

BASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Baston Parish Council held on Thursday 9 April 2026 in Baston Village Hall (The Barn).

Present:

Chairman	Cllr A Clarke Cllr L Eassom Cllr B Easy Cllr S Minn Cllr P Redmore Cllr R Whitehead
County Council	Cllr A Baxter APOLOGIES
District Council	Cllr V Smith APOLOGIES Cllr R Trollope-Bellew APOLOGIES

Apologies:

Vice-Chair	Cllr K Brudenell-Maylin Cllr J Groutage Cllr M Nicholson Cllr Vaughan
------------	--

Members of public present : 3

Public forum:

The trees on Thetford Avenue have been reported previously and the issue is still not resolved. There are large trees in the cemetery that are overhanging onto Thetford Avenue and into the Yew Trees. Also there is an issue with one of the bushes in the cemetery fallen onto an allotment.

Action: Clerk to email cemetery contact requesting they get these cut-back

Fumes in the village are still being reported – Cllr V Smith has been working on this and the case has been re-opened. Cllr Eassom had complained and received a diary template to complete from the environment agency and will send this to the clerk to circulate to all councillors and anyone else who contacts regarding this issue.

Action: Cllr Smith to contact SKDC for latest update / Cllr Eassom to send diary

Regarding the recent drainage issue in the village the question was raised “Doesn’t Anglian Water have micro-systems on the pipe which would tell them where the problem is?”

Local MP did visit the village recently and resident reported having a good discussion.

043/26 Chairman’s remarks:

Welcomed members of the public.

044/26 Apologies for absence received:

Cllr K Brudenell-Maylin, Cllr J Groutage, Cllr M Nicholson, Cllr G Vaughan
District Cllr R Trollope-Bellows, District Cllr V Smith and County Cllr A Baxter

045/26 To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations.

046/26 Minutes of last meeting:

Held on 12 March 2026
Updated to include BPFMC report.

Proposed approval by Cllr Minn/seconded by Cllr Whithead (all in agreement) as a true record of meeting.

047/26 Matters arising from minutes

Speed data still to be downloaded.

Action: Cllr M Nicholson

Still have vacant position for a councillor – Chair did have a conversation with someone but has heard nothing since.

Action: Clerk to re-advertise on social media

048/27 Clerks report on matters outstanding:

Allotment letters re annual increase and contracts have been issued – still awaiting return of some documents – will chase end April.

Action: Clerk end April

Allotment/church water bill has now been paid and quarterly bills now being received.

AGAR information received.

Action: Clerk to review after holiday in April

049/26 To receive reports from representations on outside bodies:

County Councillor A Baxter

See Appendix A

District Councillor V Smith

Apologies given – report received (see Appendix B)

District Councillor R Trollope-Bellew

Apologies given.

050/26 Financial matters:

(a) Financial Update:

Bank Reconciliation General Account		Bank Reconciliation Savings Account	
Opening balance	£36,126.79	Opening balance	£10,551.94
Less expenditure	-£1772.09	Less expenditure	0
Plus income	£0.00	Balance 28 Feb 2026	£10,551.94
Statement 31 March	£34,354.70		

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

Date on Bank Statement	Payee	Gross	VAT	Net	Category / Description
03.03.26	E Clarke - Parish	-£459.00	£0.00	-£459.00	Salary (February 2026)
04.03.26	BPFMC	-£25.00	£0.00	-£25.00	Hall Hire (February)
04.03.26	D Knibbs	-£170.00	£0.00	-£170.00	Dog Bins (February)
04.03.26	SciFest	-£250.00	£0.00	-£250.00	Event donation
05.03.26	Post Office	-£3.85	£0.00	-£3.85	Postage costs
05.03.26	Post Office	-£13.60	£0.00	-£13.60	Book of postage stamps
11.03.26	A Clarke	-£43.20	£0.00	-£43.20	Travel Expenses (LCC Planning)
12.03.26	Community Cleaner	-£195.36	£0.00	-£195.36	Salary

16.03.26	Amazon	-£22.77	-£3.80	-£18.97	Stationery
16.03.26	Amazon	-£11.99	-£2.00	-£9.99	Stationery
17.03.26	Lloyds Bank	-£4.25	£0.00	-£4.25	Bank Monthly Service Charge
31.03.26	D Knibbs	-£170.00	£0.00	-£170.00	Dog Bins (March)
31.03.26	St John the Baptist	-£403.07	£0.00	-£403.27	Water charges (back payment)

(c) Reconciled accounts for March 2026

Accounts agreed – proposed by Cllr Redmore/seconded by Cllr Easy (all approved)
Signed by Cllr Clarke and counter-signed by Cllr Minn.

(d) Authorisation of upcoming payments:

BPFMC – Party in the Park

Circa 1,000 people attended event last year – a great village event.
Discussion around allowing dogs – some people complained because you couldn't take them and other people were happy with that.
Application for £500 approved – proposed Cllr Eassom/seconded Cllr Whithead (abstained Cllr Redmore, Cllr Easy and Cllr Minn)

Naturehood Website

Donation of £20.80 for annual hosting of website (total cost split between Baston, Langtoft, Thurlby) – proposed Cllr Redmore/seconded Cllr Minn (all approved).

051/26 Operational matters:

Defibrillator monthly checks and maintenance required after Cllr Griffiths resignation. Cllr Redmore will complete monthly checks/maintenance and Cllr Minn to pick up any administration.

