

GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of The Great Denham Parish Council Meeting held on 7th July 2025 at 7.30pm at Great Denham Community Hall.

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Jon Hannah (Chair), Joanna Szaub-Newton, Janice Moran, Chris Staite, Oliver Payne, Joe Quinn, Adam Firth, Jim Weir (also Borough councillor), Robbin Brough (Parish Council Clerk).

- 1 **Apologies for Absence:** Anna O'Meara (Family commitments).
Resolved to accept the above noted absences.
- 2 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda:** None
- 3 **Public Open Session** – 1 resident in attendance
The resident was interested in knowing what would be happening with the land and buildings of the old golf course. Particularly as the buildings are not being maintained and falling into disrepair.
- 4 **Correspondence received since the last meeting (requiring council attention)**
A resident contacted the parish council with concerns over the use of the parking bays throughout Great Denham and requested the parish council consider adjusting these bays.
Action: Clerk to contact Highways with details of the parking bay and request options for resolving the issues.
- 5 **To confirm the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 2nd June 2025**
Resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record.
- 6 **Clerk's report on actions not covered by agenda items**
 - To inform the village hall trustees of the parish council decision regarding the required lift repairs required at the Community Hall and arrange for the invoice to come to the parish council.
Complete.
 - To collect tulip bulbs from BBC and prepare bulbs for storage until planting season. **Complete.**
 - To obtain a quote from BBC for the provision and installation of a new bus shelter. **Complete.**
 - To create a Parish Council Newsletter to go out to residents, arrange printing and delivery.
Complete.
- 7 **Finance**
 - *To approve payments and note income and balances.*
Resolved to approve payments and note the balances – see appendix.
 - *To note the Spend versus Budget variance report.*
Report received and noted. See appendix.
- 8 **Planning Applications:**
 - *To consider any planning applications received since the last meeting – includes any received after the agenda is issued up to the date of the meeting.*

APPLICATION NO: 25/01207/FUL Full Planning Application
PROPOSAL: Conversion of garage to form an annexe
LOCATION: 11 Wayland Road Great Denham Bedford Bedfordshire MK40 4GQ

Resolved to not provide a comment.
- 9 **Borough Councillors Report**
Update from Borough Councillor Jim Weir.
See parish council website for full report.

Mrs R Brough, Clerk, Great Denham Parish Council
E-mail: clerk@greatdenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

10 **Great Denham Summer Fete**

Update from Events Committee working group.

The working group has been busy finalising arrangements. Beds Fire Service will be bringing a fire engine and participating in a 5 a-side football match. There will be a magician interacting with visitors throughout the event. Beds Police have also agreed to attend. The organisers of Denfest have offered to lend the large lawn games to be used during the fete.

Resolved to add Cllr Payne to the Event Working Group.

11 **Parish Council Projects**

To receive an update from lead councillors on their project proposals.

The council received updates from project leads on the progress of their respective proposals. Each lead outlined the current position of their project and any next steps planned.

12 **Kingswood Way Parking Bays**

To agree whether the council would like to make a request to change the 30min parking bays next to the medical centre to disabled parking.

Action: Cllr Weir will request the parking bays are monitored by parking enforcement to try to stop vehicles parking in bays for long periods of time.

Action: Cllr Moran will monitor the usage of the parking bays.

13 **Grant Request from 1st Great Denham Rainbows and 2nd Great Denham Brownies**

To consider a request for funding to support the running costs for both the Great Denham Rainbows and Brownies units.

Action: Clerk to request more information on their finances and invite Rainbows and Brownies Leaders to attend September's council meeting.

14 **Great Denham Park & Ride Recycling Bins**

Proposal from Cllr Moran: To discuss whether the parish council will request BBC to remove the recycling facilities located in the Park & Ride.

The council discussed whether to request the removal of the bottle recycling bins at the Park & Ride. It was noted that Bedford Borough Council will shortly be introducing glass collection via residents' orange bins. The council agreed to defer a decision, as the bins may be removed by Bedford Borough Council or the current issues may reduce once the new collection service is in place.

15 **Open Space Maintenance**

To discuss the recent concerns raised by residents who were unhappy with the current grass cutting works where wildflower areas were completely moved while still in bloom.

Action: The clerk to contact Bedford Borough Council's Open Spaces Team to request that, in future years, the cutting of green spaces in bloom with wildflowers be delayed until the flowering period has finished.

16 **No Verge/Pavement Parking**

To consider if the parish council would like to install no verge/pathway parking restrictions in areas of Great Denham.

Resolved not to proceed, as such restrictions would unlikely deter drivers without regular monitoring, which is not feasible.

Action: Clerk to contact Robinson & Hall to request that the hedges bordering the old golf course be cut back to ensure the pathways remain clear and accessible for pedestrians.

17 **New Bus Shelter on Saxon Way**

To consider the quote received from Bedford Borough Council for the provision and installation of a new bus shelter which will be located at the rear of the Sainsburys car park on Saxon Way.

Resolved to purchase a new bus shelter which will be installed on Saxon Way at the rear of Sainsburys car park.

18 **Highways Matters**

Clerk's update: Bedford Borough Council Highways received 1 objecting and 1 supporting comment to the 20mph consultation. The consultation for Double Yellow Lines at junctions is due to start on 21st July. Highways were consulted as to whether the A6 speed limit would be reduced; they confirmed there are no plans and that the Police would likely not support this.

Mrs R Brough, Clerk, Great Denham Parish Council

E-mail: clerk@greatdenhamparishcouncil.gov.uk

19 **Business for future agendas (No actions can be taken on items not on the agenda)**

- Follow up on the replacement of trees on Kingsway Way.

