

Greatham Parish Council
Parish Council Meeting
Greatham Village Hall
Wednesday July 8th 2026 at 7.30 pm

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of Greatham Parish Council for the transaction of business set out below.

SJ Bartlett

Clerk to the Parish Council

5th July 2026

AGENDA

- 1. Chairman's Announcements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence:** To note any apologies received from Councillors
- 3. Declarations of Interest:**
Councillors are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Localism Act 2011. You must withdraw from the room or chamber when the meeting discusses & votes on the matter
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** To approve minutes from the council meeting held on 10th June 2026
- 5. Update on previous actions arising from council meetings (Appendix 1)**
 - Bleed kit discussion added to the agenda.
 - Longmoor Bridge response from Chief Engineers at HCC noted in Appendix.
 - The parish council are having ongoing discussions regarding the replacement of Cllr Bartlett at parish council clerk and will update residents once the position is filled.
 - The parish council will start to advertise for residents to stand as parish councilors as we move towards the May 2027 elections. Details will be on all noticeboards, on the parish council website, in the parish council magazine and on facebook.
 - Residents were requested in the parish magazine to ensure that any hedges overlapping the pavements that might impede the use of the walkways be trimmed. Longmoor Road hedges have been cut back.
- 6. Report from District Councillors:** Report from Cllr Mitchell/Cllr Steevens (Appendix 2)
- 7. Report from County Councillor:** Report from Cllr Nick Drew (Appendix 3)
- 8. Public Question Time:** Adjournment of the meeting for 15 minutes to allow the public to raise questions
- 9. Parish Council Finances/Administration:**
 - a) Payment Schedule:** To approve current payments (Appendix 4)
 - b) Finance Report:** To note the Finance Report for June 2026 and present the bank reconciliations for approval. (Appendix 5)
 - c) Clerks Report** (Appendix 6)
- 10. To note the additional funding agreed for the Village Hall Sign.**

11. To discuss the possible number and location of Bleed Kits for the village, and to approve the Cost.
(Appendix 7)

12. To discuss the request to support our Armed Forces Veterans. (Appendix 8)

13. To discuss the progress made on moving to a .gov.uk domain for the Parish Council.

- New Domain Name? Parish Council must be in the name. This can be -pc at the end.

14. Planning Applications: To consider and agree a response to the following application:

Reference	Address	Proposal	Consultation Expiry Date
SDNP/25/00081/FUL	Lone Barn Farm , Church Lane, Greatham, Liss, Hampshire, GU33 6HB	Application for the change of use of land from equestrian use to land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes and retention of hardstanding (retrospective) (updated description)	17 th July 2026

15. Project List Update : To review the latest project list and update actions. (Appendix 9)

16. To note reports from representatives of Organisations, Outside Bodies, Leads & Groups

- **Update from Community Hub Group** (Appendix 10)

17. Agenda Items for the next Meeting

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18. Date of Next Meeting : 9th September 2026 @ 7.30 pm

19. Closed Meeting to Commence.

Appendix 1 : Matters Arising

Hello

Please see the response from HCC reference - I think they are saying thanks for the attention but that the risks of adding fencing may cause more of a risk which was a surprise to me.

Regards
Nick

Dear Councillor Drew

I have been forwarded your email below as my team are responsible for the management of highway structures across the county. We currently maintain almost 2,000 structures, including bridges, culverts and retaining walls, many of which are located adjacent to or span watercourses. With the warmer weather and school holidays, it is not uncommon for people to be drawn to rivers and streams, and we recognise the concerns this can raise where there is potential access to the water.

Whilst installing fencing or netting around bridges can appear to be a straightforward solution, there are a number of reasons why such measures are not provided at culvert and bridge locations:

- Risk displacement rather than risk elimination – Fencing or netting at the bridge itself would not prevent access to the watercourse, as individuals could still enter the channel upstream or downstream of the structure where the railings end, or worse climb over fencing or jump down from the bridge.
- Maintenance and flood risk considerations – Netting, fencing and other barriers within or adjacent to a watercourse can trap debris during periods of high flow, which are unfortunately becoming more common with climate change. This can restrict the waterway, increase the risk of blockage at the structure entrance, and potentially contribute to localised flooding.
- Safety implications during high flows – If a person were to enter the water as a result of an accident, netting or other barriers can in some circumstances create additional entrapment hazards, making self-rescue or emergency rescue more difficult.
- Operational and inspection requirements – Bridges and culverts require regular inspection and maintenance. Permanent barriers restrict our access for inspections and maintenance and introduce additional assets that require ongoing upkeep.

