



PERRY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Perry Parish Council Meeting held at 1900 hours on Wednesday 8th April 2026 at the Grafham Water Sailability Clubhouse.

Please note that minutes are formal records of official acts and decisions. They are not verbatim reports of discussions or decision-making processes.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Chairman Eleanor Abbs (EA), Vice Chairman Sheila Brighton (SB), Kay Darby (KD), David Gent (DG), Chris Jones (CJ), Nigel Noon (NN), Emma Prew (EP), Pat Reynolds (PR), Jo Shirreffs (JS). The meeting was quorate.

County Councillor: Ian Gardener (IG).

District Councillor: Stephen Cawley (SC).

Members of the public: three.

Clerk to the Council: Eugene Smith (ES).

26/1 Apologies

N/A.

26/2 Councillors' declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None.

26/3 Reports from County and District Councillors

IG and SC delivered their reports, which are attached at appendix one and two respectively.

26/4 Guest Speaker – Simone Tauber, Visitor Operations Manager, Parks & Conservation, Anglian Water

No actions.

26/5 Open forum for public participation

No actions.

25/6 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Perry Parish Council meeting held on 11th March 2026 were **approved** as a correct record (proposed EA) and signed by the Chairman.

25/7 Clerk's report

Attached as appendix three.

25/8 Events working group update

Fay Wheatcroft provided an update, the next meeting is 15th April, litter pick 25th April at 1100, garage sale 20th June, scarecrows and fruit 26th September. The appeal for wool in The Perry Hornet was successful.

25/9 Gaynes Estate working group update

DG provided an update, an open door in Paxton Cottages was reported and fixed within 24 hours. KD said that the grass on the footpath from Roman Way to Crow Spinney Lane has been cut.

25/10 Planters Working Group

It was **agreed** (proposed EA) to form a Planters Working Group.

Actions: ES to draw up terms of reference for May's meeting. PR will carry out an initial survey. Simone Tauber offered defunct boats as potential planters and some potential workspaces.

25/11 Planning permission consultation

Proposal: Erection of rear and side extensions to dwelling.

Site Address: 2 Perry Wood View Perry Huntingdon.

Reference: 26/00169/HHFUL

The council **recommended** approval (prop. EA).

Action: ES to inform Huntingdonshire District Council.

25/12 Asset disposal

It was **agreed** to offer the council's strimmer and hedge trimmer attachment for sale (prop. EA).

Action: ES to arrange sale.

25/13 Update on meetings and training attended

JS attended the Grafham Water Centre User Group meeting.

ES attended an online training session run by CAPALC (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils) on the AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return).

25/14 Finance

a) The budget monitoring document for financial year 2025 – 2026 was **noted**.

b) The following authorised and regular payments for March 2026 were **noted**.

Eugene Smith (clerk's salary for February and March): **confidential**

HMRC (NIC contributions for February and March): **£131.94**

Cambridgeshire Pension Fund (pension contributions from PCC and ES for February and March): **Confidential**

BWP Creative Ltd (domain renewal for perryparishcouncil.org.uk, 2026-2027): **£14**

Grafham Water Sailability (Clubhouse use for February and March): **£60**

Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) (Civility and Respect training course): **£69.30***

Information Commissioner's Office (registration fee 2026-2027): **£47**

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CAPALC) (Nimble e-learning courses x 6): **£108**

Cartridge Save (toner cartridges): **£380.22**

Christine Halsall (Perry in Bloom plants): **£26.97**

Unity Trust Bank (service charge March): **£7**

Lloyds Multipay card: £99.99

(SMARTY mobile phone fee February): **£5**

One4All vouchers for newsletter competition: **£91.99**

Monthly fee February: **£3**)

*course was cancelled and payment refunded 17th March

25/15 Agenda items for the Annual Perry Parish Council meeting 13th May 2026)

Additional items must be received by the clerk no later than Monday 4th May 2026.

Meeting closed at 2058 hours.

END OF MINUTES

APPENDIX ONE – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Ian Gardener

Monthly Report April 26

Local Government Reorganisation

The government's statutory consultation on LGR in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, has now concluded.

