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Robinson, Cllr Smith – these were accepted.

2. Declarations of Interest: None

3. Approval and signature of the minutes of the annual general meeting of 18th May – It was resolved that amendments were required to the attached financial report. The minutes themselves were considered to accurately reflect the meeting and the council's financial position. **Resolved:** To defer approval and signing of the minutes until the financial report had been amended.

4. Open Time:

J. Jones addressed the Council to outline their background, skills, and reasons for seeking co-option to the casual vacancy. **Resolved:** To consider the co-option at the next Parish Council meeting.

5.

a) To receive the Finance Report and consider invoices to be paid

The new Clerk does not yet have access to banks. Cllr Bingham is submitting any urgent payments in the meantime. The Finance Report will be shared with Councillors as soon as possible and will be up to date by the next meeting.

It was resolved to pay the following invoices:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	Forde & McHugh	Street Light Repair	£516
2	RoSPA	Play Area Inspection Fee	£208.80
3	SLCC	New Clerk Membership	£170
4	NCALC	New Clerk Training	£270
5	NCALC	Resubscription	£865.16
6	School	Small Grants Scheme 2025	£250
		TOTAL	£2,279.96

The schedule of pre-approved payments (including direct debits and energy invoices) was received, reviewed, and approved.

ACTION: Cllr Bingham to continue to liaise with banks to get the new clerk access.

b) To review payments made by the Clerk, since the last meeting, under delegated powers of authority.

No payments have been made.

6. To review the play area inspection report June 2026

The June 2026 play inspection reports for Happylands and Brownsills were reviewed. All high-risk actions identified in the reports were addressed immediately upon receipt, including strengthening the basket swing at Happylands. The remaining recommended (lower risk) maintenance works will be undertaken during the summer holidays.

7. To approve the Parish Council's community engagement approach in relation to HS2 options paper



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Members considered the proposed community engagement approach. Councillors will provide any final amendments to the draft Options Paper as soon as possible. The paper will then be shared with the community during the summer holidays via a leaflet drop and The Glimpse.

8. To discuss bus shelter repair required

Members discussed the condition of the bus shelter and its ongoing maintenance. **Resolved:** To seek expressions of interest from the community for a paid role to clean the bus shelter regularly and maintain the book exchange.

9. To discuss Brackley Road bench repair

Members noted that the Brackley Road bench is beyond repair. **Resolved:** Cllr Weller will discuss with EKFB the replacement of the bench and the potential provision of additional benches in the playing fields, following the RoSPA inspection which identified these as a medium-priority recommendation.

10. To discuss potential HS2 grant opportunities

Members discussed the grant funding being awarded to neighbouring communities and the opportunity for Greatworth to benefit from similar funding in recognition of the disruption caused by HS2 works. **Resolved:** To establish a sub-committee to identify potential grant opportunities and engage with the community to understand local priorities for future funding applications. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

11. To discuss village defibrillator relocation timeline (approved 18th May 2026)

Discussions with the school confirmed the location and maintenance responsibilities. **Resolved:** To purchase the defibrillator immediately and complete installation during the summer holidays. To review current planning applications and approve any formal responses

12. To review any current planning applications and approve any formal responses

No planning applications to review.

13. Councillor Questions

- Cllr Hewison queried whether the Halse speed monitor requires maintenance. Cllr Bingham agreed this is likely and will investigate costs.
- Cllr Hewison updated members on the WNCAN Community Energy Programme, which aims to tackle fuel poverty and support renewable energy projects. Members expressed interest in the initiative. Cllr Hewison will continue to attend meetings and report back, including on the potential to join a rural village consortium.
- Cllr Weller advised that the HS2 site visit has been rescheduled to October. **Resolved:** To advertise the visit in The Glimpse and invite expressions of interest from residents, noting that places are limited.
- Cllr Weller asked that the latest bus service information be published in The Glimpse and on the Parish Council website. The Clerk will action this.

14. Forward look: horizon scanning risk opportunity and Glimpse additions

Members discussed holding a planning session in September to consider priorities and opportunities for the year ahead.

Resolved: To advertise that the cabinet is available for community use, including for promoting coffee mornings and similar activities. A notice will be added to clarify that this is not a Parish Council facility. Future meeting dates will be added to the website, with a note that dates are subject to change.

15. Date and location of next meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday 7th September 2026 at 7.30pm in the Mission Hall, Halse.



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16. Close

The meeting was closed at 9:25pm.

Signed _____ Dated _____
Councillor Simon Bingham, Chairman



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Appendix A

This report was presented by the Clerk for approval by the Council on 6th July 2026

Balance in Unity Current Account (06/07/26):

£32,529.58

Expected TOTAL balance once invoices settled:

£30,249.62

SO/DD payments made since 19/05/26:

	Payee	Description	Type	Amount
1	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card Payment	DD	£541.23
2	R Foote	Outgoing Clerk's Salary	SO	£1099.17
3	R Foote	Outgoing Clerk's Expenses	SO	£0.21
4	Valda Energy	Electricity	DD	£208.80
5	Nest	Outgoing Clerk's Pension Contributions	DD	£89.55
6	Unity Bank	Service Charge	DD	£7.00
7	Unity Bank (Internal)	Transfer to Savings	SO	£26250
8	R Foote	Outgoing Clerk's Holiday Pay	SO	£557.04
9	R Foote	Outgoing Clerk's Expenses	SO	£3.95
10	M Dempsey	Grasscutting 2025	SO	£2390
11	Cheney Coaches	Monthly Bus	SO	£435
12	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card Payment	DD	£16.24
13	Valda Energy	Electricity	DD	£179.17
14	Unity Bank	Service Charge	DD	£7.00

