

FOSTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Foston Parish Council held on 3rd November 2025 at 19:30 at Foston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Richard Litchfield, Cllr Christina Lees, Cllr John Munro, Cllr Tracey Gardner, Cllr Pamela Fellows.
Cllr P Wood, Clerk to Council – C Smith.

Public Forum – Residents present – Mr Mrs Thomlinson. Present to discuss the progress of the village hub and any decisions made about the hub.

In the absence of Cllr Spikings, Cllr Litchfield gave an update on the project as not being decisive but in the early stages.

Council Session started at 19.40 – Public members left the meeting

25147. Apologies and reasons for absence (To receive and resolve reasons for absence in accordance with the requirement of the Local Government Act 1972) – Cllr Bamford, Cllr Spikings

25148. To receive Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in accordance with the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 – Nil

25149. To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27th August 2025 – It was Resolved: that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd September 2025 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Unanimous.

25150. To receive and consider reports from County and District Councillors' District Councillor Wood reported on the split of the County Council being eradicated in future. Therefore, no district or county councils but a unitary council. This should be decided during 2026 followed by the elections of new authorities in 2027. During 2028 the new authorities will be formed. It was revealed that the county of Surrey had already been given the approval of the Government to progress with this new formation. It was also announced that there were plans to convert dwellings into HOMO [Houses of multiple occupancies].

County Councillor Bamford sent a report ahead of the meeting –

"I have now conducted a number of village walks across our patch, which have been very productive. Seeing and discussing local issues first hand with the Parish and LCC officers is definitely the way ahead and is helping to get things done, so these will continue.

I am continuing to work with LCC to try and progress ongoing broader issues such as speeding, parking and flooding, which are recurring themes across Hough. If anyone has ideas or proposals for how we can tackle these issues please let me know. By now you should be seeing how I work, nothing is off the table, so let's be bold and get creative.

I am also looking at ways we can try to encourage more young people to get involved in voluntary community activities and local government, as Parish, District or indeed County councillors. Again, any ideas you have to support this would be welcomed.

I have access to a small amount of funding and resourcing support for local projects that benefit the community. So if you have ideas, please do let me know and I will see if I can help.

Local Updates -Goosegate Lane

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Progress is finally being made, but it will take time. I have been working closely with Cllr Litchfield and LCC to ensure this stays 'on the radar'. Special thanks to Cllr Gardner for his historic knowledge of this legacy issue and tenacity supporting the drive towards resolution.

Viking Way - A hearing is scheduled on Friday 7th November. Update to follow.

General Issues - A village walk was conducted recently, during which several points were raised for consideration. These points have been acknowledged by LCC and will be prioritised within the respective programme planning cycles and routine maintenance works schemes."

25251. - To consider and discuss the roadworks namely Highfield Close, Goosegate Lane and Back Lane and walkabouts in the presence of Cllr Litchfield.

Cllr Litchfield gave an update on Highfield Close and the reasoning for the resurfacing as 'future proofing' and to preserve for the future. It was agreed that the quality was substandard and communication was not forthcoming.

Goosegate Lane and Back Lane works are on hold due to drainage issues. Cllr Gardner is communicating with Contractors re Goosegate Lane. However, we are working closely with LCC to sort the roads out.

It was mentioned that the hedge outside Church View and on Long Street opposite The Ranch need to be cut back as they are encroaching on the public footpath.

It was decided that we should promote the app, 'fix my street' for residents to

25252. - To consider the parking opposite the entrance to Church Street outside the Old Hall and on Main Street in front of Black Horse Cottages and resolve on any action to be taken.

There have been a few concerns with regards in appropriate parking of vehicles especially on the corner of Main Street leading down Newark Hill which is causing bad visibility for other motorists.

25253. - To consider Parish Councillor vacancy and resolve on any action to be taken – The advert is still open to village residents.

25254. -To receive an update regarding relating to permissive access rights to Foston Playing Field. – It was resolved that after the residents had been written to and no reply being forthcoming, Cllr Lees will approach the residents, and Cllr Gardner will get a quote to agree on a fence being placed in the appropriate position. The resident will be written to from Cllr Litchfield to advise of the proposal and work will commence.

