

BREDON & BREDON'S NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Bredon Parish Council Annual Meeting held at Bredon Village Hall on **Monday 10th August 2026 at 7:00pm.**

Present: Councillors: Mr Bruce Anderson, Mr John Bees, Mr Nick Bradley (Chair), Mr Colin Davidson, Mr Kevin Falvey, Mr Andrew Rhodes, Mr Declan Shiels, Mr Rob Sly & Mr Brod Whiting.

In Attendance: Mr Tim Drew (Clerk), Cllr Adrian Hardman, Mr Peter Whitehead, Mr Will Almond, Mr Thomas Spry & Mr Martin Hilliard.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Mr Matt Darby.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Falvey declared an ODI for Item 10 as Chair of Bredon Star RFC.

3. Co-option of an 11th Parish Council Member.

The Parish Council received an application for co-option from Ms Joanne Hill. It was proposed by Cllr Bradley, seconded by Cllr Rhodes and **agreed** unanimously by Councillors to support the application. Cllr Hill had indicated she would wish to join the Technology & Media and Assets Working Groups.

4. To consider the Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026.

These minutes were **agreed**.

5. Finances:

a) Invoices to be paid:

Village Hall

Jo Lomasney	Balance of Wages – July 2026	£381.83
Thomas Spry	Trim Beech Hedge at VH Front	£75.00

Parish Council:

Timothy Drew	Balance of Wages – July 2026	£319.15
RCA Regeneration	Long Furlong Inspector	£972.00
Sedgwick	Property Valuation	£660.00
David Gray	Lengthsman – July 2026 Highways	£504.00
David Gray	Lengthsman – July 2026 Parish	£216.00
Avon Navigation Trust	Single Annual Membership 2026-27	£10.00
Pippins Accountancy	Q1 2026-27 VAT Return	£105.00
Matt Hale Tree Surgery	Cut Back & Crown Tree	£192.00
Greenfields	Installation of Fences & Gates in 2 x Car Parks	£16456.62

All payments above were **agreed**, with Pippins Accountancy, Matt Hale Tree Surgery and Greenfields added to the Clerk's Report. Cllr Sly confirmed he had liaised with Greenworks, relating to the mowing requirement during the current dry spell of weather.

b) To approve the Financial Report.

The June 2026 bank statements and Scribe Cashbook were **approved**, and the Clerk confirmed a further transfer of funds from the Lloyds Savings account would cover the payment to Greenfields, prior to receipt of Section 106 payments. The second precept payment is due at the end of September 2026.

6. Planning:

a) For Consultee Approval:

- i. W/26/00146/FUL Smiths Orchard, Kemerton Road, Westmancote, Bredon, GL20 7GJ

Additional information/amendment: Ownership certificate C.

Objection, letter dated 11/03/2026, still applies. It was noted the only difference is that Certificate C has been filled out differently. The Location Plan has changed, but with the red line boundary still including land belonging to other parties. It is understood that an application, to apply for permission on someone else's land, is allowed provided Certificate C has been correctly completed.

- ii. W/26/01586/HP Micris, Chapel Lane, Kinsham, GL20 8HS

Proposed two storey side extension and single storey extension to front.

No objections, subject to the Conservation Officer being satisfied.

The above comments were **agreed**.

b) Approved by Wychavon:

- i. W/26/01194/HP Lios Darach, Old Mansion Drive, Bredon, GL20 7JZ
- ii. W/26/01268/HP Aberpennar Cottage, Back Lane, Bredon, GL20 7LH
- iii. W/26/01264/HP 10 Hill Close, Westmancote, Bredon, GL20 7EW

c) Tewkesbury Garden Town (TGT):

At a liaison meeting last week, it was confirmed the Transport Plan for the North Ashchurch Consortium was being resubmitted. This is a consequence of the Traffic Modelling being flawed. It is expected there will be an opportunity to comment at the end of 2026. Submission of a FOI application was discussed and considered given the parallels with Mitton Bank. A Joint letter to National Highways with Ashchurch Rural Parish Council will be considered at the next Transport & Organisations meeting.

The Ashchurch Bridge over Rail (ABoR) is still in the design phase and linked with the North Ashchurch Consortium planning applications.

Severn Trent and Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) are to meet and consider drainage and supply infrastructure for TGT.

TBC are seeking grant finding for ABoR and M5 Junction 9a with Homes England.

It is unlikely a TGT Oversight Board will take place before year end.

d) Other Planning Matters:

There is no update on the Roberts application at Long Furlong.

Bredon Star RFC and Bredon Tennis Club are to make a request to site a Shed on the Playing Field at the September meeting.

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

No report.

8. Drainage, Fencing and Security Project for Playing Field.

Greenfields have now submitted their Invoice. Signage for no dogs and own risk using car parks have been procured.

9. Damage to the Paved Steps at The Dock.

The Clerk has written to request Auto Support for their insurance details for a claim. Consideration to be given to claiming against the Police, who appointed Auto Support, and the Police & Crime Commissioner, if their response is not forthcoming.

