

Bayton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of Bayton Parish Council held in Bayton church at 7.30 pm on 8 July 2025

Present: Councillors Burns (Chair), George and Adams

In attendance – Clerk & Lengthsman

District Councillor D Godwin Arrived at 19:58pm

1. **Apologies** - none
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
 - a. Register of Interests – Cllrs are reminded to keep their registers updated if changes occur.
 - b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - none declared
 - c. Other Disclosable Interests – none declared
 - d. Cllrs own Computers/Tablets/Phones – Cllrs confirmed own devices are password protected, have antivirus software installed and automatic updates set for their systems as per agreed policies. - All Agreed
3. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the localism Act 2011)
 - a. Dispensations requested – none

Meeting adjourned for

Public Question Time

no notes

Meeting resumed

4. **Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting** held on 17 June 2025 were agreed by all and signed by the Chair
5. **Lengthsman**
(Temp/Locum) – gave a verbal update on the Parish, has been around the whole Parish to assess. Worked in areas within contract. Has stated will do as much as is possible as agreed. Any issues noted please contact the Clerk. Re-advertisement of the post – agreed to readvertise.
6. **County Councillor Report** – received report at end of the minutes
District Councillor Report – arrived at 19:58pm point 11. Gave report on MHDC and mention of Unitary Council. Funding Grants available from MHDC
7. **Finances:**
 - a. **Bank Mandate** – awaiting signature
 - b. **Payments**
 - i. **Confirmation of payments made since last meeting as detailed below**
 - ii **To consider payments to be made** - It was Agreed by all

i. Regular Payments made since last meeting

	Date	Detail	£	
BP	30/05/2025	Clerks Salary May 25	320.78	Reg Payment
	17/06/2025	Bank Charge	4.25	Reg Payment
BP	30/06/2026	Clerks Salary June 25	320.78	Reg Payment
Regular Payments – Total			645.81	
ii. Payments Falling due				
FPO	08/07/2025	Clerks Expenses April to June 25	147.78	
FPO	08/07/2025	Microsoft Renewal Clerk Expense	84.99	Reg Payment
FPO	08/07/2025	LM – C Bunn	238.00	Reg Payment
	19/07/2025	Bank Monthly Charge	4.25	Reg Payment
Total of Payments			1120.83	

Payments reviewed and agreed by all Councillors, Resolved.

- c. **Receipts** – received receipts are MHDC Precept £5227.50 and VAT Reclaim £308.10 – All Agreed
- d. **Bank Reconciliation** – Current Account as at 30 June 2025 reconciled Balance £ 24260.72 – All Agree
- e. **Budget Review and Report** – received and reviewed all agreed, Resolved

Bayton Parish Council

8. **Planning**
 - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting - none**
 - b. **Decisions received since last meeting – none**
 - c. **Plans for Consideration – none**
 - d. **Enforcements – no updates received from MHDC**
9. **Gov.uk email/website – progress report. Moved to next meeting**
10. **Policies for Review**
 - a. **Delegation – noted with only 3 Councillor elected.**
 - b. **Defibrillation – noted and agreed by all**
11. **Reports on Meetings attended by Clerks/ Councillors - none**
12. **Correspondence for information as circulated –** CALC newsletter, Health & Wellbeing update, Town & Council LGR briefing meeting; MHDC Community Grants, planning; RSN Bulletin; WMP Fraud Bulletin, Charter, Smartwater.
13. **Correspondence for discussion**
 - a. **WMP contract renewal –** agreed by all, points 1. Speeding A456 Clows Top; 2. Speeding B4202
 - b. **WMP Smartwater –** discussed and agreed not to proceed by all. Resolved.
14. **Clerks report on urgent decisions since last meeting –** regular payments as noted in 7bi
15. **Councillors' reports and items for next agenda – none**
16. **Date of next meeting –** Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 7.30pm Clows Top Victory Hall
17. **Meeting closed at 20.39**

Signed

Date:

Chair

Report for Tenbury Division Parish Councils July 2025

Worcestershire County Council Matters

The first Cabinet Meeting of the new administration was held on 26th June. As the first Cabinet Meeting, the only matter before it was to sign off on the County Council accounts for year ending April 24/25, which was the final year of the previous Council.

The accounts confirm that the overall debt amounts to £604 million, which is due to a combination of insufficient national government funding and spending choices made by the previous County Council administration. This means that Worcestershire will continue to experience significant financial pressures for the foreseeable future.

Work is continuing on developing a Local Government Reorganisation proposal to be presented to national government in November. A seminar is being held later this month for all County Councillors, which will set out in more detail the options being considered. As previously circulated, these are the options of a unitary council (One Worcestershire), or a “two council” option of North Worcestershire and South Worcestershire. Financially, the analysis by the consultants PWC has indicated that the greater benefits come from the One Worcestershire option, although work is continuing on this. In respect of the North / South option, I understand that the Tenbury Division would come under South Worcestershire along with the rest of the Malvern Hills District Council area.

Tenbury Division Matters

There are two main issues affecting Tenbury and the villages in our area.

Bayton Parish Council

The first is flooding. The Environment Agency has acknowledged that the settlement defence project for Tenbury will not be going ahead due to lack of funding. This is obviously disappointing, although not unexpected. It does give however give clarity.

My new Council Cabinet colleague, Ian Cresswell, is the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Environment and Infrastructure and also the divisional councillor for Stourport Mitton, so knows Tenbury Division well. I am therefore working alongside him, the Environment Agency, and experts in the field to explore other options that might be available to provide a package of flood prevention, protection and resilience, including drainage, attenuation and diversion. The Environment Agency's Individual Flood Resilience Scheme for flood affected properties in Tenbury is also on-going.

The other significant issue in the area, particularly for the villages, is speeding traffic. As you'll be aware, there are usually criteria that have to be met for roads to get traffic calming measures, and work has previously done to increase Mobile Speed Camera activity, as well some provision of Vehicle Activated Signs. What hasn't necessarily been given the prominence that it should have in the past is the impact of speeding traffic on the quality of life in our villages. I am therefore working with West Mercia Police and Worcestershire County Council Highways to change this. Another new Council Cabinet colleague, Karl Perks, is the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Highways and Transport and the divisional councillor for Stourport Areley Kings and Riverside. So, he also knows our area well and understands the issues faced, and I am hopeful of positive support in trying to improve road safety in the division.

Having Cabinet Members with key responsibilities who understand the needs of our area is, I hope, going to benefit the division as a whole. I look forward to reporting in the months to come some of the improvements that this new approach to Tenbury and the villages will bring.

Justin Bowen

Worcestershire County Councillor for Tenbury Division

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families.