

BREDON & BREDON'S NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Bredon Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Bredon Village Hall on **Monday 12th May 2025 at 7:00pm.**

Present: Councillors: Mr Nick Bradley (Chairman) (NB), Mr Matt Darby (MD), Mr Colin Davidson (CD), Mr Kevin Falvey (KF), Ms Katy Hall (KH), Mr Declan Shiels (DS) and Mr Rob Sly (RS).

In Attendance: Mr Tim Drew (Clerk) and Cllr Mr Adrian Hardman.

1. Election of Chairman.

Cllr Bradley agreed to continue and was elected Chairman for the new term. Cllr Darby proposed, Cllr Hall seconded. (Cllr Bradley duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Undertaking to observe the Code of Conduct).

2. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs Ms Karen Brooks (KB), Mr Andrew Rhodes (AR) and Mr Brod Whiting (BW).

3. Minute silence for Cllr Mike Johns.

This was respectfully observed in memory of Mike, who sadly passed in April 2025.

4. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Sly has an ODI dispensation for the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (11 d) specific to the strategic allocation at Mitton until 8th December 2025.

Cllr Sly also declared a non-prejudicial DPI for Item 11 a) ii as an adjacent neighbour of the second Mitton Bank planning application.

Cllr Bradley declared a declared an ODI (non-pecuniary) for Item 11 a) i as a near neighbour.

5. To elect a Vice-Chairman.

There were no volunteers, and this item was deferred to a future meeting.

6. To determine membership of the various working groups and representative functions:

- a) Planning Committee (Strategic) – NB, KB*, MD, CD & RS.
- b) Executive & Finance Working Group – Cllrs NB, CD, KF, AR & BW.
- c) Transport & Organisations Working Group - Cllrs NB, KB*, DS & RS.
- d) Assets Working Group (incl. Village Hall) – Cllrs NB, KB*, CD, KF, KH & DS.
- e) Technology & Media Working Group – Cllrs KB*, KF, DS & RS.
- f) Other Functions:
 - i. Bredon Hill Conservation (Planning) Group – Cllr DS.
 - ii. Hancock's Trustee – Cllr RS.
 - iii. Reeds Close Trustees – Cllrs RS & BW.
 - iv. Worcestershire Parish Councils Association – Cllr NB & Clerk.
 - v. Bredon's Norton Village Hall – Cllr KB*.
 - vi. Police Liaison – Cllr KF.
 - vii. Bredon Community Play & Recreation (BCPR) – BW (see Item 13).
 - viii. Grass Cutting – Cllr RS.
 - ix. Social Media – Cllrs DS & RS.
 - x. Defibrillator – Cllr KF.

* KB to confirm her agreement to serve on Working Groups/Other Functions due to current sabbatical because of work commitments.

Cllrs Rhodes and Whiting although absent, advised in advance of their agreement to serve on Working Groups/Other Functions as above.

7. Direct Debit and Standing Order Payments.

Cllr Shiels proposed, Cllr Hall seconded, and the existing Direct Debits, Debit Card Payments and Standing Orders as shown on the Clerk's Report, were **agreed**.

8. To approve reviewed parish council documents.

- a) Standing Orders – it was acknowledged that existing document is pending a full review.
- b) Financial Regulations
- c) Code of Conduct.
- d) Risk Assessments.

The above reviewed documents [a) to d)] were proposed by Cllr Hall seconded by Cllr Darby and **agreed**.

9. To consider the Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 14th April 2025.

These minutes were **agreed**.

10. Finances:

- a) Invoices to be paid:

Village Hall

Jo Lomasney	Balance of Wages – April 2025	£188.83
CW Hygiene	Consumables	£49.98
CW Hygiene	Window & Gutter Cleaning – Internal & External	£475.20
Hallmaster	VH Booking Software – Annual Licence	£265.00

Parish Council:

Timothy Drew	Balance of Wages – April 2025	£232.96
RoSPA Play Safety	Annual Inspection of Play Areas	£417.60
Worcestershire CALC	Annual Fees for CALC & NALC	£1340.76
Packwood Printers	Printing of 5,000 Mitton Bank Leaflets	£320.00
Dor-2-Dor	Leaflet Distribution	£540.00
Bredon Village Fish & Chips	40 x Meals for Warm Welcome Event	£166.00
David Gray	Lengthsman – April 2025 Highways	£462.00
David Gray	Lengthsman – April 2025 Parish	£280.00
Greenworks	Mowing – March (x2) & April (x2)	£3991.44
Richard Buxton Solicitors	Professional Charges for SWDPR	£5520.00

All payments above were **agreed**.

- b) To approve the Financial Report.

The April 2025 bank statements and Scribe Cashbook were **approved**.

11. Planning:

- a) For Approval:
 - i. W/25/00868/HP 19 Vallenders Road, Bredon, GL20 7HL
Rear single-storey orangery.

No objection, subject to compliance with the 25% rule as per WDC guidance.

- ii. W/25/00596/OUT Land At (Os 9140 3472), Tewkesbury Road, Bredon's Hardwick
Environmental Statement and associated documents.

Cllr Sly left the room for this item.

