

BASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Baston Parish Council held on Thursday 12 March 2026 in Baston Village Hall (The Barn).

Present:

Chairman	Cllr A Clarke
	Cllr L Eassom
	Cllr S Minn
	Cllr M Nicholson
	Cllr P Redmore
	Cllr G Vaughan
	Cllr R Whitehead
County Council	Cllr A Baxter
District Council	Cllr V Smith
	Cllr R Trollope-Bellew APOLOGIES

Apologies:

	Cllr B Easy
Vice-Chair	Cllr J Groutage

Members of public present : 5

Public forum:

Resident thanked the PC for all the activity in relation to the Cemex/Thetford quarry but living in Bede Road this quarry will have a significant impact on residents and asked the question whether there could be any further objection.

Both County and District Councillors advised they have raised queries regarding procedural irregularities at the meeting, ie: Councillors were advised if they did not attend the site visit they could not vote on the application (this is LCC constituency but is it contrary to the law?) yet they participated in the debate; amendments to the S106 were impulsive regarding traffic routing/busy periods and yet no way of knowing how these will be implemented; it was the chairman who proposed the application and vice-chair seconded this – is this normal practice?

Only the applicant can appeal the decision – unless the PC files a judicial review – which could cost thousands! District Councillor read an extract from a judicial review procedure and all the review would do is challenge whether the correct process had been followed and would result in the planning committee just re-hearing the application.

During the planning meeting a ‘Liaison Committee’ was discussed – this is good practice when a quarry is approved and would consist of councillors, parish councillors, residents and applicant. This is to keep the community informed and is normally a quarterly meeting.

Approval of the application has been reported in the press (as they were at the meeting) but have not contacted any councillors for further comment.

030/26 Chairman’s remarks:

Welcomed members of the public.

Advised Cllr G Griffiths has tendered resignation with immediate effect.

Need a councillor to take over management of the village defibs.

Action: Clerk to advertise for new councillor on social media

031/26 Apologies for absence received:

Cllr B Easy, Cllr J Groutage and District Cllr R Trollope-Bellows

032/26 To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations.

033/26 Minutes of last meeting:

Held on 12 February 2026

Proposed approval by Cllr Redmore/seconded by Cllr Brudenell-Maylin (all in agreement) as a true record of meeting.

034/26 Matters arising from minutes

Speed data still to be downloaded.

Action: Cllr M Nicholson

035/27 Clerks report on matters outstanding:

Allotment letters re annual increase still to be completed as internal auditor has requested all holders have a contract (and some do not) so clerk needs to originate these.

Action: Clerk to issue ASAP

Allotment/church water bill has not yet been paid as copies of accounts were only received w/c 9 March. Clerk has aligned figures and requested bank details for monies to be paid.

Waiting confirmation re push-tap.

036/26 To receive reports from representations on outside bodies:

County Councillor A Baxter

See Appendix A

District Councillor V Smith

See Appendix B

District Councillor R Trollope-Bellew

Apologies given.

037/26 Financial matters:

(a) Financial Update

Bank Reconciliation General Account		Bank Reconciliation Savings Account	
Opening balance	£37,481.24	Opening balance	£10,551.94
Less expenditure	-£1,368.45	Less expenditure	0
Plus income	£14.00	Balance 28 Feb 2026	£10,551.94
Statement 28 Feb 2026	£36,126.79		

(b) Authorisation of payments made: February (resolved)

Date on Bank Statement	Payee	Gross	VAT	Net	Category / Description
02.02.26	Elan City	-£477.60	-£79.60	-£398.00	Extended warranty charge
02.02.26	E Clarke - Parish	-£459.00	£0.00	-£459.00	Salary (January 2026)
03.02.26	D Knibbs	-£170.00	£0.00	-£170.00	Dog Bins (January)
10.02.26	BPFMC	-£35.00	£0.00	-£35.00	Hall Hire (January)
10.02.26	Glasdon	-£119.40	-£19.90	-£99.50	Dog bin bags

10.02.26	A Clarke	-£43.20	£0.00	-£43.20	Travel Expenses (LCC Planning
13.02.26	OnLine Land	-£60.00	£0.00	-£60.00	Allotment land registry query
17.02.26	OnLine Land	£14.00	£0.00	£14.00	Land registry refund
17.02.26	Lloyds Bank	-£4.25	£0.00	-£4.25	Bank Monthly Service Charge

(c) Reconciled accounts for February 2026

Accounts agreed – proposed by Cllr Vaughan/seconded by Cllr Minn.
Signed by Cllr Clarke and counter-signed by Cllr Nicholson.

