

# BITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026. 7.30pm Bicton Village Hall

## MINUTES

**PRESENT:** Parish Cllrs: Elliott Blackmore (Chairman); Richard Brett; Stephen Griffin; Wendy Horan; Edward Swain.

SC Cllr Ed Potter; Interim Parish Clerk-Maxine Baker and 4 parishioners

**Neighbourhood Alert** - there was no report received this evening.

**Open Forum** - A member of the public updated the meeting with regards to the rubbish dumped on Highway agency Land; Chairman Elliott Blakemore has identified the location on What Three Words, so hopefully the rubbish can now be collected by Highways.

**Report from S.C. Ed Potter** - Cllr Ed Potter provided an update on Shropshire Council finances, explaining that although government provision has been set up, there is a £15 million reduction due to adjustments in the government's funding formulas. This change lowered the deprivation calculation awarded to Shropshire, which is based on house rate bandings—an approach that does not accurately reflect the actual needs of the population in Shropshire.

It is likely that Shropshire Council will increase their precept requirement to the maximum of 5%.

*[At 19:46 pm, Councillor Ed Potter left the meeting due to another commitment].*

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received and accepted from Cllrs Mandie Lee, Sue Llewellyn, and Sally Maddox.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr R Brett: agenda items 6.ii - a near neighbour and 8.2 – a pecuniary interest.

3. **Verify draft Minutes dated 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025** - the minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

4. **Matters arising:**

i. **Length Mans** – nothing to report.

ii. **Financial Regulations** – Draft Model Financial Regulations, were reviewed.

**RESOLVED:** to approve and adopt the presented Financial Regulations.

III. **Shropshire School Library** – consideration was given to a letter from Shropshire Council dated 5<sup>th</sup> December seeking expressions of interest of any parties who wish to take over the full operation, management, and financing of the Shropshire School Library services. The letter was **received and noted**.

5. **Parish Matters:**

i. **Bicton Pool** – nothing to report.

ii. **BKVC 2026** –consideration was given to whether Bicton Parish Council wishes to enter the BKVC for 2026 and for volunteer(s) to complete the entry form. **RESOLVED** that in principle the Parish Council is in favour of entering the competition for 2026/27, however, it was noted that more community volunteers are needed therefore, Cllr Stephen Griffin would write and submit an article for the Parish Magazine February Edition calling for volunteers to assist. The agenda item will be brought back to the February Meeting.

## 6. Planning Decisions & Planning Applications

- i. To note planning decisions made since the last meeting:

25/02946/OUT Address: Land To The North of Holyhead Road Bicton – Pending consideration.

25/04181/OUT Address: Land To The West Off Bicton Lane Bicton – Pending Consideration.

25/04420/OUT Address: Land Off Bicton Lane, Bicton – Pending Consideration.

- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications:

*[Cllr Brett took no part in the decision for the following application]*

25/04590/FUL Address: Glenford Bicton Lane Bicton Shropshire SY3 8EU  
Proposal: Erection of replacement dwelling.

It was proposed to submit a no objections response; a vote was taken: For 3; Abstentions 1

It was **RESOLVED** – to submit a no objections response.

## 7. Reports:

- i. Muriel's Little Wood; Safety Report: Cllr Stephen Griffin advised the meeting that he had cut back the holly from the second gate and tidied the area.
- ii. VAS – Speed Indicator Devices, Progress report was **received and noted**.
- iii. Clerks Report: The Clerk advised that www.bictonparishcouncil.gov.uk domain name had been applied for, and the new website should be live within the next couple of weeks.

## 8. Financial Reports:

- i. **RESOLVED** to approve the list of payments and note any income received:

Maxine Baker	£377.25	Wages – December - (Tax Period 10)
R Brett	£120.00	Website Maintenance/updates
Shropshire Council	£225.54	Contribution to Street Lighting Energy Costs
Shropshire Council	£125.00	Parish Council Election Costs – May 2025
Sally Maddox (refund – Suffolk Plants Ltd)	£18.00	Re imbursement for the purchase of bulbs

- ii. **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

9. **Extra Information** –Cllr Sally Maddox advised by email that the Community litter pick will take place on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January – meeting at the Village Hall, equipment will be provided but you will need to bring your own gloves. Councillor Stephen Griffin noted that there appears to be excrement on the seat of the bus stop, which requires cleaning by jet washing. The Chairman, Councillor Elliott Blackmore, stated that he would address this matter. Additionally, Councillor Wendy Horan informed the meeting that lorries from the Chicken Farm are not being properly covered, resulting in their contents escaping. The Chairman confirmed that he would contact the company responsible to resolve this issue.

10. **Date of the next meeting** - to note that the next meeting shall be held on February 10th, 7.30 pm at Bicton Village Hall.

*[20.26pm meeting closed]*