

BREDON & BREDON'S NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Bredon Parish Council Meeting held at Bredon Village Hall on **Monday 10th November 2025 at 7:00pm.**

Present: Councillors: Mr Nick Bradley (Chairman), Mr Colin Davidson, Cllr Mr Matt Darby, Mr Kevin Falvey, Mr Rob Sly and Mr Brod Whiting.

In Attendance: Mr Tim Drew (Clerk), Cllr Mr Adrian Hardman, Ms Dee Clayton.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs Mr Andrew Rhodes and Mr Declan Shiels.

2. Declaration of Interests.

Cllr Darby declared an ODI for Item 6 as the son of the owner of the north rugby pitch.

Cllr Falvey declared a non-prejudicial DPI for Item 6 as Chairman of Bredon Star RFC.

Cllr Sly has an ODI dispensation for the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (5 c) specific to the strategic allocation at Mitton until 8th December 2025.

Cllr Sly also declared a non-prejudicial DPI for Item 5 c) as an adjacent neighbour of the second Mitton Bank planning application.

3. To consider the Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th October 2025.

Subject to a word change from *criteria* to *preference* in the last sentence of Item 3, these minutes were **agreed**.

4. Finances:

a) Invoices to be paid:

Village Hall

Jo Lomasney	Balance of Wages – October 2025	£199.27
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Parish Council:

Timothy Drew	Balance of Wages – October 2025	£265.16
David Gray	Lengthsman Services – October 2025 – Highways	£476.00
David Gray	Lengthsman Services – October 2025 – Parish	£374.00
Pippins Accountancy	Q2 VAT Return	£105.00
Greenworks	Mowing – October 2025 (x2)	£1995.72

All payments above were **agreed**.

b) To approve the Financial Report.

The October 2025 bank statements and Scribe Cashbook were **approved**. The Clerk advised that the number of mowing events to date in 2025 is sixteen.

5. Planning:

a) For Consultee Approval:

i. W/25/02147/HP 5 St Giles Road, Bredon, GL20 7EQ

Replacement of conservatory with a single storey rear extension, and conversion of the existing garage into a bedroom.

There are concerns over the proximity to a neighbouring building and it is requested that the Officers ensure compliance with Wychavon Design Guidance.

- ii. W/25/02019/HP Lochry, Watery Lane, Kinsham, GL20 8HU
Demolition of existing sheds with replacement shed, greenhouse and pergola. Installation of solar panels, replacement windows and door.
It is noted the Conservation Officer has no objection and their comments are supported and endorsed. It is the Council's view that the proposal should improve the site.
- iii. W/25/01809/HP The Cottage, Bredon's Hardwick Lane, Bredon's Hardwick, GL20 7EE
Proposed single-storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory.
Comments from a neighbour are noted and it is requested that the Officers ensure compliance with Wychavon Design Guidance.
- iv. W/25/01832/LB Tudor Cottage, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7HB
Repair a section of dry-stone retaining wall and erect block retaining wall behind.
No objection to the proposal.
- v. W/25/02326/CLE 26 Hill Close, Westmancote, Bredon, GL20 7EW
Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of a single storey extension.
No objection to the proposal.

The above comments were agreed.

b) Approved by Wychavon:

- i. W/23/00331/CU Castle View, Eckington Road, Bredon's Norton, WR10 3FB
- ii. W/25/01696/HP Ashley Cottage, Cheltenham Road, Kinsham, GL20 8HP

c) SWDP Examination Arrangements:

SWDP parties were expecting Major Modifications before the end of November, but the Inspector has advised this will not be issued until January 2026. There will then be a 6-week consultation with final approval expected before May 2026.

d) Tewkesbury Garden Town (TGT):

A recent Parish Liaison Group meeting was attended by National Grid where they stated that electric supply had reached capacity and further development cannot be supported. This is likely to affect Mitton Bank.

Traffic on Hardwick Bank Road is being surveyed and re-modelled to account for Moog and the Cotswold Designer Outlet.

Tewkesbury Borough Council's Design Code and Strategic Local Plan is now out for consultation.

The Ashchurch Bridge over Rail (ABoR) has been approved in principle and work on M5 Junction 10 has commenced.

TGT is not on the government list of new towns and Section 106 contributions from developers for M5 Junction 9a are under consideration.

e) Other Planning Matters:

Planning permission is not always required for permitted development, particularly for dormer windows with attic conversions. There is a need to monitor planning websites to keep updated.

