

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7.00pm

At

Bredenbury Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Geoff Arnold, Richard Bell, Hugh Farey (arrived 7.30pm), John Hulse, Becca Libby, Massie Piggott

In attendance: Clerk Vicky Hancock, Ward Councillor Baker, 2 local residents

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Berwick

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

3. To consider the minutes of the previous meetings: Parish Council Meeting 26th March 2025. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt these minutes and they were signed by the chairman.

4. Open Session

4.1 Views of local residents.

- The lighting outside the school is still causing concern as it lights up a wide area of the road and pavement and can be seen from houses of the nearby residents. The light also comes on throughout the school holidays. The council has already considered this matter and suggested it may be helpful if the resident contacted the QE directly to discuss these issues. Clerk to send contact details of Executive Head and Site Manager to resident.
- Concern was also raised about street lighting that may result from any planned building scheme. The Chair pointed out that there was no plan for any street lighting and that Herefordshire Council supported Dark Skies and it is likely this will also be reflected in our updated plan.
- Valley View residents have expressed concern regarding speeding vehicles on their road and have requested a 30mph repeater. Clerk/Chair to follow this up.

4.2 Ward Councillor Baker gave a brief report:

- £1 million research initiative on the water quality in the River Wye and the impact on decline in wildlife
- Increased police speed checks across the county
- A reminder the Government has increased the housing target to 27,200 for Herefordshire between now and 2041
- Also the revised NPPF states that Neighbourhood Plans over 5 years old will not carry weight with immediate effect
- £10 million to be spent on resurfacing roads in 25-26 £250,00 allocated for surface dressing
- Avian flu – a reminder flocks should be licensed and covered including domestic fowl
- Renters Rights Bill currently going through Parliament
- Warm Homes Grants to be shared with Herefordshire, Shropshire and Gloucestershire
- Children's Services showing improvement. A new Head of Service is in place

5. Budget Monitoring The Clerk shared the final budget monitoring for the financial year 2024-25. Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept the monitoring and Cllr Hulse signed the document.

6. Finance

6.1 Clerk shared the bank statement to March 31st 2025. Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.2 Clerk shared the Bank Reconciliation for the end of the financial year 2024-25. Including 2 unpresented cheques totally £495.95. Closing balance £6030.24 Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.3 Payments already made noted:

6.3.1 I P Culley £175.00

6.3.2 V Hancock Office Supplies £172.00 (Viking)

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

6.4.1 J Hulse mileage Parish Summit £17.10

6.4.2 Clerk's April salary & note assessment report re: workplace pension

6.4.3 Clerk's mileage HALC £14.85

6.5 Remittance noted 1st Precept payment for 2025-26 of £4500 from Herefordshire Council

6.6 Councillors **APPROVED** the move to online banking with the Unity Trust Bank and **AGREED** a monthly service tariff for this facility. Clerk to initiate this change over and report back at the next meeting.

7. Policy & Procedure

7.1 Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Model Financial Regulations 2025 (subject to amending Banking & Payments to reflect changes to online banking)

7.2 Council **AGREED** to **ADOPT** the Model Standing Orders 2025 update

7.3 Councillors have read, reviewed and **AGREED** to the Councillor Code of Conduct as adopted in May 2022.

8. PROW The Clerk attended Parish Footpath Officers (FPO) and Clerk update presented by Herefordshire Council to support the role of the FPO in the parishes. The sessions were designed to provide an insight into the role of the Parish Footpath Officer and an opportunity to meet up with the team responsible for FPO support. It was an informative session of expectations of the role and also a reminder that these are voluntary roles and the Clerk is the contact in the first instance. There was a good opportunity to talk with other FPOs and Clerks. The presenters gave out a backpack with a small supply of tools for each parish. There will be lanyards and ID badges to come at a later date. The Clerk suggested it may be valuable for the councillors to walk the footpaths with our FPO and ensure the way markers are in place and access is clear. This suggestion was **AGREED** on and will be organised through the FPO in due course.

9. Feedback Parish Summit Cllr Hulse and the Clerk attended the summit in Plough Lane on 8th April. The main item on the agenda was the development of a charter between Herefordshire Council and Town and Parish Councils. During the presentation there was an opportunity to discuss the Charter with other councillors and clerks and feedback to the steering group members. The new version of the Charter was positively received by the majority of those present. The 2nd presentation was from Leigh Whitehouse Group Manager - Streetscene, Public Rights of Way and Traffic Management. He outlined the PROW work and how the service was to be improved.

10. Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

10.1 The Steering Group are meeting on Tuesday 20th May with Ian Culley who will outline the way forward for renewing the plan.

10.2 Councillors **AGREED** to support the fee proposal from Ian Culley to progress the work. It was outlined that grant availability has not been released yet but Locality are due to update this information in June. The Project Plan to be sent out to all councillors.

11. Planning (This item was taken after Item 4 Open Session)

11.1 Re-consultation Planning Application P/242070 Site A to the north of Brockington House, Bredenbury, Herefordshire, HR7 4TF. Council **AGREED** to **SUPPORT** this application and made reference to the new housing distribution to include two 2 bedroom dwellings and the improved visibility splays and pedestrian access.

11.2 Re-consultation Planning Application P/272071 Site B to the north of Brockington House, Bredenbury, Herefordshire, HR7 4TF. There was a query regarding the access to this site. Cllr Farey agreed to show the resident where the access was to be sited according to the submitted plans.

Council **AGREED** to **SUPPORT** this application.

11.3 S106 Wishlist to be discussed at a future meeting.

12. Road Safety Cllrs Arnold, Hulse & Piggott to meet to look at the installation of the Speed Device.

13. Correspondence None received

14 Matters for the next meeting

- Planning
- NDP update
- S106 wishlist
- Road safety
- Internal Audit & Annual Governance Documentation (AGAR)

15. Meeting dates agreed

Wednesday 21st May 2025 @ 7.00pm **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Wednesday 25th June 2025 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 30th July 2025 @7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.44pm