

Babraham Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held 13th November 2025

Stuart Laurie: Chair

Denise Dear: Vice Chair

Rob Attwood

Tim Jones

Chris Chapman: BRC

Cllr Laurence Damary-Homan: County Councillor

Anne Charteris: Clerk

Members of the Public: 1

	Part I: Non-Confidential Information
2511/01	To receive and approve apologies for absence Cllr Peter McDonald
2511/02	To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda None declared
2511/03	To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 9th October 2025 Approved and signed
2511/04	Exclusion of the public To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded
2511/05	Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald The full Report can be found on the Parish Council website, items on the report: Postal Voters Cabinet and Town/Parish Council Liaison Meeting 4 day week in the News Local Government Reorganisation Anglian Water Fen Reservoir Draft Local Plan How are we doing survey OxCam growth corridor and Cambridge growth Bringing empty homes back in use Street Trading South Cambs supports communities with more grants.
2511/06	Report from Cambridgeshire County Councillor. The sign on Sawston Road has been dealt with. The plethora of signs along the A1307 which notify of new road layout will be asked to be removed. The full County Report can be found on the Parish Council website, items on the Report: Council composition Local Government Reorganisation Motions for Debate Customer Care Budget and Business Plan Budget survey

	<p>Arthur Rank Hospice Integrated care System Health Scrutiny CCS Trust Merger Be winter wise Flood resilience Campaign Nature recovery From the Ground Up project launched Government to invest £500m to support Europe's Silicon Valley LED Street light replacements Public Rights of Way maintenance hierarchy Gritting and snow clearance Grants</p>
2511/07	<p>Report from Babraham Research Campus (BRC) representative A lot of work has been done on the Permissive footpaths- removing poplars and subsequent woodland enhancement, this has been carried out with approval from the Forestry Commission. There have been some closures of the path and this is just temporary. Mulching and repairs to boundary fences have also been done. Ash dieback has affected some trees and these have been treated or removed, they will be replaced but the distance between them has been increased to prevent any disease spreading. High St- ivy has been removed from the flint wall. The path along the river between the church and the Farm Drive will be levelled and woodchip laid, the kissing gates will be removed to make access easier for disabled to use. Hedge planting continues along field margins in alliance to the Countryside Stewardship scheme. Starting on Feb 17th, surgery work will be done on Oaks and Sycamores. The BBSRC are working with the Bush and Bennet charity on the change of covenant, a letter of comfort to allow the building of the school/hall extension to commence. Close- the Planning application has not yet been submitted; this is held by BBSRC. Chris Chapmans hours of work are changing; he informed us that he now works Tuesday to Thursdays inc.</p>
2511/08	<p>Public participation time – 15 minutes allowed No items</p>
2511/09	<p>CSET- update This is still with the Dept of Transport, delayed until Jan of 2026</p>
2511/10	<p>Village Hall. The building work is all set to go, DeMat need permission from the Dept of Education, however work will start on the foundations to comply with the planning application which says work must start by December. The following motions were proposed by Stuart Laurie, seconded by Denise Dear and all in favour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sec 106 money to be used in conjunction with the Babraham Village Hall charity funds to build an extension to the existing school hall for shared use between the school and community. • Accept KWA Architects plans and their company as project managers of the proposed build • Accept PD Doyle as the nominated builder and approve the cost of £354,000 to be paid from sec 106 and Babraham Village Hall funds combined.