Payments received since 19/05/26:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	J Burnham	Bus Donations	£40
2	J Burnham	Bus Donations	£32

Payments to be approved on 06/07/26:

	Payee	Description	Amount
1	Forde & McHugh	Streetlight Repair	£516
2	RoSPA	Annual play Area Inspection Fee 2026	£208.80
3	SLCC	Subscription for new clerk	£170
4	NCALC	New clerk's training course	£270
5	School	Small Grants Scheme 2025	£250
6	NCALC	Resubscription	£865.16



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Transaction Date	Payee	Item Description	Income	Expenditure	Balance
			26394.00		
			DR	CR	
31-Aug-26		Totals	66213.92	33684.34	32529.58
		Balance B/Fwd -1	39,819.92		39819.92
02-Apr-26	J Burnham	Bus Donations	34.00		39853.92
16-Apr-26	Lloyds Bank	HP Instant Ink		4.49	39849.43
16-Apr-26	Lloyds Bank	Monthly Fee		3.00	39846.43
20-Apr-26	R Foote	Clerk's Salary		1099.17	38747.26
23-Apr-26	HMRC	Employer's NI		306.64	38440.62
24-Apr-26	Valda Energy	Electricity		255.86	38184.76
29-Apr-26	WNC	Precept Payment	26250.00		64434.76
30-Apr-26	Unity Bank	Service Charge		7.00	64427.76
08-May-26	J Burnham	Bus Donations	38.00		64465.76
11-May-26	Nest	Pension Contributions		223.82	64241.94
19-May-26	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card Payment		541.23	63700.71
20-May-26	R Foote	Clerk's Salary		1099.17	62601.54
21-Jun-26	R Foote	Expenses?		0.21	62601.33
26-May-26	Valda Energy	Electricity		208.80	62392.53
28-May-26	Nest	Pension Contributions		89.55	62302.98
31-May-26	Unity Bank	Service Charge		7.00	62295.98
02-Jun-26	Unity Bank	Transfer to Savings		26250.00	36045.98
03-Jun-26	R Foote	Clerks Salary		557.04	35488.94
03-Jun-26	R Foote	Expenses?		3.95	35484.99
03-Jun-26	M Dempsey	Grasscutting 2025		2390.00	33094.99
03-Jun-26	Cheney Coaches	Monthly Bus		435.00	32659.99
08-Jun-26	J Burnham	Bus Donations	40.00		32699.99
16-Jun-26	Lloyds Bank	Credit Card Payment		16.24	32683.75
25-Jun-26	Valda Energy	Electricity		179.17	32504.58
30-Jun-26	Unity Bank	Service Charge		7.00	32497.58
02-Jul-26	J Burnham	Bus Donations	32.00		32529.58

		2026-2027	
Code	EXPENDITURE	Budget	Actual
100	1. Lighting	9549.38	609.93
101	Electricity supply	8549.38	609.93
102	Street Light Repairs and Maintenance	1000.00	
200	2. Parks & Open Spaces	11120.00	2390.00
201	Grass cutting	3700.00	2390.00
202	Playground equip. inspection	220.00	
203	Playground repairs/replacement	3000.00	
204	Notice boards		
205	Bus Shelter maintenance	500.00	
206	Bins	1700.00	
207	Defibrillator		
208	CIL		
209	General Maintenance	2000.00	
210	Devolution of services		
211	Sinking Fund Money	1000.00	
400	4. General Administration	24780.00	3964.97
401	Audit charge	400.00	
402	Clerk's salary	13000.00	2755.38
403	Office Expenses	2000.00	7.90
404	Election expenses		
405	Insurances/Subscriptions/Membership Fees	4000.00	
406	Training costs	1500.00	
408	Meeting room rental	250.00	
409	Leaflets & Advertising		
410	Website	450.00	
411	Traffic calming measures		
412	Office equipment		
413	Banking Charges	180.00	581.47
414	Other	3000.00	620.22
500	Grants	7,150.00	
501	Grants to Village Organisations	3900.00	
502	Prizes		
503	Free Bus	1650.00	
504	S. 137	1600.00	
505	CIL		
800	Projects		435.00
801	Playground Development		
802	Community Minibus		435.00
803	National Events	500.00	
	Total Regular Expenditure	52599.38	11364.87
600	Miscellaneous Expenditure	1200.00	26304.95
601	Transfer Out		
602	To Deposit Account		26250.00
603	Other	1200.00	
604	Vat Paid		54.95
	Total Expenditure	53799.38	37669.82
	INCOME	54450.00	26394.00
701	Precept	52500.00	26250.00
702	Interest		
703	Newsletter		
704	Grants+Prizes		
705	Donations	700.00	144.00
706	Wayleave		
707	Vat Repayment	1250.00	
708	Misc Transfers In		
709	CIL		
	Total Income	54450.00	26394.00
	Expenditure vs Income this year	£650.62	-£11,275.82
	Total balance in account	£650.62	£28,544.10
			£54,450.00