



Minutes of Kemerton Parish Council Meeting held at the Victoria Hall on Tuesday 1st July 2025

Those Present:

Cllr Lisa Croft (Chairman)
Cllr Adrian Darby
Cllr Christina Kulukundis
Cllr Clive Carver
Cllr Adrian Hardman (County Councillor)

Co-option as Councillor Emma Edwards

Parish Clerk Carol Chambers

Invited Speakers PC Alex Prentice, PC Ben Trowman and PCSO Luke Harris
Safer Neighbourhood Team | Evesham Rural North | West Mercia Police

1. Cllr Croft took the Chair and Signed the Declaration/Acceptance of Office.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were submitted by, Cllr O Alexander and Cllr Jo Wenham.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

**4. POLICE - PC Alex Prentice, PC Ben Trowman and PCSO Luke Harris
Safer Neighbourhood Officers | Evesham Rural North | West Mercia Police**

The Chairman welcomed all the Safer Neighbourhood Officers to the meeting. Notes of the meeting are Annexed (1) to these minutes.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda the draft minutes of the meeting held on the 13th May 2025. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** the minutes of the 13th May 2025 be adopted as a true record.

6. Co-option of Emma Edwards

The Clerk tabled at the meeting an application form from Emma Edwards to fill the casual vacancy. Following questions to Emma, it was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Emma Edwards be co-opted onto the Council. Declaration would be signed at the meeting to be held on 2nd September 2025. The Clerk informed Emma that she would contact Kim Paul at WDC to advise her of Emma's co-option as she deals with the councillors once they have been co-opted.

7. Clerks Update

- a. **Garages – Baylis Road.** Simon Jarvis of Rooftop Housing Group has responded to the Council's interest in licensing a garage on the Bayliss Road site. His colleague has reported that they do not have any that are at a lettable standard. They are currently doing a repairs and maintenance survey and would update the Council once they have further information.
- b. **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Clerk has circulated with the agenda a letter from Calc which highlighted that the Government would be ending support and funding for Neighbourhood Plans. Calc believed that Neighbourhood Plans are/would be an essential tool for parish and town councils, and would only grow in significance with Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) underway. The report also included template letters and a Draft Motion for Councils for the *Future of Neighbourhood Planning Support Services and a Resolution Calling on the Government to Provide Dedicated Funding for Neighbourhood Plans*. *It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that No Action to be taken at this time.*
- c. **Village Footpath Signage.** Cllr Hardman reported that WCC had no officer(s) to process new applications for footpath signage and suggested that Kemerton Parish Council contact Cotswolds National Landscape.
- d. **Local Government Reorganisation.** Verbal reports were given by Cllr Croft on the meeting held on 23rd June 2025 at WDC and Cllr Clive Carver of the Calc meeting via Zoom on 24th June. <https://shapeworcestershire.org/about-reorganisation>
Minutes of the Calc meeting is annexed to these minutes. (Annexed 2)
- f. **Website & Email update.** The Clerk reported that she was in the process of collating information on the new website and email address, she had received 2 quotes and waiting for a 3rd quote. The Clerk would compile a comparative report for the next meeting to be held on 2nd September 2025.

7. Update from Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda an update from Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

Update from Dame Harriett Baldwin MP

Thank you to all who work so hard in the parish. If you ever need my support on any issue please contact me on harriett.baldwin.mp@parliament.uk , phone 01684 585 165 or write to me at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA and I will do everything I can to resolve things or make sure your voice is heard. Here is a selection of the main issues that I have been helping with across West Worcestershire.

Road Safety

Rural speeding is a continued concern for communities everywhere and road safety is something I regularly raise with the Worcestershire County Council and the Safer Roads Partnership. After lobbying National Highways, the A46 now has extra speed restrictions and signage. I have also pressed for formal investigations into speeding including villages such as Leigh Sinton, Suckley and Broadwas and across Malvern, and applied pressure on the County Council to take action on HGVs using residential roads. Worcestershire County Council is usually quite responsive to requests to fix potholes and to improve road surfacing and I hope that will continue now the County Council is under new leadership.

Public Transport

The last Government awarded £3.4 million to improve local bus services and in recent months we have seen the return of the 43 service connecting north Malvern to Great Malvern and Worcester and two extra services each hour on the X50 service between Pershore and the immensely popular Worcestershire Parkway station. There's an on-demand daytime bus service which local people can access in some areas to make journeys and I continue to work with local communities to improve coverage and bus connectivity where I can. The County Council had advanced plans to expand Worcestershire Parkway car parking and I will press them to continue these plans.

I continue to ask for better train services - whether it is the dualling of the North Cotswold Line to allow more frequent services or the additional CrossCountry service stopping at Worcestershire Parkway. There will be a new service from Edinburgh to Exeter stopping at Parkway. West Midlands Railways continue to underperform and I will keep the heat on them.