Under local government Reorganisation for Essex, the Government has based its Preferred Option on existing Local Authority Boundaries, they have not split any Districts as is proposed In Cambridgeshire, by the 2 Labour MP's in Cambridgeshire.

I supported Option E in the consultation which was overwhelmingly supported by the District Council and unanimously by the Conservative Group on HDC, which is for 3 Unitary authorities in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, one of which is a Unitary Huntingdonshire.

Option E

Unitary 1 – Huntingdonshire

Unitary 2 – Peterborough City, Fenland & East Cambs

Unitary 3 - Cambridge City & South Cambs

Government will then announce its proposal for LGR in Cambridgeshire/ Peterborough in July 2026. With the necessary legislation being put before Parliament to approve in Autumn 26 recess

With Elections to the new Shadow unitary Authorities taking place in May 27. With the new Unitary Authorities will take over running all services on 1 April 28.

Highways

Regarding, the large number of potholes on our roads, I have chased the matter with Highways Directors at CCC and as a result I have had various site meetings with the Area Maintenance Manager to highlight the issue in this division. We are currently visiting each of my 25 villages to look at the worst and get them on the system for repair. I can confirm we have so far visited 7 out of 25 villages so far. Rest assured I will continue to chase this matter, on your behalf.

I can confirm that we should be getting a New Local Highways Officer at the end of the month.

The Grafham to Brampton Quietway installation has been delayed. As I spotted that the road was due to be resurfaced in 27/28, the Active Travel Team were unaware. Which would have meant all the artwork on the road surface etc would have been destroyed. I am now awaiting a revised installation date from the Active Travel team

20mph scheme applications have now closed. With the prioritization programme being undertaken between April and July 26. With the successful schemes going for approval at the October 26 Committee meeting.

Registry Office Wedding Venue

From the 1st April, couples looking for an impressive, yet affordable wedding venue will be able to book their ceremony with Cambridgeshire County Council at the Huntingdon Town Hall. The iconic, Grade II listed building will replace the Registry office room at Lawrence Court

The cost of such ceremonies will start from £450, services will be scheduled for one hour to provide a calmer more personal experience for couples.

Supporting Community Led Flood Resilience

If your community is working hard to reduce the risk of flooding. You could be eligible for a Community Watercourse Maintenance Grant of up to £10,000

The grant is designed to support communities where the condition of local watercourses is increasing the risk of flooding. The grant will be paid direct to flood groups, parish councils to take practical steps to improve water flow, reduce flood risk and enhance the surrounding environment.

The grant can be used for vegetation clearance and debris removal, minor repairs to banks and channels, equipment hire or contractor support, volunteer training and safety equipment and other essential maintenance activities.

Disposal of Batteries

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership (RECAP) is urging residents to recycle batteries and battery powered electricals safely, following an increase in fires caused by incorrectly disposed lithium-ion batteries.

To help prevent fires never place batteries in the bin, use designated recycling points, tape over damaged terminals and check for local collection schemes.

All types of batteries can be recycled free of charge at Household Recycling Centres, ie Alconbury & St Neots as well as Supermarkets and DIY Stores.

District Council

This year's District Council Elections along with the Parish Council elections will go ahead. The elections are on the 7th May.

The Election timetable key dates are –

30 March 26 – Notice of Election published and nominations open

09 April- Nominations close

10 April – Statement of Persons nominated published.

20 April – Registration to vote deadline.

21 April @ 5pm Postal vote application deadline

28 April Notice of Poll published and the Voter Authority certificate deadline

Please note all Postal votes now expire after three years. If your Postal vote has expired you have until the 21 April to apply for a new postal vote.

If you have any queries, please contact- elections@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Cllr Ian Gardener – CCC Alconbury & Kimbolton Division including Perry

APPENDIX TWO – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Awaits

APPENDIX THREE – CLERK'S REPORT

- The MVAS unit has been collected, one component is still to come.
- The latest pill packaging recycling session yielded two bins' full.

END OF APPENDICES