6. Bredon Star RFC 7s & Sounds Festival.

Cllr Falvey left the room for this Item. Approval to use the north rugby pitch area had been received from the Landlords. The proposal from Scott Jameson had been circulated to Councillors and engagement with sports clubs, wider community engagement, insurance/indemnity and financial contributions were discussed. The Council were supportive of the event in principle and **agreed** that the Rugby Club could continue with feasibility planning subject to:

- Production of a Detailed Site Map
- Community & Logistics engagement event to be held in Village Hall
- Financial contributions including Insurance and Indemnity
- Engagement with other Sports Clubs including car parking issues

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

The Outdoor Table Tennis Table has been ordered, and PJ Hughes will provide a date for installation which should be communicated to the sports clubs and community. Signage for the Toddlers Play Area costing £27 was **agreed**.

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

It is encouraging that Wychavon Legal have submitted a report to the next Communities Panel meeting on 17th November 2025 to approve the allocation of Section 106 funding (Cllrs Davidson & Falvey to attend). Both Bredon AFC and Bredon Star RFC have written supporting the project. Further update as an Agenda Item at the December meeting.

9. Progress Reports and Updates.

a) County and District Councillor:

- Worcester shire County Council are proposing one unitary authority, and a new Council Tax Rate would be created.
- The following guidance from Worcestershire CALC suggests Parish Councils should consider increasing **precepts** in the lead up to unitary changes:
 - There is no capping again this year to Parish Council precepts. With the lead up to unitary coming, we would urge Councils to plan for the future. so, they aren't left behind in a couple of years' time.
 - Councils should consider increasing their precepts to better reflect the growing demands and expectations of their communities. Many councils in the county currently operate below the national average, which can limit their ability to deliver essential services, maintain public spaces, and support local initiatives. As parishes become busier and more engaged in community development, a modest rise in precepts would empower them to invest in infrastructure, events, and support systems that directly enhance residents' quality of life. A well-funded parish council is better positioned to be proactive, responsive, and innovative in meeting local needs.
 - Currently the National average Band D is £92.22, Bredon Parish Band D for 2025-26 is £42.53. Even the smallest Parish in County raising their Band D up to that amount would still be less than the increase the County Council are likely to levy on the taxpayer. Currently only 10 out of 151 Town and Parish Council's in the County are at or above the National Average. The national average is likely to increase between 6-7% the next year and is nearly £10 higher for those areas that have unitary councils.
- Pavement refurbishment for Jubilee Drive and Bricknell Avenue, is scheduled for March 2026.
- There has been no progress with National Rail relating to the flooding between the two Bredon's Norton turnings.
- The Fire Brigade response to the recent Fox & Hounds fire will be queried.
- The problematic parish power cuts in October 2025 were due to outdated equipment which has now been replaced.

- Roadside signage has reappeared at Bredon's Hardwick will be referred to planning enforcement and planning permission is expected to be required.

b) Police and Defibrillator Report:

- A car was stolen from Croft Farm in October.
- The Boxing Matches held in the Village Hall was successful. Security will ensure parking arrangements are in place for future events.
- Clerk to check the extent of live sports within the current Village Hall Licence with Wychavon.
- Bleed Kits to be provided in Defibrillator Cabinets. The Surgery have redundant Kits which may be swapped with Village Hall.

c) Smart Water:

- Grant from Wychavon now received for cost of kits.

d) Working Groups:

- The Executive & Finance Working Group will meet in early December to discuss the Precept for 2026-27. See 9a 2nd bullet point above.

10. Correspondence, Progress Reports and Updates for Information.

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

- The forthcoming closure of Cheltenham Road and diversions.
- The CALC Health and Wellbeing Newsletter for November 2025.

11. Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agenda:

Cllr Falvey advised a new Key Box for the bollard had been ordered. Several maintenance/ repair works are required in the Village Hall including Taps and doors in Ladies Toilet, Gutter cleaning, and County Boilers to check radiators. The Velux openings will be closed for winter in the Chandler Room. An Asset Working Group meeting is to be called to discuss and plan Village Hall refurbishments and decoration.

Cllr Falvey confirmed that CPR Training will be held in the Village Hall and arranged by Bredon Star RFC and Bredon WI.

Cllr Sly advised there was an opportunity to rent space in the Village Hall for Distribution Lockers.

12. Date of Next Meeting:

8th December 2025