Housing

You will be aware that the interminable South Worcestershire Development Plan process seems to be drawing to a close. While I am not a fan of the top down imposition of housing numbers I will continue to make the case for the brilliant bottom up neighbourhood development plans, which I think deserve the highest weight once agreed in a referendum.

Environment

We are blessed to live in a beautiful part of the world and our magnificent countryside is one of the main attractions for visitors to the area, contributing to our local economy. I continue to campaign for progress in delivering flood defence schemes for Severn Stoke and improved flood resilience in Tenbury Wells. I've been out litter picking with groups across the constituency and encourage local volunteers to work with the district council to adopt specific roads to help keep our countryside clean and tidy.

Farming

Over 5,000 people in Worcestershire work in farming and the agricultural sector is worth £1.5 billion to our county economy. Farming could not be more important to us and to our nation, but I fear this message is getting lost among the cohort of new metropolitan elite MPs. Important funding schemes like the Sustainable Farming Initiative are being withdrawn and the future of the family farm is on a precarious knife edge with the changes in Inheritance Tax. Our countryside and the food system need to be supported, and I will continue to be a strong voice for our local farming community.

Pensioners

Many will have shared my concerns when, last Autumn, the Government announced the decision to remove the Winter Fuel Payment from many of our most vulnerable people. Under the previous Government, 27,000 people in West Worcestershire received the annual allowance and the decision to means-test at an income as low as £11,500 was widely reviled. I spoke on many occasions opposing this decision and calling for its reversal. It now looks like Chancellor Rachel Reeves is planning a u-turn in her Budget and this will bring welcome relief to thousands of local people, although it is not clear if it will have been done before winter sets in again.

8. Financial Report - *Original papers will be available at the meeting*

a) Receipts & Payments for May 2025

May 2025 total receipts £208.00 Total Payments £3,188.91 + Clerks Salary

Receipts & Payments for April 2025

June 2025 total receipts £208.01 – Total Payments £247.25 + Clerks Salary

b) Bank Reconciliation as at 24th June 2025.

Treasurers Account as at 24th June 2025 as per Bank Statement **£4,822.12**

Savings Account as at 24th June 2025 as per Bank Statement **£5,579.31**

c) Budget Review update to 24th June 2025

Budget 2025-2026	Actual to Date
Receipts 15,844	7,441.07
Payments 15,844	4,328.41

e) The Clerk tabled at the meeting the invoice for the internal Audit for 2024-2025 from Ruth Mullett. It was moved, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the invoice for £200.00 be paid.

9. Planning Applications

a) Application Number W/24/02434/CCO - Update

Location Address Applegarth Hill Road Kemerton Tewkesbury GL20 7JN

Proposal Discharge of Conditions 4 (Building Materials), 5 (CEMP), 9 (Excavated Materials) & 12 (Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme) of planning application W/22/01837/FUL.

Application Type Discharge of Conditions 4 (Building Materials), 5 (CEMP), 9 (Excavated Materials) & 12 (Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme) of planning application W/22/01837/FUL.

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda an email from Carl Brace, Development Office, WDC which informed the Council of the update on the above application *‘the agent has confirmed they are collating the information requested and this has involved a lot of detail in terms of excavated volumes, access for steelwork, parking etc. With regards Highways concerns, they are also looking at options of temporary staging areas to reduce the size of lorries through the village, however note this would need some discussion and is not necessarily a solution that will come forward (though does show they are exploring the matter and taking concerns seriously)’*.

The Council thanked Carl for his update.

b) Application Number W/25/00596/OUT

Location Address Land At (Os 9140 3472) Tewkesbury Road Bredons Hardwick

Proposal An outline application for phased residential development capable of being severed for up to 500 new homes, a neighbourhood centre (Use Classes C3, E, F2, and Sui Generis ((Hot Food takeaways, and pubs/bars)), means of access (from Hardwick Bank Road, and from the proposed Mitton A development to the south) drainage, landscaping, open space, and associated infrastructure with all matters reserved except for access

Application Type Outline Application

Parish Bredon

Ward Bredon Ward

Applicant Barratt David Wilson Trading Limited & NTLC

The Clerk had circulated with the agenda a copy of Chairman’s letter in objection the above planning application. Copy of the letter is available on KPC Website

10. Date of the Next Meeting

Next Meeting to be held on 2nd September at 7.00pm at the Victoria Hall

11. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman of the meeting

Cllr L Croft

LOCATION

Kemerton, near Tewkesbury,
Gloucestershire GL20

CORRESPONDENCE

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CHAIRMAN

Lisa Croft

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Clive Carver

WEBSITE

bit.ly/4folu2V