

**The Bi-Monthly Meeting of East Garston Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on
Thursday 10th September 2026 at 7.00pm**

MINUTES

- 1. Present:** Councillors – Stephen Reschwamm (Chair/SR), Deana Carpenter (Vice-chair/DC), Annabelle Eyre (AE), Hamish Riddoch (HR)
Liz James (Clerk), Cllr Clive Hooker
Parishioners: Mark Cole

Apologies: Sue Tulloch (ST), Jonathan Rabbitts (JR)

- 2. Declarations of Interest:** ST made a declaration of interest regarding planning application 26/01831/HOUSE but had also given her apologies for the meeting.
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9th July 2026 were unanimously confirmed and adopted.
- 4. Questions/comments from members of the public:**
Mark Cole (MC): As a courtesy Mark Cole updated the Parish Council on ideas for potential development at Mabberley's. These would likely involve the land behind the rear stable block (adjacent to the cricket pitch) and would likely involve the erection of a wooden structure. HR raised the issue of flood risk, MC assured the council that this would be properly investigated in any development plan.

5. Planning Information since the last meeting:

NEW:	
26/01831/HOUSE	Pump House East Garston Hungerford RG17 7HU Proposed single storey extension with associated alterations. 3no new rooflights to side elevation (East) The Parish Council considered this application and has no objections
26/00985/HOUSE	Manor Farm Station Road East Garston Hungerford RG17 7HF Repairs to Barn including replacement clay tile roof coverings, timber framing repairs, renewal of brickwork, renewal of window and door, render repairs and replacement of concrete floor with natural stone floor. Repairs to Garden Wall including clay tile capping, chalk cob and brick & stone walling, removal of contentious render and applying new lime render finish. The Parish Council has considered this application and has no objections
PENDING:	
26/01321/HOUSE	14 College Way, East Garston, Hungerford, RG17 7EP Erection of a two-storey side extension with rooflights and single storey rear extension with rooflights, including a front dormer window and associated Internal alterations. Awaiting decision
26/01337/TELE28	Telecommunications Mast at Shefford Woodlands Notification under Regulation 5 of the Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and Restrictions) Regulations 2003 (as amended) to utilise permitted development rights (Class A of Part 16 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)). Awaiting decision

Signed:

Date:

25/02765/FULMAJ	Manor Farm, Station Road, East Garston, Hungerford RG17 7HF Conversion of an agricultural barn to equestrian use, replacement stable building and formation of horse walker and menage together with associated works and landscaping. Awaiting decision
25/02412/FUL	P J S Agricultural Services Ltd Back Street East Garston Hungerford Full planning permission for the demolition of the existing industrial buildings and replacement with four new residential dwellings, together with parking, landscaping and any other associated works and infrastructure. Awaiting decision
DECISIONS:	
25/02651/FULMAJ	Manor Farm Station Road East Garston Hungerford RG17 7HF Section 73 application to vary conditions 2 (Approved Plans) 3 (Materials) 4 (Soft and Hard Landscaping) and 5 (Lighting Assessment) of approved Application Reference Number: 25/01152/FULMAJ Permission granted

Action: Clerk to upload comments on Planning Portal re. The Pump House

6. Receive reports:

District Cllr Clive Hooker updated the council members on matters including the recent government announcement that local government reorganisation is on hold – local elections in May 2027 will proceed under existing council boundaries.

Cllr Hooker extended his thanks to Brian Quinn for his efforts retaining the bus service and liaising with Thames Water regarding the ongoing road closures. His thanks were echoed by those present.

Cllr Hooker's most recent report can be accessed here:

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/downloadsparishcouncilreport>

Chairman's Report: SR reported that SR, HR and John Hunt have spent time tidying the area around the infant play equipment in the Jubilee Meadow. SR thanked all those involved in organising the recent Village Fete and band evening, noting that both events were a great success. SR also updated the council on concerns that have been raised over a suspected change of land use at The Sheiling.

