

# Gressingham Parish Council

## **Unconfirmed Minutes of the of the 406<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28th July 2025**

A meeting of Gressingham Parish Council was held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 in which the following participated: Martin Brooks (MB) (Chair), Michele Luxon (ML) Neil Read (NR) and Sally Riley (SR), Lesley Lee (LL). In attendance: County Councillor Shaun Crimmins

### **406/1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Grant Parker.

### **406/2 Declarations of Interest**

There were no initial declarations of interest

### **406/3 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were approved for signature by the Chair

### **406/4 Matters arising from previous minutes (not covered elsewhere)**

None were raised

### **406/6 Finance and Governance**

#### **a) expenditure for discussion. 2025/26 in year financial statement to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 for approval and proposed.**

LL discussed the Virgin bank account spreadsheet. It was noted that the balance of £8124.44 was transferred to the new bank account. The original bank account will be closed after a small amount is transferred to the new Bank Account. **LL to action.** The new Unity Trust Bank account has been set up and opened by LL. The spreadsheet for this account from opening to date was discussed. It was noted that the balance as at 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 is £8444.10 This will be a much easier system to operate with authorisation for payments online by whichever councillor is available at the time. The budget and expenditure monitoring sheet was also discussed. A slight amendment as to how it is set up will be corrected for the next one. The OSR rental should be shown under Section 137 and the donation for the GVT Roof will be shown elsewhere. **LL to action**

#### **b) 2024/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return Update.**

Everything was published as required and submitted to the External Auditors by the 1<sup>st</sup> July deadline. No correspondence has been received to date.

#### **c) 2025 Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of this meeting are available on the PC website. MB gave a brief report from the minutes for the benefit of the Councillor.

#### **d) Monitoring against Annual Governance Cycle**

It was noted that all actions had been carried out at the required times and included in relevant agendas and minutes. NR suggested that the plague stone check should be carried out twice a year and added to the cycle.

**406/7 Gressingham and Eskrigge Community Emergency Plan (CEP)**

It was noted that no action had been necessary since the May meeting.

**406/8 Police and Crime/Neighbourhood Watch**

There is nothing to report.

**406/9 Planning and Tree Works**

- a) I have not been sent any new applications from the City Council.
- b) An email has been received regarding a consultation on the new Lancashire Health and Wellbeing pharmaceutical needs which LL read out at the meeting. No action needed.
- c) Some diseased trees opposite the OSR have been noticed. NR will report these to the Highways Agency.

**406/10 Roads and Traffic**

**a) Traffic issues and road safety (including SpID update)**

- i. It was noted that both SpIDs were operating satisfactorily.
- ii. As the County Councillor was present NR discussed the villages need for a 20mph zone.
- iii. No progress on road drains from Herst Cottage to Stone Cottage.
- iv. SR mentioned the plague stone; is it a historical asset? It has recently been damaged by a vehicle hedge cutting. It was agreed that NR would put up two more fence posts to mark where the stone is situated. NR will go up and look first to see what needs doing.

**b) Road fault reports**

The pothole around the grids outside Gressingham Hall is becoming damaged again. To be kept an eye on.

The current position with LoveCleanStreets was noted.

**406/11 Amenities and facilities and Environment**

**a) Defibrillator**

SR reported the defibrillator is working well. The current battery level is 69%.

**b)White Bridges Update.**

Nothing to update apart from when UU have repaired after the water leak. They have just put gravel down instead of tarmacing. MB has taken a photo and will send it to UU with his comments.

**c) Gressingham Village Trust (GVT)**

This was mentioned by MB in his brief report earlier in the meeting. It was suggested that GVT needs a website to publish minutes etc. Possibly could have a link from the History website?

**d) Gressingham Village Archive update.**

The site was published today. A few minor problems which NR has now sorted. Will wait and see what material comes through which will be of general interest. Roy Blanchfield has offered his help. Need another meeting.

**406/12**

**Date of next meeting**

**Monday 29th September 2025** was agreed as the date of next meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.

*Note: these minutes are unconfirmed until ratified by the next meeting of Gressingham Parish Council.*