2511/11	Forest Garden Project. A planting day was held on the 11 th Oct, this was for low growing plants. Representatives from SCDC were present and stayed for some while, they will be back to take some photos. The area has been strimmed and mown, more hedging has been planted. Items outstanding: Notice/information boards, Terms of Reference, Grants applied for?																																				
2511/12	Neighbourhood Plan- update. Nothing to Report.																																				
2511/13	Updates from last meeting. Highways <ul style="list-style-type: none">Speed bumps problems – 2 have been redone in tarmac. The ones by the river bridge will be done in Jan, this will involve full road closure, notices will be given of the date.																																				
2511/14	General Village Matters and new items for discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">EV Charging points in the village Streetlamps chargers- County Council not in a position to provide them. The problem is that BPC do not have any land to put these on.Benches to be installed along cycle path within the campus, one provided by BRC and one by the PC.New Pay scales announced from NALC for Clerks, it was proposed by SL and agreed by all to accept these and approve the new pay scale for Clerk backdated to April 2025.Application for HGV restriction in Babraham. The restriction could be covered by Local Highway Improvement initiative, there could be a weight limit and HGVs not sent through the village by Sat Nav, this will be looked into by Clerk.Grange Farm development- see correspondence below, Clerk has contacted to arrange a meeting, possibly in January. FINANCE																																				
2511/15	Receipts and Transfers (as of 7th Nov 2025) Money transferred from Village Hall Comm £247,375.09																																				
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2511/18	Set Precept for 2026-2027 using Budget forecast The Budget had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was proposed by SL, seconded by DD and agreed by all that the Precept would remain the same as previous years at £14,000 PLANNING																						
2511/19	Applications received: Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council Proposal: Removal and relocation of leaking oil tank Site address: Almshouses High Street Babraham Reference: 25/03973/FUL Public Access Link: https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/03973/FUL Proposal: Solar PV Panel array on the south-facing upper roof of the barn at the property of Home Farm House, with associated infrastructure in adjacent buildings, which are in the curtilage of the Grade II listed Farmhouse. Site address: Home Farm, Home Farm House High Street Babraham Reference: 25/03975/LBC Public Access link: https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/03975/LBC Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council Proposal: Solar PV Panel array on the south-facing upper roof of the barn at the property of Home Farm House, with associated infrastructure in adjacent buildings, which are in the curtilage of the Grade II listed Farmhouse. Site address: Home Farm, Home Farm House High Street Babraham Reference: 25/03974/HFUL Public Access link: https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/03974/HFUL Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council Proposal: Retrospective removal and relocation of oil tank, change of use of land to residential. Site address: Almshouses High Street Babraham Reference: 25/03973/FUL																						

	<p>Public Access link: https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/03973/FUL</p> <p>No objections to any application.</p>
2511/20	Planning decisions: none
2511/21	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>From Greater Cambridge Planning:</p> <p>The Draft Local Plan and associated paperwork is scheduled to be considered by South Cambridgeshire District Councils Scrutiny and Overview Committee on Thursday 6th November in advance of the Council Cabinet meeting on 25th November to approve consultation on the document over December and January.</p> <p>The draft Local Plan outlines a proposal for a new community of some 6000 new homes at the junction of the A11 and A1307 Cambridge Road. I recognise that the proposal is likely to give rise to a number of questions and views both to and from, your Council. Noting the considerable volume of material surrounding the Joint Local Plan, and this significant new proposal, I therefore wanted to offer your Council and the other Parishes adjoining the potential site allocation, the opportunity to meet with me and the planning policy team to discuss this specific proposal further.</p> <p>We are currently seeking to understand each Parish Councils meeting commitments in order to suggest some suitable dates and I expect to be in contact with you again shortly. I appreciate that this proposal may give rise to a range of concerns amongst your community that we can hopefully explore when we meet. In the meantime, if you have any immediate pressing queries, please contact me or the planning policy team and we will endeavour to assist in providing a response.</p>
2511/22	<p>Items for inclusion in the next meeting</p> <p>Forest Garden terms of reference.</p>
2511/23	<p>Date of next meetings at 7.30pm : No meeting in December Thursday 8th January 2026</p>
2511/24	<p>Part II: Confidential Information</p> <p>Exclusion of the Press and the Public: To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.</p> <p>Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i> 17th Nov 2025 10 Duxford Road, Hinxton, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1RB 01799 531827</p>