Clerk's Report: Rubber chippings have arrived, thanks to ST and all those who helped spread these around the junior play equipment in the Jubilee Meadow. Now that the road works have moved quotations for new bus shelters can proceed. Dog waste collections seem to have improved under the new provider (Shield Maintenance), and monthly cost has reduced considerably. The War Memorial Trust has confirmed that a grant may be available for repair to the memorial railings – given the relatively small nature of the repairs needed, those present questioned payment should be made from CIL money rather than taking funds from a charitable trust.

Meeting dates for 2027 have been entered into the calendar.

Action: Clerk to arrange quotations for repairs to memorial railings

Action: Clerk to arrange quotations for new bus shelters

Signed:

Date:

7. Finance and Compliance:

a) Payments & receipts

Payments since the previous meeting:

Name	Goods/Service	Amount incl VAT	Approved
Play Bark	Rubber Chippings for playground	439.99	SR/DC
Autela Payroll Services	Payroll charges April – July	72.00	SR/DC
E James	Salary – July	310.25	SR/DC
Unity Bank	Service Charge	7.00	
Shield Maintenance	Dog Waste Collection - July	78.00	SR/DC
Scofell	Mowing – July	320.81	SR/DC
X-Net	Email provision and storage	120.00	SR/DC
E James	Salary – August	310.25	SR/DC
Unity Bank	Service Charge	7.00	
CPRE	Annual Subscription	30.00	SR/DC
Shield Maintenance	Dog Waste Collection - August	78.00	SR/DC
Scofell	Mowing - August	320.81	SR/DC
X-Net	Annual Service Charge 2026-27	460.80	SR/DC
	TOTAL	2554.91	

Received since the previous meeting:

	TOTAL	£0.00
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Bank balances:

Current Account	£ 1,979.46
Deposit Account	£ 17,260.52
TOTAL	£ 19,239.98

Funds breakdown:

General Fund	£ 3,461.97	
Special & Emergencies	£ 6,000.00	frozen
CIL Fund	£ 5,453.39	
Open Space Dev.	£ 3,934.36	
Defib. Fund	£ 390.26	

8. **Public Emergency Briefing film evening:** Confirmed for Tuesday 29th September at 7pm. This has been advertised in Penny Post but additional advertising needed.

Action: Clerk to send details of film showing to Great Shefford Parish Council

9. **East Garston Website:** Thanks were given to Henry Wilson for efforts in updating the website, which is ongoing. Some frustration that the website isn't being utilised by villagers.

Action: SR to discuss with HW and LM regarding website usage

10. **Pipe Issue – HR:** HR updated the PC on the existence of old Environment Agency water pipe running through the village which has recently had a leak near Manor Farm. HR is liaising with EA regarding the location of the pipe.

Action: HR to write to Environment Agency

Signed:

Date:

11. Village Readiness Plans – SR: A resident of Lambourn has raised the idea of village readiness plans considering increased flooding/wild-fire risks. SR is confident that EG is in a good position given the EG Emergency Plan but that this should perhaps be extended to cover wildfire risk. Those present suggested that a PC Emergency Whatsapp group would be a good idea

Action: SR to review Emergency Plan to propose updates regarding wildfire risk

Action: SR to liaise with JR regarding availability of sandbags/sand and to compile a list of landowners in the parish

Action: Clerk to create a PC Emergency Whatsapp group

12. Jubilee Meadow & Playground: A survey regarding gym equipment use has gone out in EGN. AE/ST have tested the equipment.

Action: ST to suggest someone to carry out minor repairs

13. Village Maintenance & Millenium Field: The hedge along the edge of the paddock from the Queen's Arms turnoff (opposite Mabberley's) is overgrown again. DC reported that the phone box base needs repair.

Action: SR to speak to JR regarding cutting back this hedge

Action: Clerk to speak to the Ed James regarding cutting this hedge

Action: Clerk to liaise with Liam Robson regarding phone box repair.

14. Review of Action Points: Most have been carried out or are in hand.

15. Any other business: None

The meeting was concluded at 8.15pm

Date of next meeting

Thursday 12th November

2027 Meeting dates:

14th January

11th March

15th April Annual Parish Meeting

13th May Annual General Meeting

8th July

9th September

11th November

Signed:

Date: