

Garvald & Morham Community Council

30 March 2026

7-30pm at Morham Village Hall

Minutes

1. Attendance and Apologies

Attendance: GMCC

Philip White (Chair **PW**), Dave Ramsay (Vice Chair **DR**),
Ian Middlemas GMCC (Treasurer **IM**), Roger Harris (Secretary **RH**), Ian Smith (**IS**) Chiara
Brand (**CB**), Gary McGregor (GVH), David Murray (MVH)

ELC Councillor Shamin Aktar (ELC), Councillor George Maguire (ELC), Councillor Tom
Trotter (ELC)

Apologies:

Councillor John MacMillan (ELC)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Polling Places

The recorded dates of forthcoming local election dates in the February Minutes have
been changed, (an update to be issued).

Nursery Funding Changes / Consultation

The consultation received negative feedback from two parent groups, Yester Parents and
Garvald Play. Feedback was negative with parents describing the survey as misleading
and unclear. Concerns were raised about reduced nursery places. At least one parent,
reported her child received no nursery place. Concern was expressed that the new
format reduces annual nursery places and causes parental frustration.

Parking Consultation

(SA) An update is expected in the Autumn. Although there has been a negative reaction
in many areas, this is not the case across all Community Councils.

3. Treasurer's Report

(IM) £1,348.39 has been paid out since last meeting. The account balance is £29,622.50.
The financial year ends tomorrow and year-end accounts will be prepared.
Third-party liability insurance renewed with Zurich Insurance.

4. Update: Haddington & Lammermuir Area Partnership

(PW) The meeting held on 5th February approved grants as follows:

Haddington Bridge Centre Motorcycle Project	£3,947.88
Thaney's Haven (community engagement project)	£ 500.00
Joe's Gym	£2,000.00
Elderly contact Support (Regular Hub project)	£2,500.00

The Haddington Gym is making progress, the steel has arrived and been measured, the
floor has been installed and trial sessions held. The official opening and full operations
are expected to start in June.

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5. Update: Garvald & Morham Representatives

Morham

Events

The use by the pipe band is growing strongly and the Yoga Group is active.

Other

Insurance and energy costs are being currently reviewed.

The War Memorial project is progressing well.

Garvald

Community Suggestions

(GM) The 'Soup and Suggestions' meeting lead by Kirsty Malcolm on 7 March, was attended by regular supporters. It generated 29 suggestions for fundraising, local events and community initiatives. These were shared with PW who is reviewing suggestions for action. The event raised £228 in donations.

Building Works Update

(GM) A Post Office representative has arranged for the uplift of equipment left in the hall after confirming that no valuable items remain. Collection is due shortly.

A windows survey required by ELC was submitted. We awaiting the outcome and hope for approval to replace the frames rather than repair them. A Duns registered company is ready to install one sample window to assess whether all windows could be replaced.

Listed-building planning consent will be applied for pending survey outcome.

Bookings

(GM) Another wedding has been booked for August, bringing total to three for the year.

A plant sale and teas on 25 April will raise funds for the village hall. The church plans an Easter 'messy play' using last year's format.

Playpark

(GM) One swing has been removed from the Playpark by the ELC. We are awaiting it replacement. SA will ask for an update from the council.

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6. AOB

Community Fund

(CA) We are exploring options for a long-term Community Fund and currently awaiting a response from Crystal Rig. (CA)

The Education Trust

(SA) The Trust exists as a separate entity from the council and provides annual project funding via a separate committee.

Happy Healthy Brains runs weekly dementia support at Haddington Athletics Wednesdays 10:00–12:00. A Corn Exchange event showcased village activities and aimed to reduce stigma and raise awareness.

GMCC Administration

(RH) As minute-taking is a time-consuming task, the meeting discussed the possible use of AI to record the meeting and produce a minutes. The use of an external clerk was also suggested.

RH will continue in the Secretary role and will experiment with the current technology.

8. Dates of Future Meetings

1st June	Garvald
17th August	Morham
5th October	Garvald
7th December	Morham

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Addendum 1

Funding Requests Approved

1. GMCC Advance Funding	£3,645 (CR2)
2. Haddington & District Swim Club	£3,000 (CR2)
Total	£6,645