

Great Hinton

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 13th March 2025, in the Village Hall, Great Hinton at 7.00pm

In attendance: Cllr S Andrew (Chair), Cllr M Winterburn (Vice-Chair), Cllr C Saunders, Cllr K Strickland, Cllr D Norris, Wiltshire Councillor J Seed.

Minutes taken by: T. Hicks (Parish Clerk).

Public & Press: None.

MINUTES

No.	Item
1.	Welcome and Apologies - None.
2.	Minutes of the Previous Meeting To approve and adopt the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 th May 2024. Approved without amendment.
3.	Parish Matters An opportunity for members of the electorate to raise matters. None.
4.	Chair's Report To receive updates from the parish council. Cllr Andrew delivered the annual report. (Appendix 1)
5.	Wiltshire Councillor's Report To receive a report from the Wiltshire Council representative, Councillor Jonathon Seed. Cllr Seed delivered his report. (Appendix 2)
6.	Public Forum An opportunity for members of the public to ask questions. None.

Chairman's Report 2025

When I wrote the report this time last year, I commented on the fact that our new clerk was establishing herself as part of the team and that gradually we were adapting our working practices. Little did I know that within two months, we would be starting the whole recruiting process again! Sadly, we had to say goodbye and thanks for your help to Naomi Mildenhall. We wish her the best of luck in continuing to build her family business. Fortunately this time we were more familiar with the required process to make a new appointment and Cllr. Strickland organised the advertising process quickly and efficiently. We were fortunate to receive several applications and a small group was tasked with short listing and interviewing the strongest candidates. We were very pleased to be able to offer the post to Mrs Tekla Hicks who joined us in September and has already been demonstrating the depth of her knowledge of Parish Council legislation and her ability to give us strong guidance and support. I hope that she will continue to take the Parish Council forward and ensure that it meets all the required criteria. It has been a pleasure to work with her

The traffic situation through the village has been a continuing issue throughout the year and a great deal of our time has been spent in trying to find solutions that would alleviate our problems. Cllr. Winterburn has attended meetings and put in a tremendous amount of work to enable this supported by Cllr Seed and also with help from Adrian Kwasnicki. We now have new signs in place at both ends of the village indicating that the road is only single carriage with a few passing places. We have also purchased portable signage which can be put in place when there is the threat of disruption on the main road and the possibility of a traffic deluge on the village with the inevitable grid lock situation. Mr Kwasnicki has formed a support group who have undertaken to put these in place as needed. They have had appropriate training, a risk assessment is in place and all required measures have been covered. We are extremely grateful to all of these residents for their help and support. At the time of writing this report, the temporary signs have been deployed once and, whilst you will never completely stop all traffic from passing through, the volume was far less than in similar situations in the past so hopefully they are having a very positive effect. Adrian has also been trying to tackle SAT NAV providers who are responsible for guiding traffic through unsuitable roads and lanes. Cllr Seed is also interested in this and let's hope the voice of reason will finally prevail!

Cllr Winterburn has received help and support from the Highways section of WCC and Cllr Seed in continuing to progress our application for a 20mph limit through the village. The appropriate speed survey was undertaken and application for a variance in Traffic orders made, and at all times, she was trying to ensure that most cost effective methods were being employed. Here again, many thanks to Cllr. Seed for his help and support in this particular area. We are keeping everything crossed, but at the moment it looks as though the new 20mph speed limit will be adopted and signage put in place in the late Spring. This will be a huge achievement and couldn't have happened without a great deal of hard work by the people previously mentioned so our very sincere thanks go to all of them.

We have continued to monitor all local planning applications and examine and comment on them as required. Our new clerk is supporting us in upgrading all our policies to ensure that we meet current requirements. Cllr. Strickland has started to review some of these and will present his findings at the next meeting.

Adrian Kwasnicki has achieved the tremendous feat of producing yet another fingerpost for the village and getting it installed safely. He must be rightly proud of the high calibre product and it has been very much admired by villagers and visitors who can now find us with greater ease! It is difficult to estimate the hours of hard work that went into making this and we are all extremely grateful to him for his dedication and hours of hard work! A very sincere thank you Adrian.

Friday, April 11, 2025 at 11:26:40 British Summer Time

Subject: Great Hinton APM Report

Date: Thursday 13 March 2025 at 19:21:11 Greenwich Mean Time

From: Jonathon Seed

To: Naomi Mildenhall

Great Hinton APM Report

My role as your Wiltshire Councillor has several elements, including:

Representing the interests of residents and the Parish Council to Wiltshire Council for all of the six villages that I represent Great Hinton, Keevil, Steeple Ashton, Semington Berryfield and Broughton Gifford

I participate in the governance of Wiltshire Council through Committee work and I am a Member of O&S Management Committee, Strategic Planning and Western Area Planning. In addition I Chair the Melksham Area Board and several scrutiny task groups.

I Attend and advise Parish Councils

I Respond and help residents with individual issues, including planning matters

I work on behalf of residents in LA areas such as planning, highways and grant applications

As a current overview

Wiltshire Council Budget 4.5% plus investment.

Great achievement

G&T Strategy postponed. Personal intervention re numbers locally

Transport Strategy includes acceptance of car as a means of transport albeit working towards net zero by 2050

Locally over the past year

I have helped to secure Area Board Grant funding to the village including the recent Gazebo