Unanimous

25255. - To consider Parish Council printer and ink supply contract and resolve on any action to be taken. –

It was resolved that we should continue with the current printer for adhoc printing.

Unanimous

25256. - To receive a report from Cllr Spikings regarding a potential lease for 1st Foston Scout Group relating to land at Foston Playing Field on which Gorrie Hall is situated and resolve on any action to be taken

Item skipped in the absence of Cllr Spikings and will be discussed in the next meeting.

25257. - To consider the draft budget for the 2025/2026 and resolve on any action to be taken. It was resolved that the Cllrs would review the proposed budget and revert back with opinions.

Unanimous

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25258. - To consider the revision of the 2017 Foston's Neighbourhood Development Plan and resolve on any action to be taken. It was resolved that councillors review the current plan and suggest how it can be updated. To invite opinions from the parishioners and possibly create a working group to develop the plan with a possible meeting in February 2026 for an open forum. Unanimous

25259. - To consider correspondence relating to the creation of a Parish Council Communication Network and resolve any action to be taken. It was proposed that Foston join the network with Cllr Litchfield in attendance. Cllr Litchfield to write to Great Gonerby to this effect. Unanimous

25260. - To consider correspondence from Environment agency relating to the report made regarding Marshall Way and resolve on any action to be taken. It was instructed that no further action be taken. Point Closed.

Unanimous

25261. - To consider the need for first aid equipment within the village. It was resolved that Cllr Lees arrange for an additional 1st aid.defib Course and that Foston Parish Council donate £50 to the Company instructing the course. Unanimous

25262. - To consider funding for fruit trees with the Coronation Community Orchards Scheme. It was resolved that no further action be taken Point closed. Unanimous

25263. - Consider quotations received for the provision of a gov. domain name and associated email addresses and resolve on any action to be taken. Cllr Litchfield will address the cost of the emails and domain name.

25264. - To consider donation of gifts to residents helping the Parish Council and resolve on any action to be taken. It was resolved that we acknowledge people who support the village throughout the year with Christmas gifts. Cllr Lees to arrange. Unanimous

25265. - To consider LIVES (Lincolnshire Integrated Voluntary Emergency Services) 2025 Christmas Big Give Challenge and resolve on any action to be taken. It was resolved that a donation of £50 be made to LIVES Unanimous

25265. - To consider dog fouling and facilities within the village and resolve on any action to be taken. It was decided that Cllr Lees send an email to all parishioners requesting that they respect the village in regard to dog fouling. Cllr Litchfield will include it in the newsletter also.

25266. - To receive and consider a report from Cllr Gardner on Planning Matters

Ref. No: S25/1047 | Received date: Fri 06 Jun 2025 | Status: Condition(s) discharged - all | Case Type: Planning Application. High Field Farm Poultry Unit Fallows Lane Foston Grantham NG32 2LJ

Submission of details reserved by condition 4 (Landscaping) and condition 6 (Waste Management Plan) of planning permission S23/1677 - Erection of 2 no. additional poultry houses with associated feed bins, concrete apron, dirty water tank, drainage attenuation pond and landscaping

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Ref. No: S25/1046 | Received date: Fri 06 Jun 2025 | Status: Condition(s) discharged - all | Case Type: Planning Application. Land Off Fallow Lane Foston

Submission of details reserved by condition 12 (Waste Management Plan) of planning permission S12/3241 - Erection of 4 poultry units, 2 control rooms, office and general purpose building, feed bins, hardstanding, gas tanks and electric substation. Upgrade/extension of access road to allow access from Newark Hill.

Ref. No: S25/0983 | Received date: Wed 28 May 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration | Case Type: Planning Application. Meadow View Marshall Way Foston NG32 2LQ

Submission of details reserved by Condition 5 (Site Development Scheme) of planning permission S23/2004

Ref. No: S25/1753 | Received date: Thu 18 Sep 2025 | Status: Pending Consideration | Case Type: Planning Application. Firs Farm Great North Road Foston Grantham NG32 2JP

Erection of two general purpose agricultural buildings.

