



PERRY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Perry Parish Council Meeting held at 1924 hours on Wednesday 13th May 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), Kay Darby (KD), David Gent (DG), Chris Jones (CJ), Nigel Noon (NN), Emma Prew (EP), Pat Reynolds (PR). The meeting was quorate.

Members of the public: two.

Clerk to the Council: Eugene Smith (ES).

26/16 Election of Chairman for 2026 – 2027

Eleanor Abbs was **elected** as Chairman for 2026 – 2027 (proposed EA).

26/17 Election of Vice-Chairman for 2026 – 2027

Chris Jones was **elected** as Vice-Chairman for 2026 – 2027 (prop. CJ).

26/18 Delivery of acceptance of office forms

All councillors present signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms, witnessed by ES.

26/19 Apologies

The apologies received from councillors Sheila Brighton and Jo Shirreffs were accepted.

26/20 Councillors' declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None.

26/21 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the Perry Parish Council meeting held on 8th April 2026 were **approved** as a correct record (proposed EA) and signed by the Chairman.

26/22 General Power of Competence

The council **confirmed** its eligibility for and **adopted** the General Power of Competence (prop. EA).

26/23 Clerk's report

Attached as appendix one.

26/24 Staffing Committee

- a) The Staffing Committee terms of reference were **reviewed**.
- b) The most recent minutes were **received**.
- c) The membership was **confirmed** as EA, CJ, KD and DG (prop. EA).

26/25 Planters Working Group

The terms of reference for the Planters Working Group were approved (prop. EA).

PR has surveyed the planters and their conditions.

Action: ES to arrange with PR an initial Planters Working Group meeting.

26/26 Gaynes Estate working group update

DG provided an update, he is awaiting a response from HMP Littlehey regarding the group's most recent submitted report

26/27 Events working group update

Fay Wheatcroft provided an update, April's litter pick yielded four bags of litter and a hubcap. She has had a positive meeting with the industry representative from HMP Littlehey regarding a statue.

26/28 Biodiversity consideration

The bug hotel and bird/bat box will be installed, the HDC-maintained biodiversity area remains in place. DG suggested looking for other areas which could be left uncultivated, EA suggested sowing wild flowers to make these areas' purposes more obvious.

Action: ES to liaise with contractors.

26/29 Update on meetings and training attended

KD and ES attended the online Grafham Water User Group meeting.

ES attended ACRE's (Action with Communities in Rural England) biodiversity meeting.

Parish Councillor Jo Shirreffs, County Councillor Ian Gardener and ES met with Ed Groome from Grafham Water Centre regarding their barn.

ES met with TerraCycle re pill packaging recycling.

DG attended a Finance for Councillors course (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils).

ES attended a Year End Audit course (Society of Local Council Clerks).

26/30 Annual administration

- a) Standing Orders were **adopted** for 2026 – 2027 (prop. EA).
- b) Financial Regulations were **adopted** for 2026 – 2027 (prop. EA).

- c) The current Perry Parish Council asset register was **reviewed**.
- d) ES provided a verbal report **reviewing** insurance arrangements.
- e) Current council subscriptions were **noted**.
- f) The expenditure incurred for 2024 – 2025 under s 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 was **reviewed**.

Action: ES to update documents as appropriate.

26/31

Finance

- a) The bank reconciliation for January - March 2026 (Quarter Four) was **noted**.
- b) the following authorised and regular payments for April 2026 were **noted**:

Eugene Smith (clerk's salary for April): **confidential**

Eugene Smith (working from home allowance for April): **£26.00**

Eugene Smith (mileage for April): **£7.65**

Colin Beesley (wages residue from June 2025): **confidential**

HMRC (NIC contributions for April): **£65.97**

Grafham Water Sailability (Clubhouse use for April): **£30**

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

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

CAPALC (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils, subscription for 2026-2027): **£406.67**

SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks, subscription for 2026-2027): **£200**

Antony Abbs (Four Seasons grass cuts 1 & 2): **£480**

Fay Wheatcroft (Remembrance netting): **£10.59**

Unity Trust Bank (service charge): **£6**

Lloyds Multipay card: £8

(SMARTY mobile phone fee April: **£5**

Monthly fees April: **£3**)

- c) A credit of £ 23,365 (precept) received from Huntingdonshire District Council on 29th April was **noted**.

26/32

Agenda items for the next Perry Parish Council meeting 10th June 2026)

Additional items must be received by the clerk no later than Monday 1st June 2026.

Meeting closed at 2025 hours.

END OF MINUTES

APPENDIX ONE – CLERK’S REPORT

- The MVAS unit still awaits the final components.
- The council’s internal audit was carried out yesterday (12th May).
- The next newsletter should be out around the end of the month.
- The next pill bin excursion will be w/c Monday 15th June.

END OF APPENDICES

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