(d) Authorisation of upcoming payments:

Groundworks for memorial bench £650 plus purchase of bench £350.
Proposed by Cllr Vaughan/seconded by Cllr Nicholson

Quote also received to lift/re-install paving around the village sign (once village sign is replaced). Plus also steam clean bench near the church £1,350.

Proposed by Cllr Vaughan/seconded by Cllr Minn

Resident advised that the time capsule from 1999 is buried underneath the paving of the village sign so need to advise contractor of this and also provide more detail to exact location.

The work for these will be completed once the village sign is re-instated.

Action: Cllr Redmore is main contact

038/26 Operational matters:

Risk Assessment document work undertaken but Cllr Whitehead – needs persons/responsible to be added in all instances and further amendments to be completed to keep document as concise as possible.

Action: Cllr Clarke/Cllr Whitehead

A risk matrix and risk management policy should also be completed in the future and both should be reviewed annually.

It was highlighted that not all PC's have these documents available yet this was highlighted by the internal auditor as a requirement.

Cllr Whitehead also identified the Good Councillor Guide is available for all councillors and also we should look to introduce an Induction Handbook.

Action: Clerk to register all councillors on LALC portal and communicate their monthly newsletter/training document to all councillors

039/26 Planning Matters

a Cemex/Thetford Farm Quarry Update#

Application approved by Planning Regulatory Committee on 9th March.

b Wates Development

Currently undertaking an Environmental Impact Assessment – but what are the implications for residents – what does it mean? Cllr Smith has asked questions regarding this but closing date is 20 March.

This will be a 6-year building project if approval is granted which will have significant impact – where will the traffic access the site? Greatford Road has had weight limit approved (waiting for signs) but will they still utilise this?

SKDC housing targets are good for 5-year but if any large application is rejected then more pressure to approve others! This application will go to planning committee.

c **Application S26/0205**

No objection to the revision to the building but queries regarding operational hours and comments sent to SKDC regarding traffic movement and an S106 should be put in place to ensure no traffic through Baston during evening operations.

040/26 Village business

- a BPFMC report attached (as Appendix).
- b Cllr Groutage chased the pathways o/standing work and it has been programmed for 30 March.
- c Recently in the A15 southbound layby a lorry was parked for several days and when a resident requested a welfare visit unfortunately the driver had passed-away.
- d Village sign is being worked on – waiting timeframe for completion

041/26 Correspondence

None received.

042/26 Agenda items for next meeting:

S106 requests for Baston Green

Councillors to send any other agenda items to clerk by 2 April

The meeting was closed at 8:45 / Signed: Cllr Clarke (Chair)

Date: 12/03/2026

Future meeting dates for Baston Parish Council:

Thursday 9 April 2026

Thursday 14 May 2026

Thursday 11 June 2026

Thursday 9 July 2026

Thursday 10 September 2026

Thursday 8 October 2026

Thursday 12 November 2026

Thursday 10 December 2026

APPENDIX A

Cllr Baxter, County Councillor Report – March 2026

- Local government re-organisation is currently in consultation with four proposals and there still is the opportunity to participate.
- A15 crossroads carriageway re-surfacing to take place 22 April-13 May (working hours 7:30 – 9:00 with temporary traffic lights. Quarry entrance 24-27 April.
- There were 10 amendments to the council budget before settling on 2.99% increase.
- Weight limit installation costs were expected end February – confirmed there are marks on the roads and assume this is where the signs will be located.

End

Cllr Ashley Baxter

Market and West Deeping
South Kesteven District Council

APPENDIX B

Cllr Smith, District Councillor Report – March 2026

Budget: SKDC has approved a 2.99% increase for their share for 2026/27 council tax bill, meaning contributions which fund SKDC services would increase by £5.66 for a Band D property. Funds for mobile CCTV were included within the SKDC budget. This may be of benefit for fly-tipping hot spots such as the southbound A15 layby.

Community Awards: SKDC is taking nominations for its Community Awards. The categories are: volunteer of the year award, community group of the year award, cadet force adult volunteer award, young person's contribution to community award, Neil Smith community emergency response award, Pride in your community space award and the Judy Smith lifetime community champion award. Nominations can be made online at www.southkesteven.gov.uk/skcommunityawards2026 or by requesting a paper from the community engagement team on (07780) 214771. Nominations close on 31 March. Judges will consider entries in April with a winner announced in June.

COVID remembrance day: Memorial trees have been installed, with the involvement of SKDC, at Bourne Leisure Centre and Deeping Medical Practice to remember those who died during COVID. Ribbons can be tied to the trees as a sign of remembrance.

Food Waste: Since beginning of the year residents should have received two new waste bins, liners and booklet on what can and can't be placed in the caddy. South Kesteven District Council will start the collection of household waste from 13 April.