The bridge parapets currently provided are intended to protect users of the highway from accidentally falling from the structure and this meets our duty under the Highways Act. I am afraid that as an obvious hazard, entering watercourses is not something we are required to prevent. Nationally there are now a number of guides available to help parents and individuals to keep safe around water, notably ROSPA guidance.

That said, we do take reports of public use of watercourses near our structures seriously and thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Regards

Brian

Brian Hill BSc(Hons) CEng MICE MCIHT
 Chief Engineer Structures
 Engineering Services

Appendix 2 : Report from District Councillors

None Received.

Appendix 3 : Report from County Councillor

Appendix 4 : Payment Schedule

Appendix 5 : Finance Report and Bank Reconciliations

Receipts 1st April 2026 to 31st May 2026

Total Receipts	£0
Balances as at 31st May 2026	
Current Account	£53,224.30
Deposit Account	£27,465.30
Total at Bank	£80,689.60

Appendix 6 : Clerks Report

Appendix 7 : Bleed Kit Costs

Appendix 8 : Support for Armed Forces Veterans

As we mark Armed Forces Week, whilst we rightly celebrate the men and women currently serving our country, it is also an opportunity to remember those veterans who may now be facing some of the most difficult periods of their lives.

Many veterans transition successfully into civilian life. Sadly, some do not. Through no fault of their own, some experience relationship breakdown, poor mental health, financial hardship or simply struggle to adapt after years of military service. For a small number, this can ultimately lead to homelessness.

I appreciate entirely that parish and town councils are not responsible for housing or homelessness. Those responsibilities rightly sit with district, borough and unitary authorities.

However, parish councils occupy a unique position within our communities.

You know your residents.

You know your local voluntary groups.

You often hear about concerns long before larger organisations do.

Sometimes, all it takes is one councillor recognising that a resident is a veteran and making a simple referral to the appropriate organisation. If that one conversation prevents just one veteran from sleeping rough or reaching crisis point, then sharing this message has been worthwhile.

Introducing Squaddie Box

Squaddie Box is a veteran-led organisation dedicated to supporting homeless and vulnerable veterans through practical, compassionate and sustainable solutions.

Our flagship initiative is the Squaddie Box Pod.

Each pod can provide practical support for up to four homeless veterans by giving them something many people take for granted—a secure postal address.

Without an address it becomes incredibly difficult to access benefits, healthcare, banking services, employment, housing support and many other essential services needed to rebuild a life.

Importantly, communities are not limited to one pod. Multiple pods can be installed where demand exists, enabling even greater support for veterans within a local area.

Whilst there is absolutely no expectation for parish councils to fund such initiatives, some councils choose to sponsor a Squaddie Box Pod as part of their commitment to the Armed Forces community and wider community wellbeing. I would be delighted to discuss how this works should your council ever wish to explore the possibility.

Veteran Identification Support Programme (VISP)

One of the biggest challenges faced by frontline organisations is simply identifying when someone has served in the Armed Forces.

Many veterans never mention their military service.

As a result, opportunities to offer specialist support are often missed.

To address this, Squaddie Box has developed the Veteran Identification Support Programme (VISP).

VISP is a Level 2 Endorsed Qualification, supported by Highfield Qualifications, one of the UK's leading awarding organisations.

The programme has been specifically designed to provide councillors, parish clerks, frontline staff, volunteers and community organisations with the confidence and knowledge to:

- Recognise when someone may be a veteran.
- Understand military culture and the transition into civilian life.
- Recognise early indicators that a veteran may be vulnerable or approaching crisis.
- Understand the Armed Forces Covenant and the support available through military charities, local authorities and statutory services.
- Signpost or refer veterans to the appropriate organisations before problems escalate.

The course can be delivered directly to parish and town councils, either independently or alongside neighbouring councils, and provides a recognised qualification that supports councils wishing to strengthen their understanding of the Armed Forces community.