10. Bredon Star RFC request for a 7's and Sounds Festival on the Playing Field.

Cllr Falvey left the meeting for this item.

The event is scheduled for 3rd July 2027, but agreement at this stage is required to commence detailed planning based on a fixed date. It was acknowledged that the Police would need to be consulted and a licence sought from Worcestershire Regulatory Services. Other details to be covered include Health & Safety including Fire, Medical Support, Parking Provision, Marshalling, Insurance, Welfare, Number of Concessions and Closure of Playing Field for whole weekend. Councillors were positive in principle and item will be on the monthly agenda until a decision is reached.

The Council's main concern relates to the number of people involved attending the event which could exceed 1,000 persons (players, support staff, families and public, etc.).

The date, 3rd July 2027, was approved in principle, and it was **agreed** the Clerk would respond to Bredon Star RFC. Cllr Davidson abstained.

11. Progress Reports and Updates.

a) County and District Councillor:

- Local Government Reform is proving a challenge to meet the requirements of a new South Worcestershire Unitary Authority.
- A Mayor will be elected for South Worcestershire in 2027.
- Road and Footway improvements in Bredon Village are postponed until Spring 2027 due to county-wide delays.
- Chains Corner footpath is proceeding at the end of August.
- No progress on flooding alleviation on B4080 between the two Bredon's Norton turnings.
- The highway limits to the wall of the Hall and Church Rooms are to be confirmed by WCC Highways (Note - Peter Whitehead raised this issue during public question time).

b) Police and Defibrillator Report:

- There is a new Police Inspector appointed for Evesham Rural North, West Mercia Police.
- Police attended an alleged incident of inappropriate behaviour in Bricknell Avenue.
- The oldest defibrillator (13 years) outside the Village Hall needs replacing. Cost around £1k plus VAT. Cllr Falvey investigating grant funding. Temporary solution provided by a spare defibrillator from Bredon Star RFC.

c) Working Groups:

- An Assets Working Group is scheduled for 17th August and a Transport & Organisation Working Group scheduled for 18th August. Both in Village Hall Office.

12. Correspondence, Progress Reports and Updates for Information.

The Clerk circulated the following correspondence for consideration by Councillors:

- The September launch of Bredon News is progressing well according to Hughes Printers of Pershore. Two Magazine Dispensers, earmarked for the Village Hall and Spar Shop have been promised. Other Dispensers will be required for other distribution locations and Hughes have found a local source of supply.
- Sedgwick Valuation Report (for Bowling Club negotiations) - valuing assets and rental values on or near the Village Hall & Playing Field.
- Launch of Wychavon Resilience Grants.
- Wychavon is urging parish and town councils across the district to put Community Emergency Plans in place, or review existing ones, to ensure they include the growing threat from wildfires. The plans help communities prepare for emergencies by identifying local risks, key contacts, vulnerable residents and community resources that can be used to help respond to emergencies.
- A Business Rates Summary from a Rating Agency.
- The Wychavon Newsletter - Parish Matters.
- SafeAvon - Avon Water Quality Update.

13. Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

Cllr Falvey advised the following maintenance issues:

- Trees in Blenheim Drive and Glebeland Drive have now been cut back.
- Replacement strip lighting provided in the Chandler Room Store.
- A PIR installed in the Village Hall (VH) Ladies.
- Outside VH lighting repaired.

Cllr Anderson indicated that Bredon's Norton Village Hall has financial concerns. Funding for Village Halls to be investigated.

Cllr Bees raised the concerns over the state of the Glebe Field. It was **agreed** to appoint Solidfix, for a cost of £795, to carry out the following and leave site clean and tidy:

- Strim the vegetation along to fence line to Church Walk and Main Road and move nettle pile.
- Mow a 0.5 metre strip inside the above fence line.
- Mow all cut vegetation to the existing nettle pile.

Note: Cllr Bradley abstained from the vote.

Cllr Bees raised the dangerous right hand turn from Eckington Road onto Main Road. A sign directing traffic to use the left side of the grass triangle to turn left and the right side of the grass triangle to turn right, would improve visibility.

Cllr Rhodes requested that the right-hand bend at Tall Oaks in Lower Westmancote, required vegetation to be cut back to improve visibility. Clerk to report to County Highways.

14. Date of Next Meeting:

14th September 2026

Notes of Public Question Time:

Mr Peter Whithead outlined all the issues still holding the extension of the Glebe Field burial-ground extension. The Diocese have insisted on Planning Advice. Over the last 18 to 24 months, considerable cost has been incurred by the PCC and the PC in attempting to secure planning for the extension of the churchyard at St Giles. It has now been suggested that the planners may be about to rusticate or cancel the application given the suggested lack of movement.

Consideration is to be given to contacting the CEO of Wychavon to assist in resolving the current impasse.

Mr Almond, Mr Spry & Mr Hilliard raised the issues around Planning Application W/25/00832/FUL and feel the Case Officer should use the Highways objection to refuse the application. A proposed draft of a letter to the Head of Wychavon Planning was read out and discussed.