

BREDENBURY GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 7.00pm

At

Bredenbury Village Hall

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman read a statement regarding the conduct of attendees at Parish Council meetings.

Present: Councillors: Geoff Arnold, Richard Bell, John Hulse, Becca Libby, Massie Piggott

In attendance: Clerk Vicky Hancock, Ward Councillor Baker, 4 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 21st May 2025. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt these minutes and they were signed by the chairman.

4. Open Session

4.1 Views of local residents

- There was concern regarding a manhole cover on the pavement on Rowden Lane which has not been replaced correctly after jetting. Clerk to follow-up.
- There is a problem with dog excrement on the pavement in Valley View. Clerk to request additional signs.
- A question was raised about re-surfacing an unadopted lane and continuing to resurface over the pavement which is council property. Clerk to check on this.
- Asked about an update on the 30mph sign on Valley View. Clerk awaiting response.

4.2 Ward Councillor Baker gave a brief report:

- Numbers of housing to be built in Herefordshire in the next 15 years 27,000
- Call for sites to be coming shortly as Herefordshire Council develop their plan
- Bypass plans will divert traffic onto A49 from the city centre. Grafton to A465 already begun
- Herefordshire Local Authority closure of accounts 24/25 £500,000 in black
- First students from NMITE University have graduated
- No recent news on devolution
- Multi-year settlement from central government not received this year
- Council Delivery Plan for Herefordshire:

People - residents

Place – protect and enhance the environment

Growth –conditions for sustainable growth

Transformation -Efficient council, technology and value for money

The Chair thanked Ward Councillor Baker for his report.

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

6. Finance

6.1 Clerk shared the bank statement to 30th May 2025. Opening balance £10,080.34. Closing balance £9,554.60. Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.2 Clerk shared the Bank Reconciliation for 30th May 2025 Including 2 unpresented cheques totally £430.79. Closing balance £9,123.81. Noted and signed by Cllr Piggott.

6.3 It was **RESOLVED** to agree the following payment: Clerk's June salary & note assessment report re: workplace pension

7. Planning Consultations

7.1 **P/251548** Land at Milk Vending Machine shed, C1062 from A44 to Great Wacton Lane, Bredenbury HR7 4TF. Change of use from agricultural land to mixed use of agricultural land and dog walking (retrospective). Councillors **AGREED** to support this application and note that it met the criteria of Neighbourhood Plan Policy BW&GB 17 Agriculture & Forestry Enterprises.

7.2 Re-consultation **P/242070** Site to the north of Brockington House, Bredenbury HR7 4TF. Bredenbury site A, a development of 9 houses for open market sale together with access road and car parking for the nearby village hall. Councillors **AGREED** to support this re-application. The site meets the criteria for new housing as it is proportionate development within the designated settlement boundary as recognised in the Bredenbury Neighbourhood plan which was supported by 96% who voted at referendum. It is also in accordance with NP Policies BW&GB14 housing allocations, BW&GB 7 design of new housing and BW&GB 10 protecting and enhancing local character.

(a break for refreshments was taken at 7.40pm meeting resumed at 7.48pm)

8. Lengthsman Drainage Asset Survey Discussed funding available for drainage work if we are signed up to the lengthsman scheme. As we do not participate in this scheme we will investigate if there would be any funding available. We had made a request for the gullies opposite Three Pines to be piped so the verge could be cut properly. We still have not received any response.

9. Neighbourhood Plan Update The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has announced that it will cease commissioning new NDPs support services with immediate effect. This is disastrous news for small parish councils such as Bredenbury. Without access to grants and expert guidance we will struggle to progress our NDP renewal. Council members have already **AGREED** to support the NDP renewal and the plan proposal from Ian Culley. Cllr Hulse explained that this change will mean that we may have to compromise our Reserves Policy which states that we should retain 50% of our precept. The Clerk noted we have a healthy budget going forward and the 2nd precept payment would be due in September. After discussion, councillors agreed to **APPROVE** the resolution to continue renewing the plan. Cllr Hulse, Ian Culley and Clerk are to meet with Spencer Ward of HC Neighbourhood Planning the week beginning 7th July.

The first community survey has been collated and distributed by the members of the steering group. This is an anonymous survey asking for comments regarding the vision and objectives. Following on from this will be the first community meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to send a letter to MP Ellie Chowns on behalf of the council to express the importance of neighbourhood planning and the continuation of funding.

10. Road Safety Thanks to Cllr Arnold for changing the batteries on the Speed Indicator. The new post is to be installed for the solar panel.

11. Remote Meetings Clerk read out a statement from NALC which reported that the government has announced plans to amend legislation, allowing local authorities (including town and parish councils) to hold remote and hybrid meetings.

12. Village Hall update It was reported that it will be difficult for the village hall to receive grant aided funding as the registration on the Charities Commission website state that it has church related activities as part of its registration. This has been reported to the Trustees for their consideration.

13. Correspondence Bredenbury Primary School has sent a consultation letter on the opening of a Nursery at the school. Council **AGREED** this would be a valuable addition to the school community. Cllr Hulse to send a letter of support on behalf of the council.

Clerk received a letter from Sakura Cherry Tree Project regarding planting of 10,000 cherry trees across schools, parks and gardens to celebrate Japan's relationship with this country. The trees are grown locally at Frank Matthews Nursery Tenbury and free to communities.

14. Matters for the next meeting

- Planning
- NDP update
- TRO & A44 Resurfacing

15. Meeting dates agreed

Wednesday 30th July 2025 @7.00pm

No scheduled August meeting

Wednesday 24th September 2025 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 29th October 2025 @ 7.00pm

Wednesday 26th November 2025 @ 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.35pm