

BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 10th February 2026. 7.30pm Bicton Village Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT: Parish Cllrs: Elliott Blackmore (Chairman); Richard Brett; Stephen Griffin; Wendy Horan; Mandie Lee; Sue Llewellyn; Sally Maddox; Edward Swain.

SC Cllr Ed Potter; Interim Parish Clerk-Maxine Baker and 7 parishioners

Neighbourhood Alert - there was no report received this evening.

Open Forum - A member of the public reported to the meeting a pile of litter dropped on the floor near the bus stop, right by a bin; A representative from the Village Hall Committee advised that the village hall requires refurbishment and possible extension to the kitchen, toilets need upgrading; security doors need replacing; as well as new heating system including an air conditioning unit; new website that facilitates online booking, the bowling green area needs new pathways and the car park needs expanding, drainage and re lining. The Chairman requested that the Village Hall Committee produces a list of works that are required with three quotations for each of the items, then the use of CIL monies can be looked into.

A resident advised that Bicton Pool need to be replanted with native species. The type of species required will be growing at Oxon Pool.

An enquiry was also made about a community allotments or orchard being located on one of the small local fields and if this could be included with the CIL monies.

Report from S.C. Ed Potter – Councillor Ed Potter presented an update on Shropshire Council’s financial situation, noting that an application has been made for a central government loan; however, the interest repayments associated with this loan are expected to be substantial. Shropshire Council has received approval to increase council tax by 9%. Given current financial pressures, it is anticipated that the full 9% increase will be implemented, although this measure will have minimal impact on the existing deficit. An official announcement is expected soon regarding the discontinuation of the relief road project, while the Oxon Link will likely proceed, supported by funding from S106 agreements. Councillor Potter reported he has distributed a significant number of Parish Surveys and will complete deliveries in the near future. He advised that if Bicton Parish Council submits a Place Plan reflecting the community’s priorities, it will enhance Bicton’s position in the event of future planning developments.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - none.
2. **Declarations of Interest** –none.
3. **Verify draft Minutes dated 13th January 2026** - the minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.
4. **Matters arising:**

- i **Lengthsman Duties** – nothing to report.

The Chairman Cllr Blackmore advised that following from last months meeting he had cleaned the bus stop and had also spoken to the chicken factory and they advised that they will deal with the issue.

- ii. **Policy Documents:** A review of the following circulated draft policy documents:
 - a. Draft I.T. Policy: It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the draft policy document.
 - b. Draft Risk Assessment 2025/2026: It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the draft policy document.
 - c. Draft Asset Register: It was **RESOLVED** to add the following items to the asset register: 4 benches; 2 noticeboards; 3 VAS units; 1 defibrillator.

5. **Parish Matters.**

- i. **Bicton Pool** – The Chairman Cllr Blackmore advised that the overflow water is not running very well causing flooding, which is probably as a result of a blockage possibly by the gateway.

- ii. **Defibrillator**- It was **RESOLVED** that a quarterly report to council will be made and the next report will be provided for the April 2026 meeting.
- iii. **BKVC 2026** – consideration was given for Bicton Parish Council entering the BKVC for 2026. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council would enter this year. Cllr Stephen Griifin agreed to write another article for the Parish Magazine calling for volunteers with the assistance of Cllr Sally Maddox.
- iv. **Village Planting** – consideration was given to approve allocating £100.00 for buying shrubs, plants, flowers, compost, and other materials needed for planting in the village. It was **RESOLVED** approval.
- v. **Calcott Lane Road Safety** - correspondence sent by Shropshire Councillor Ed Potter and determine what actions the parish council should take was **received and noted**.
- vi. **Community Priorities Survey** – It was **RESOLVED** that this will be discussed in detail when all returned forms had been analysed.
- vii. **Parish Place Plan & Neighbourhood Place Plan – CIL Projects** – moving forward with upgrades to the Village Hall is a priority. Other projects could be determined following review of the Community Priorities Survey.
- viii. **The Pension Regulator** – the Clerk advised that the redeclaration has been submitted to the regulator. **Matter of report**.

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.
 - 25/04590/FUL Address: Glenford Bicton Lane, Bicton - Pending Consideration
- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications: (NB. This application was received after the distribution of the agenda but was forwarded to Cllrs within the 3 clear working days).
 - [26/00352/FUL](#) Address: The Haven Shepherds Lane Shrewsbury Shropshire SY3 8BT
Proposed: detached garage and associated works. It was **RESOLVED** no objections.

7. **Reports**

- i. Muriel’s Little Wood; Safety Report: No issues reported.
- ii. VAS – Speed indicator Devices: Progress report was **received and noted**.
- iii. Clerks Report - was **received and noted**.

8. **Financial Reports**

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

Maxine Baker	332.96	Wages (January 2026)
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- ii. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the latest reconciliation of banking statements as at 31/01/2026:

Lloyds Bank - Current a/c	65,210.93
Lloyds Bank - Instant Savings a/c	64,135.26

9. **Extra Information -**

- More notice is needed for the recent police surgery. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will email the police to inform them of this.
- The passing place remains uncleared of mud. Councillor Maddox noted the issue was reported on Fix My Street, but no action has been taken. Councillor Potter will follow up with Street Scene.
- Councillor Sue Llewellyn expressed concerns about the health of the trees near Oxon and the Severn Trent Plant, noting that their potential collapse during a storm could result in serious injury. It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Llewellyn will provide the Clerk with a map indicating the location, after which the Clerk will report the issue to Shropshire Council.

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

[20.49 pm - meeting closed]

11. **Confidential Items – Personnel Matter – Recruitment** – It was **RESOLVED** that the position will be advertised on the council's noticeboard and website. Contracted hours are set at 6 per week, with additional overtime as agreed. The pay band will be in line with policy LC2, SCP 24 rising to SCP 25; applications close on 14th March at 4:00 pm. The interview panel will consist of Councillors Sue Llewellyn and Chairman Elliott Balckmore. Once a date is determined by the panel, the Village Hall will be booked for interviews.