

# BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on Tuesday 26th November 2024 at 7.00pm at Bredenbury Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors: Jane Berwick, Alex Gerrard, John Hulse, Massie Piggott

**In attendance:** Clerk Vicky Hancock, Ward Councillor Bruce Baker, 1 resident, PC Doug Hamilton & SPSO Sue Berrett West Mercia Police

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Libby, Cllr Farey

**2. Declarations of interest and written requests for dispensation:** none given

**3. To consider the minutes of the previous meetings:** Parish Council Meeting 29<sup>th</sup> October It was **RESOLVED** to adopt these minutes and they were signed by the chairman.

### 4. Open Session

The Chairman welcomed PC Doug Hamilton & Senior CPSO Sue Berrett to the meeting. Sue Berrett came to thank the Parish Council for their support during her time with the Bromyard Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) and said that she had now changed her role to a Senior Community Police Support Officer with responsibility for a wider area. She introduced PC Doug Hamilton who has joined the Bromyard SNT and is now the principle contact for our area. The other members of the team are PC Lowri Jones and PCSO Toby Stephenson. PC Hamilton had been carrying out traffic enforcement work in Bredenbury during the afternoon. On the question of drivers using mobile phones he reminded council that if dashcam evidence is available it can be reported to the police through the Operation Snap campaign. Following the recent floods a question was raised regarding the correct channel when reporting an event which could be a potential danger (such as the railings at Rowden Mill that were washed into the road during the recent floods). PC Hamilton said that if there is a serious risk then the police should be contacted.

The Chairman thanked the West Mercia Police officers for their time and continued support. (The officers left the meeting at 7.16pm)

4.1 Views of local residents. None given

4.2 Ward Councillor Baker gave a brief report

- Considerable flood damage during the recent storm. Reminder that PCs can apply for grants for cleaning out gullies and ditches additional
- Phosphate credits now in short supply. Two wetlands at Tarrington & Luston
- New road surface on the Tenbury Road from Bromyard before Edwyn Ralph
- Match funding available for defibrillators
- Warning of growing scams/fraud involving crypto currency

There being no questions the Chairman thanked Cllr Baker for his report.

**5. Budget Monitoring** Clerk shared the November budget monitoring. Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept the monitoring and Cllr Hulse signed the document.

### 6. Finance

6.1 The Clerk shared the bank statement to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024. Balance brought forward £10178.87 Closing balance at 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 £9801.05 Noted and signed by Cllr Gerrard.

6.2 Clerk shared the Bank Control Account to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 which detailed payments and receipts to date. Outstanding cheque total £656.28. Closing balance £9414.77. Noted and signed by Cllr Gerrard.

6.3 Noted payment to Defib Store Ltd £139.19

6.4 It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following payments:

6.4.1 SLCC membership 25-26 £110.00

6.4.2 Autela Monthly Payroll Aug-Nov £75.05

6.4.3 Clerk's November Salary (+back pay) & note assessment report re: workplace pension

**7. Reserves Policy 2024** – reviewed and **AGREED**

**8. Precept 2025-26** The recommendation from the Finance Working Group that the Precept should remain at £9000 was **AGREED**. Chairman signed the Herefordshire Council Precept Requirement form for 2025-26.

**9. Policy & Procedure** A copy of the revised Risk Register had been received by councillors with the revisions highlighted. The document was **REVIEWED** and the updates **AGREED**.

**10. Planning**

10.1 P242036/F Land at Brockington House Bredenbury HR7 4TF. Proposed 1 no. two storey house and detached garage in the grounds of Brockington House. Councillors **AGREED** to **SUPPORT** this application and noted it met the criteria of Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies

- BW&GB 1 Promoting a sustainable community
- BW&GB 2 Development Strategy
- BW&GB 8 Ensuring an appropriate range of tenures, types & sizes of houses
- BW&GB 10 Protecting & Enhancing Local Character

10.2 Further comments on P242070/F & P/242071/O. Discussion ensued concerning the report submitted by the HC Senior Landscape Officer regarding her objections to these applications. After discussion it was **AGREED** that the Chairman should write to Planning Officer Ollie Jones setting out our concerns. It was noted that many of the comments were well addressed in the comprehensive characterisation study carried out during the work to produce the Bredenbury, Wacton & Grendon Bishop Neighbourhood Development Plan concerning treescapes and documented in the Design & Access Statements. It was surprising to read the visual amenity afforded to motorists '*while travelling at speed through the village*' would be justification to object to these developments.

**11. Public Consultation** Herefordshire Tree, Hedgerow and Woodland Strategy (h-THAWS) Public consultation. Councillors **AGREED** the response to this consultation should reflect the limited time for response on such an important issue, BGPC believes that the main focus of this initiative should be on the provision of adequate treescapes including native species hedgerows in all new residential, commercial and industrial developments, across Herefordshire.

**12. SmartWater** The Clerk has confirmed that the SmartWater markings are valid for many years. There is an opportunity to purchase further kits for new residents through West Mercia as we have been part of the previous campaign. To review this in the new financial year.

**13. Lengthsman** Lengthsman to check the grit bins.

**14. Road Safety** The incorrect Speed Indicator Device has been collected by Stocksigns and waiting return of the correct model Cllr Hulse to contact. Clerk to contact BBLP to check the drainage grips opposite the Three Pines Garage.

**15. Correspondence** BBLP to delay the work on the A44 footway and carriageway between the Old Police House and North Lodge until February 2025.

**16. Matters for the next meeting**

- Planning updates
- Lengthsman

**17. Dates of the next scheduled meetings**

Wednesday 29th January 2025 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @7.00pm

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025 @ 7.00pm

**The meeting closed at 8.21pm**