Action: Clerk to send email to Cllr Griffiths to liaise with Cllr Redmore/Cllr Minn

Zurich Insurance received annual renewal notice of £491 (increase of over £100). Upon review received a quote for Parish Councils with precept between £20K-£30k is £369 per year and covers up to £12m liabilities plus £50k in assets.
Councillors approved this spend – proposed Cllr Redmore/Cllr Easy upon condition that Clerk/Chair ensure the reduced fee of £369 meets all requirements – renewal date is end May 2026.

052/26 Planning Matters

a Cemex/Thetford Farm Quarry Update

No further action can be taken – judicial review is not validated.
Move topic to village matters.

b Wates Development

Currently awaiting a decision from SKDC as to whether they need to have an Environmental Impact Screening – Baston PC did send comments in re this (283 new houses will have an environmental impact)
Beginning of April environmental consultants from Nottingham were examining the stream.
Chair has sent email to councillors re S106 suggestions around safety, ie roundabout, footpaths, bus stop, cycle path, crossing, reduction of speed limit to 30mph through the village (as per Morton). Need to start collating these – but until full plans are submitted it is difficult to know what is being proposed.

- c **Application S26/0225 – Cresland Caravan Park, Kates Bridge**
No objections.
- d **Application S26/0425 – 11 Chariots Way, Baston**
No objections.
- e **Application S26/0460 – 36 Main Street**
No objections.

053/26 Village business

- a BPFMC report attached (as Appendix) – did say need to share more information with residents to improve engagement.
- b Village sign
This needs to be replaced, cost approx. £6,500. Chair has approached Baston Events to see if they can provide donation, can we approach Plowright Trust and Thetford Farm?
Action: Chair to contact Plowright Trust
Future maintenance needs to be agreed and completed annually.
- c Annual Parish Meeting to be held Wednesday 6 May – invitations have been sent out and poster on Notice Board advertising this.
Action: Clerk will add to website once agenda complete/social media post
- d Parking complaint re St Johns Close – cars too close to the junction and dangerous. Believe this to be vehicles from AMD Autos – can we get double-yellow lines?
Action: Chair to write to AMD Autos initially
- e Battery operated speeding signs to be disposed of.
Action: Cllr Redmore

055/26 Policy Approval

- a Risk Management Policy and Assessment adopted
Proposed Cllr Easy/seconded Cllr Minn – all approved.
- b Financial Regulations (v2) adopted
Proposed Cllr Whitemore/seconded Cllr Eassom – all approved.

055/26 Correspondence

None received.

056/26 Agenda items for next meeting:

Councillors to send any items by 5 May

The meeting was closed at 9:00pm / Signed: Cllr Clarke (Chair)

Date: 9/04/2026

Future meeting dates for Baston Parish Council:
Wednesday 6 May 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday 14 May 2026 – Annual Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 11 June 2026
Thursday 9 July 2026
August – no meeting
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

- A recent attach at both Grantham and Stamford Council Offices (broken windows) it is one individual who has a campaign against SKDC.
- Food recycling starts 13 April 2026.
- Bowel Cancer Awareness month – SKDC/Lincs NHS are encouraging people to be aware.
- SKDC are asking for nominations for their Community Awards.
- SKDC are holding an ‘April Walking Event’ info can be found on their website.
<https://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/>
- 11 new properties (for people on housing list) at Wellington Way (broken soil ceremony).
- Skills Summit opened by the Mayor – over 1,000 children attended with more than 40 companies exhibiting.
- Local Government Reorganisation held a ‘listening meeting’ which went well.
- Literary Festival 28 April-3 May in Deeping with authors.
- Attended a corporate parenting presentation (migrant/foster/children in care) which was very interesting and one of the Reform Councillors grew up in care and promoted the Fire Cadets as beneficial to children.
- Highways meeting scheduled for 8 May (local councillors can attend) – Cllr Clarke confirmed his attendance – time TBC.
- 21 April is 100th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth birth / next year it will be 300 years since Isaac Newton’s death.
- Tallington Road through to Stamford has marks on the road – does this mean there is maintenance/work to be completed and how will this affect the traffic?

End

Cllr Ashley Baxter

Market and West Deeping - South Kesteven District Council

APPENDIX B

CLlr Smith, District Councillor Report – April 2026

- **Food Waste:**
Collections will commence next week 13 April 2026.

BASTON SPECIFIC

- **Thetford Farm Quarry:**
I have been unable to find any robust grounds for appeal.

- **Air Quality:**
I have discussed the air quality at the crossroads with the environmental team at SKDC who are liaising with LCC and hoping to arrange a mobile air quality monitor at the junction.
- **Hedgehogs:**
Baston Primary School would welcome getting involved with making some warning signs for the village (I am liaising with Mr Hardstaff and will update you when I can).
- **AW Drainage Issues:**
I have sent a number of emails to our MP expressing residents' concerns, especially in light of possible housing development in the village. No further update.
- **Wates development for 280 houses:**
I have no further update.
- **30mph bin stickers:**
A local Parish Council wondered whether neighbouring parish councils would be interested in putting in a bulk buy in order to keep costs down (I will email separately).

End

Cllr Vanessa Smith

Casewick Ward - South Kesteven District Council

APPENDIX C

BPFMC Report – April 2026

Subject	Requirement	Update
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 • Shelter 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 leg 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 awaits confirmation of the details within the quotes.
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"> • Corridor and Entrance Hall decoration now completed. • Fire safety signs reinstalled
Annual General Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hold an AGM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM held on Thurs 2nd April at 8pm, in the Barn
Changing Rooms Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing rooms require to be refurbished. • Minimal usage may preclude cost of refurbishment. • Minimal usage may preclude application for FA grant to support costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation into quotes for refurbishment and new floor covering being sought.