Ref. No: S25/1372 | Received date: Mon 21 Jul 2025 | Status: Condition(s) discharged - all | Case Type: Planning Application. Y Not Main Street Foston Lincolnshire NG32 2JU

Submission of details reserved by the biodiversity gain condition and condition 6 (sustainable building) of planning permission S24/1564 (Erection of one replacement dwelling after demolition of existing dwelling, two new dwellings and new access road).

Ref. No: S25/1018 | Received date: Mon 02 Jun 2025 | Status: Refused | Case Type: Planning Application. Bypass Farm Great North Road Foston Lincolnshire NG32 2JT

External alterations to building comprising addition of doors, windows and rooflights and new external cladding (proposals in connection with class MA prior approval to convert building to dwelling).

25267. - To consider Financial Matters.

A] To receive the Clerks report on payments between ordinary meetings - Council noted the details of the following payments made between meetings.

| To receive the Clerks report on payments between ordinary meetings. | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| Ref | Payment Date | Payee /Remitter | Invoice / Ref No | Budget Category | Payment Type | Total |
| 46 | 05/09/2025 | HSBC | GROSS INTEREST TO 04SEP2025 | Other Income | Credit | £ 254.43 |
| 47 | 18/09/2025 | Chattertons | MID/APS/FOSTO007/001 | Projects | Bill Payment | £ 50.00 |
| 49 | 30/09/2025 | C Smith | P6 - Salary | Staff Costs | Bill Payment | £ 283.40 |
| 50 | 30/09/2025 | C Smith | P6 - Home Working Payment | Admin | Bill Payment | £ 26.00 |
| 57 | 30/10/2025 | C Smith | P7 Salary + Additional Hours Training | Staff Costs | Bill Payment | £ 381.50 |
| 58 | 30/10/2025 | C Smith | P7 Home working Payment | Admin | Bill Payment | £ 26.00 |
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| | | | | | | £ 1,021.33 |

B] To review and consider accounts for payment. It was Resolved: That Council approve payment of the following items Unanimous.

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| To review and consider accounts for payment | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|
| Ref | Payment Date | Payee /Remitter | Invoice / Ref No | Budget Category | Payment Type | Total |
| 45 | 05/11/2025 | Parks and Pitches | 2021 | Grass Cutting | Bill Payment | £ 160.00 |
| 48 | 05/11/2025 | First Rescue Training | DW-172609 | Projects | Bill Payment | £ 126.00 |
| 52 | 05/11/2025 | Parks and Pitches | 2037 | Grass Cutting | Bill Payment | £ 160.00 |
| 53 | 05/11/2025 | JW Trading | 114 | Maintenance | Bill Payment | £ 50.40 |
| 54 | 05/11/2025 | Foston Village Hall | 146 | Admin | Bill Payment | £ 36.00 |
| 55 | 05/11/2025 | Foston Village Hall | 152 | Admin | Bill Payment | £ 48.00 |
| 56 | 05/11/2025 | LALC | 16289 | Training | Bill Payment | £ 42.00 |
| 59 | 06/11/2025 | HMRC | Month 7 Deductions | Staff Costs | Bill Payment | £ 121.20 |
| 60 | 06/11/2025 | JE Stanley | Month 7 Deductions | Staff Costs | Bill Payment | £ 484.43 |
| 61 | 06/11/2025 | JE Stanley | P6,P7 Allowances | Admin | Bill Payment | £ 52.00 |
| 62 | 06/11/2025 | Cllr C Lees | Reimbursement | Projects | Bill Payment | £ 99.52 |
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| | | | | | | £ 1,379.55 |

C] To review income and expenditure to 30th September 2025 — Income and expenditure to 31st August 2025 was reviewed and noted, no further action

D] To review bank account reconciliations to 5th September 2025 - It was Resolved: that the bank account reconciliation for 5th September 2025 be accepted and approved. Unanimous

E] To review bank account reconciliations to 5th October 2025 - It was Resolved: that the bank account reconciliation for 5th October 2025 be accepted and approved. Unanimous

25268. - To consider items for inclusion on the agenda for the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 6th January 2026

25269. - Items of a confidential nature to be debated in the absence of the press and public. As per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 - It was Resolved: that the press and public be excluded from discussion on item 25146 due to confidential matters being discussed. Unanimous

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.32

Signed
Cllr R Litchfield Chairman