Central government led LGR Public Consultation: The Government has launched a seven-week public consultation on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) for Greater Lincolnshire ending on 26 March. Four proposals have been put forward as part of a process that is likely to lead to a new structure of Local Government across the county. All proposals can be accessed via the Greater Lincolnshire LGR Hub. The government is expected to announce its preferred option for Greater Lincolnshire in July.

BASTON SPECIFIC

Thetford Farm Quarry: LCC's Planning Committee's decision to grant this applicant is obviously enormously disappointing. I will continue to do all I can to support the village on this matter. I am making some enquires about certain aspects of the decision making process which I do not believe followed standard procedure. Only applicants are able to appeal planning decisions; residents are therefore not able to appeal to the planning inspector. The only way to challenge this decision is to take the matter to judicial review. This has to be done within six weeks of the decision being made. The review looks at the legalities around the decision-making process and the procedure followed. If errors have occurred, it is possible for these to be rectified and the decision to still be upheld.

Air Quality: SKDC monitors air quality throughout the district. To my knowledge they do not have any monitors in Baston. If the Parish Council would welcome air quality monitors at the A15, especially in light of a potential increase in HGV traffic, I would be happy to try to take this further with SKDC.

Response: Yes, PC would welcome this - Cllr Smith to follow up

Hedgehogs: A resident has contacted me about the concern for the well-being of hedgehogs within the village and wondered whether I could arrange any road signs. I have not approached LCC highways about this as I suspect they do not have the funds to cover this at the present time. I have also struggled to get signs installed for wildlife as I am told in a rural county wildlife is to be expected. I would be interested to get the opinion of the Parish Council on this matter before taking it further.

Response: The parish council will be supportive of road signs, but wonder whether a project run with the primary school might be just as effective.

Cllr Smith will contact Baston Primary School to establish whether they would be interested in designing some village posters.

Drainage Issues: Over the past month residents, particularly along Hadrian's Drive, have suffered with drainage issues. I have visited the resident most affected who has been unable to flush her downstairs toilet. I agreed the problem seemed to sit with Anglian Water since the road drains had emptied and the foul water level had not regressed. AW had suggested the problem of slow drainage was due to ingress of surface water into their system. I have contact AW and our MP on behalf of residents and highlighted this with the LCC highways team. LCC Highways felt this was unlikely and provided a drainage map for the village. Unless there was any evidence of ingress with dye tests or AW raised this with them directly they did not think any input from highways was necessary. Today, I understand that foul water has been spilling out onto Main Street. AW have been on site. The resident whose toilet had been blocked has informed me her system has now cleared.

Weight limits signs: Costings have been done and anticipated installations within the next couple of months

Routing of vehicles carrying aggregate from the Anglian Water Pipeline site: currently taking a cut through via Greatford Road. I have raised this with the enforcement team.

Trees on Thetford Avenue: Concerns raised by residents that they are dangerous. Not owned by SKDC, LCC or the church. Church warden believes some of the trees to be the Parish Council's responsibility.

PC reported this on FixMyStreet and understand this has been resolved.

Fumes along outgang road: Single episode since last meeting. SKDC environmental officer has reopened investigations. No further updates.

Wates development for 280 houses: I have contacted the Planning Officers at SKDC to try and understand the implications of the current application with the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Opinions. I have raised concerns about the size of the development and the potential archaeological significance of the site. As such I would like to see a full impact assessment being done but await further information from the planning team

Current application for 49 houses at Langtoft submitted to SKDC (Ashwood Homes). Application No: S25/2450. Land To South Of 22 East End, Langtoft, PE6 9LP No further update

End

Cllr Vanessa Smith
Casewick Ward
South Kesteven District Council

APPENDIX C

BPFMC Report – March 2026

Subject	Requirement	Update
Cricket Club Water Meter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify water usage by BCC in order to reclaim sewerage costs for water used on the Cricket Square. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Meter installed.
Football Officials Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires to be secured with steel sections and the legs placed on slabs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing 2 x rear leg plates found Sheter to be securely positioned when the weather improves.
Swing Set – Wooden Leg Repairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recent statutory annual play equipment inspection revealed the onset of rot within the wooden legs of the large, 2-bay swing frame assembly. Currently, it is not safety-critical but needs to be rectified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quotes for the repair of all 6 x wooden legs on the Swing Set frame obtained. BPFMC is seeking conformation of the details within the quotes.
Inclusive Roundabout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a piece of play equipment for use for by wheelchair users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installed on 25-26 Feb and post-project report accepted by SKDC.
Entrance and Corridor Decoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following completion of the decorating within both halls, the entrance and corridor require to be decorated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplier has been contracted and dates are being determined to conduct the work.
Annual General Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To hold an AGM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM to be held on Thurs 2nd April at 8pm, in the Barn