Date of the next meeting: 1st September 2025, Great Denham Community Hall.

Great Denham Parish Council - Receipts & Payments - July 2025

Bank reconciliation

Account	Date	Category	Payee	Description	Transfers	Receipts	Payments Gross	Cashbook Balance	Bank Balance
Unity Trust - Current	Opening							20,115.66	20,115.66
	31 May 2025	Banking charges	Unity Trust				6.00		
	09 June 2025	ICO Annual Fee	Direct Debit (ICO)				47.00		
	18 June 2025	Fete	Marquees	Deposit INV2249			364.32		
	18 June 2025	Grant: Community Hall Trustees	Community Hall				1,640.00		
	18 June 2025	Grant: Hope Across Ages	Community hall				660.00		
	18 June 2025	Fete	Robbin Brough	Fete Insurance			271.80		
	30 June 2025	Banking charges	Unity Trust				6.00		
	04 July 2025	Newsletter	Gerry Welsh	Newsletter Delivery			157.50		
	04 July 2025	Staff costs	Multiple				1,320.56		
	04 July 2025	Newsletter	White Hart Press	32663			585.00		
	04 July 2025	Fete	Local Toilet Hire	70123			468.00		
	04 July 2025	Noticeboard	Greenbarnes	19281			1,260.61		
	04 July 2025	GDCH Tea & Talk	GDCH	GDCH - Tea and Talk room hire from grant - 0199			75.00		
	04 July 2025	Hall hire	GDCH	GDCH - Room hire - 200			24.00		
	04 July 2025	Membership/Affiliations	BATPC	AFF041			913.00		12,316.87
	Not Yet Paid	Payroll	Red Shoes				52.20		
	Not Yet Paid	Fete	Marquees	Final INV2250			850.08		
	Closing							11,414.59	
Unity Trust - Savings	Opening							149,279.22	149,279.22
	30 June 2025	Bank Interest	Unity Trust			876.57			
	Closing							150,155.79	150,155.79
Redwood Savings	Opening							88,214.32	88,214.32
	31 May 2025	Bank Interest	Redwood			294.33			
	30 June 2025	Bank Interest	Redwood			285.79			
	Closing							88,794.44	88,794.44
Hinckley & Rugby Savings	Opening							85,001.00	85,001.00
	No transactions								
	Closing							85,001.00	85,001.00
The Cambridge Building Society	Opening							85,000.00	85,000.00
	No transactions	Transfer	GDPC Unity Trust						
	Closing							85,000.00	85,000.00
					0.00	1,456.69	8,701.07		

GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

July 2025

Income	YTD (Actual) Gross	YTD (Actual) Net	Annual Budget 2025/26	Full year Estimate	Variance
Precept	20,951	20,951	42,054	42,054	0
VAT reclaim	0	0	0	0	0
CIL Income	82,034	82,034	0	82,034	82,034
Bank Interest	1,741	1,741	3,000	3,000	0
Other income	0	0	0	0	0
Total Income	104,725	104,725	45,054	127,087	82,034
Outgoings					
Staff costs	5,145	5,145	16,055		
Staff costs	5,145	5,145	16,055	16,055	0
Christmas lights	6,631	6,631	2,500		
GDCH expenditure	1,068	890	3,600		
Community defib	0	0	200		
Open spaces & community facilities	7,699	7,521	6,300	10,431	-4,131
Audit	160	160	420		
ICO Annual Fee	47	47	40		
Insurance	0	0	4,581		
Payroll	52	44	230		
Hall hire	96	96	220		
Banking charges	18	18	96		
Information Technology	0	0	400		
Stationery	0	0	150		
Membership/Affiliations	913	913	1,031		
Training	0	0	500		
Admin - other	0	0	100		
Admin	1,286	1,278	7,768	7,768	0
Newsletter	743	743	1,931		
Youth Club	6,250	6,250	6,250		
Other	6,993	6,993	8,181	8,181	0
Fete	2,554	2,476	5,000		
Events	2,554	2,476	5,000	5,000	0
GDCH Tea & Talk	270	270	750		
Junior Park Run	0	0	1,000		
Grant: Community Hall Trustees	1,640	1,640	0		
Grant: Hope Across Ages	660	660	0		
Grants	2,570	2,570	1,750	1,750	0
Outgoings	23,693	25,983	45,054	44,185	-4,131
Noticeboard	0	0	0		
Outside budget	1,261	1,051	0	1,051	-1,051
Total Outgoings	24,954	27,033	45,054	45,235	-5,182

GDPC - Balances - July 2025

	£
Redwood Savings 3.93%	88,794
Unity Trust Current 0%	11,415
Unity Trust Savings 2.6%	150,156
Hinckley & Rugby Savings	85,001
The Cambridge Building Society	85,000
Total funds held	420,366

Allocation of Balance Sheet

Christmas lights (inc Retail centre)		
Double yellow lines		
Pedestrian barrier	4,500	
Give way markings		
Pedestrian crossing points	90,000	
20mph speed limit signs		
GD Community Hall landlord responsibilities	10,872	
Defibrillator supplies	1,140	
Election costs	1,960	
Great Denham Youth Club	6,500	
GD History Memorial (School Project)	8,000	
Upgrade to paths in Country Park	30,000	
EV Charging	20,000	
Interpretation boards	3,300	
VAT refund due	474	
General reserve	243,620	Balancing figure
Total allocation	420,366	