Quite simply, sometimes recognising that someone is a veteran is the first step towards changing—or even saving—their life.

Looking Forward – Civvie Box

Building upon the success of Squaddie Box, we are also developing Civvie Box.

Whilst Squaddie Box remains dedicated to supporting veterans, Civvie Box will extend similar practical assistance to vulnerable civilians experiencing homelessness or severe hardship.

Strong communities look after everyone, and both initiatives share the same vision of helping people rebuild their lives with dignity.

Supported by Experience

We are extremely proud to have the support of our Ambassador, Air Vice Marshal (Ret'd) Philip Lester CBE, whose continued commitment to the Armed Forces community is helping us raise awareness across the United Kingdom.

Our team is made up of former members of the Armed Forces, policing and public service, bringing lived experience and professional expertise to everything we do.

How Your Parish Can Help

You do not need to solve homelessness.

However, your council can make a genuine difference by:

- Raising awareness of Squaddie Box amongst councillors and community groups.
- Keeping us in mind if you become aware of a veteran who may need support.
- Sharing our details with local organisations and veteran groups.
- Considering sponsorship of a Squaddie Box Pod should your council or local businesses wish to support the initiative.
- Hosting a VISP (Veteran Identification Support Programme) course for councillors, clerks or local partner organisations.

This Armed Forces Week, I simply ask that you remember the veterans living quietly within your parish.

Many will never ask for help.

Some may not even realise that support exists.

Together, we can help ensure that no veteran becomes invisible within the community they once served.

Appendix 9 : Project List

Greatham Parish Council Project List 2025/2026 and beyond updated January 2026

Colour Code :

2025 projects

2026 Projects

2027 Projects and new Parish Council

Task	Lead	Cost	Comments/Progress
General Parish Council Work			
Playground maintenance	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Cheesman		<i>Sort out drainage issue. Playground maintenance to be done by Eibe. Review after 1 year.</i>
Speedwatch equipment	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Equipment functional but without a camera not operational. Review next steps.</i>
Lengthsman	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Ongoing planning of work.</i>
Bus Shelter maintenance	RFO		<i>Quote received, Grant application made. Grant refused. Further grant applications to be made.</i>
Review of salt bins	Cllr Cheesman		<i>Todmore salt bin to be relocated to other side of Rd to provide better access.</i>
Footpath	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Quote received from Local maintenance team. To be implemented.</i>

Maintenance of Footpaths and bridlepaths	Cllr Bartlett		<i>As above.</i>
Longmoor Bridge	Cllr Cheesman		<i>Safety measures to be installed to ensure children cannot fall into the river.</i>
Quick Wins			
Speedwatch	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Bartlett		<i>Review locations of speed camera. Obtain grant support for additional permanent camera position.</i>
G15			<i>Reviewed for new parish council</i>
Councillor Drop In	All		<i>Date for 2026 to be decided.</i>
Telephone box	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Telephone box complete. Usage to be agreed.</i>
Wildflowers	Cllr Rudd		<i>Look at creating Wildflower and pollinator corridors in the village. Clerk to forward pollinator email, and to link to RP Commerical.</i>
Village Footpath & Ecology Signboards/Gateways	Cllr Bartlett	S106	<i>Find out where we are and get production moving.</i>
Old Church Strategy	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Book meeting with old church working group.</i>
Flood alleviation	Cllr Lafferty		<i>Work to be done on the river to reduce chance of flooding.</i>
Parking issues with school run	Cllr Cheesman/Cllr Rudd		<i>Cllr Lafferty attended GVH car park</i>
Old Church laurel hedge	Cllr Bartlett		<i>To agree boundary with L'Abri.</i>
Major Initiatives			
Cycle route from Greatham to Liss	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Utilise plans from previous parish council to see if route possible and look at finance.</i>
Old Church power and light	Cllr Bartlett		<i>Review option of having power and light installed at old church to allow for greater usage to be made of site to aid with cost of maintenance.</i>
Traffic calming initiatives	Cllr Lafferty/Cllr Bartlett		<i>Follow up with HCC regarding crossing, Farnham road junction works, traffic calming options.</i>
Other Initiatives			
Community Hub engagement			
Recruitment of Clerk by May 2027.			