A response to the Environment Statement is being drafted by the Strategic Planning Working Group. Twice weekly surveys of Curlews and Transport are being undertaken by Lepus Consulting from March to July 2025, to support Wychavon's statement of common ground. The Council will not comment on the findings until a report has been completed and published.

The above comments were **agreed**.

b) Appeal:

- i. W/25/00435/PIP True Blue Farm, Lower Lane, Kinsham, GL20 8HT
Permission in Principle for the construction of 1no. dwelling

c) Approved:

- i. W/25/00103/FUL Croft Farm Industrial Estate, Bredon's Hardwick
- ii. W/25/00153/CU The Milk Barn, Rectory Lane, Bredon's Hardwick, GL20 7ED
- iii. W/25/00378/FUL The Manor, Farm Lane, Westmancote, GL20 7ES
- iv. W/25/00511/PIP Land At (Os 9268 3732), Eckington Road, Bredon
- v. W/24/02099/LB The Old Rectory, Church Street, Bredon, GL20 7LF

d) SWDP Review:

The Strategic Allocations (Worcestershire Parkway, Throckmorton, Rushwick and Mitton) were considered in the second week of the Public Examination in March 2025. The Planning Inspectors raised the prospect of a further hearing session in the week commencing **8th September 2025** to consider further work on ecology (curlew surveys) and transportation, which is currently underway regarding the strategic allocation at Mitton.

e) Tewkesbury Garden Town (TGT):

The Oversight Board met in early May 2025. The North Ashchurch Consortium's Master Plan was considered ill-judged and not ready for inclusion in the governance structure. The second Ashchurch Bridge over Rail (ABoR) was dependent on Newland Homes application so Tewkesbury Borough Council could not approve an application. There has been minimal progress on the infrastructure to support housing allocations on the Master Plan. Planning Applications expected from North Ashchurch Consortium in June 2025 (delayed by ABoR design) and Newland Homes in July 2025.

f) Other Planning Matters:

The Consultation Deadline for W/25/00596/OUT Mitton Bank 2 has been extended so additional social media posts will be placed to encourage further public responses.

Richard Buxton Solicitors have been consulted as considerable weight is now being given by Planning Inspectors to Local Green Spaces so an important consideration in any future update of the Neighbourhood Plan to align with SWDP.

12. Maintenance of Parish Council Property.

Greenworks arranged for S Merrett Services to apply herbicide to the Playing Field. This required Parish Council approval. Cllr Sly will discuss correct procedure with Greenworks and advise that no future weed killing should take place. It was **agreed** that Merrett would be requested to issue their invoice to Bredon AFC for their pitch areas (as they received grant funding for same) and invoice the Parish Council for the remaining area. Cllr Falvey abstained. Clerk to write to Bredon AFC.

13. Bredon Community Play and Recreation (BCPR) Update.

The RoSPA reports have circulated to the BCPR committee for evaluation.

PD Hughes have been consulted about the damaged roundabout, a fix for the slide and sealing the frayed ropes on the climbing frame. This expenditure covered in the annual maintenance budget. A dead tree in the toddler park area will be reviewed.

The Section 106 application for the Table Tennis Table will be reviewed at Wychavon's next panel meeting on 23rd June 2025. Their recommendation will then be considered by the Executive Board on 9th July 2025.

It was **agreed** to reintroduce Parish Councillor liaison with BCPR on a probational basis and Cllr Brod Whiting (who had volunteered) was appointed.

14. Progress Reports and Updates.

a) County and District Councillor:

- The Bredon vote was significant in Cllr Harman's re-election to Worcestershire County Council by a narrow majority.
- The Council were updated on progress and process of Local Government Reorganisation in Worcestershire.
- A request for an additional Radar Speed Sign in Bredon's Hardwick will be discussed by Transport & Organisations Working Group.
- The drainage work at Chains Corner has been completed.
- (Road/Footway) Surface Patching in parish is ahead of schedule due to fine weather.
- Wychavon Planning Enforcement active at Long Furlong.

b) Police and Defibrillator Report:

- No defibrillator update.
- Police attended Parish on 11th May 2025.
- Twelve arrests have been made relating to burglary and car theft.
- Cycle crime (theft) has increased in recent weeks.
- A VW Polo was stolen from Croft Farm Water Park.

c) Working Groups:

- Executive & Finance meet on 22nd May 2025.

15. Correspondence, Progress Reports and Updates for Information.

The Clerk circulated the following correspondence for consideration by the Council:

- The CALC Annual Subscription Letter.
- Details of recruitment for a Lay Member of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel.
- The Telephone Box in Main Road Bredon.
- Clear Councils Notice re Martyns Law.
- Latest SafeAvon River Avon Data.

16. Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

Cllr Falvey advised the Old Hall Lighting (Severn-Trent Grant) had been completed. The boiler repair is held for spare parts. An updated quotation to treat the Jubilee Room floor has been requested. New or repaired windows outside the Chandler Room are being reviewed. Small items of Village Hall maintenance – doors, skirting, disabled toilet door, gateway from Bowing Club – were **agreed**.

Cllr Bradley referred to the response from Tewkesbury U3A's relating to their booking refund which was **agreed**.

17. Date of Next Meeting:

9th June 2025