

DRAFT MINUTES

CRANFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Cranford Parish Council held at Cranford Village Hall on Monday 10th November 2025

Present: Cllr Stephen Pickard (chairman), Cllr Alison Gorton (vice-chairman), Cllr Paul Wilcox, Cllr Stewart Holford, Pat Bird (clerk), Cllr Brendon Lovell-Moore (NNC ward member), Cllr Kirk Harrison (NNC Executive Member for Regulatory Services), 64 members of the public (for item 25/083)

- 25/076 Cllr Pickard welcomed everyone and outlined the procedure for the meeting. He explained that item 25/083 on the Agenda would follow and that a maximum time of 40 minutes would be allocated to this. Cllr Pickard also explained the process for asking questions.
- 25/083 Cllr Kirk Harrison introduced himself and his role. Cllr Harrison then outlined the principles of the proposal for a Travellers Temporary Stopping Site at General's Corner, how the site has been identified and how it's intended to function. Cllr Harrison answered questions raised by the members of the public. Cllr Pickard expressed his frustration that as the chair of Cranford Parish Council, he would not be entitled to speak at the NNC Executive meeting on 11th November where this proposal was to be discussed.
Cllr Pickard thanked Cllr Harrison for attending the meeting. He also thanked the members of the public for attending and reminded them that the parish council is seeking two new members.
The members of the public left the council meeting, with some staying on to talk further with Cllr Harrison in a separate room. The council meeting resumed at item 25/077.
- 25/077 Apologies were received from Cllr Bullock (family reasons).
It was **RESOLVED** that these apologies be approved.
- 25/078 It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the council meeting held 22nd September 2025 be approved as an accurate record
- 25/079 The following matters arising were noted:
25/063 – The clerk has emailed the Village Hall regarding the illustrated paper maps of Cranford St John and Cranford St Andrew and is awaiting a response.
24/106 – Payment has been made to Cranford PCC for the bench at St John's Church.
25/074 – The approval of the 2026/2027 budget is being delayed until the next council

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meeting in January as then the council should know its financial commitment for the tree planting project

25/080 Cllr Gorton, declared an interest in the planning application for an extension to the time to complete the restoration of the landfill site at the Cranford Landfill Site

25/081 The clerk reported that no expressions of interest to join the parish council have been received so there are still two vacancies on the parish council.

Public participation

25/082 Cllr Lovell-Moore reported that he is in discussions with Highways regarding the impact of Hanwood Park on Cranford and Warkton in terms of traffic. Whilst the concept of Hanwood Park was sold with a Weekley / Warkton bypass and a dedicated junction on the A14 (Junction 10A), these developments have not been forthcoming.

Cllr Lovell-Moore acknowledged the issues facing the parish of Cranford, with the A14, Hanwood Park, the proposed Kettering Energy Park, and the proposed Travellers Temporary Stopping Site. Cllr Lovell-Moore pledged his support to the parish council and the residents of Cranford.

The clerk asked Cllr Lovell-Moore to look into the status of the planning enforcement case of Northamptonshire Mobile Mechanics

The clerk had previously shared with members two other issues raised by a resident, one being parking on pavements requiring people to walk on the road, and a advertising board on the Green. Whilst these are not parish council matters, they are parish matters and the clerk will contact the resident and advise what they will do.

Planning Matters

25/084 The clerk reported that the council's response to North Northamptonshire Council regarding planning application **25/00770/HFUL** Convert single garage to office/garden room at 10 High Street Cranford NN14 4AA was handled on the Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk, and that the council's response was 'no objections'. NNC has subsequently approved the application

As the appropriate documents had been circulated to members previously, it was **RESOLVED** that the planning application NN/25/00023/WASVOC : Variation of Condition 34 (End Date) of planning permission ref: 20/00046/WASVOC to allow a further four year time period (until 31 October 2028) to complete the restoration of the landfill site at Cranford Landfill, Thrapston Road, Cranford St John, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN14 4AW, would be considered at the meeting, rather than through the Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk. Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that clarification be sought whether the application was for a three or four year extension but either way the application be supported with the council to be consulted on any amendments to bridleway GF14, the applicant to be encouraged to complete the restoration of the landfill site which has been ongoing for at least 20 years, so that the approved planting scheme can get underway. The applicant to be asked if they could complete the restoration of the landfill site and begin the planting

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scheme in smaller chunks so that at least some planting could be done. The council expressed concern that the completion of the restoration of the landfill site will be further delayed as there is a separate planning application for the restoration of the Weldon Landfill Site.

Parish Matters

- 25/085 Cllr Gorton reported that the current focus of the Cranford Maintenance Programme was tidying up ready for the winter, with the planters, grass cutting, strimming, and clearing leaves from paths to the Millennium Bridge, to Jubilee Bridge and at Duck End. Cllr Gorton added that appreciative comments were being received from residents. Cllr Gorton said that work will slow down now with the winter months approaching. It was acknowledged that the planters were still looking good
- 25/086 Cllr Pickard reported that there had been a meeting between Kier and the landowner and that 2 acres of land had been identified for tree planting / tree restoration. The planting is due to take place next winter. The next steps are for Kier to produce the maps for the landowner to confirm planting, and for Kier to provide an estimate of the council's required financial contribution for this project. Cllr Pickard added that the landowner was very supportive of the tree planting and that the trees would be visible from the public right of way.
- 25/087 The clerk provided a brief verbal report outlining the options together with the financial implications for the council of purchasing a solar powered speed indicator device having received 50% of the amount the council applied for from the Community Safer Roads team Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that a speed indicator device similar to that used by Loddington Parish Council and Woodford Parish Council would be purchased and not one similar to that used by Grafton Underwood Parish Council. The solar powered speed indicator device is to be installed on the High Street entrance to Cranford from Hanwood Park.

Finance

- 25/088 It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairmans Board be updated, at a cost of £36 including VAT.
- 25/089 The November Finance Report was noted, with
- a) Cash Book as at 31st October 2025, showing balance of £18,621.54
 - b) Bank Reconciliation as at 31st October 2025, showing bank balance of £18,621.54
 - c) Budget Spend as at 31st October 2025, showing a spend of £9818.88 ex VAT
- 25/090 It was **RESOLVED** that the payments presented in the Schedule of Payments be authorised

Governance Matters

- 25/091 It was **RESOLVED** that the revised Data Protection Policy be adopted.

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25/092 Following discussions, it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Pickard be appointed the Climate & Nature Champion to represent the council in matters relating to the climate, nature, and the environment

Other Matters

25/093 There were no further updates from the chairman

25/094 Cllr Wilcox reported that the request, via FIX My Street, to cut the overgrown vegetation from Duck End to the A14 junction had been completed.
The clerk reported that they have requested plans showing the grass cutting in Cranford undertaken by NNC in response to the Urban Highway Grass Cutting 2026/27 – Section 136 Agreement issued by NNC, previously circulated to members.

25/095 It was **RESOLVED** that the date of the next scheduled meeting be on Monday 19th January 2026, where the council's budget for 2026/2027 is to be approved.

25/096 The chairman closed the meeting at 8:40pm and thanked Cllr Lovell-Moore for attending.