BRADFORD ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th July 2026 at 7.00pm on Bradford Abbas Village Hall

Attendance: Cllrs. R Legg (Chairman), D Coffin, D Furby, S Jenkins, J Barber, J Thomas, Cllr Clark and 2 members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed Councillors to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** None
3. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no Declarations of Interest.
4. **Minutes of the Meeting of the 13th May 2026:** These had been circulated, their acceptance was proposed by Cllr Jenkins, seconded by Cllr Furby - **Agreed unanimously**
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes:** None were raised.
6. **Public Forum:** The positioning of a temporary sign indicating 'Flytipping Investigation in Progress' was questioned as it was obstructing the view from Back Lane towards Yeovil. Dorset Council had been asked to move the sign away from the junction.
7. **Finances: a) Income and Expenditure** since last meeting – a paper had been circulated which is appended to the minutes indicating payments made since the May meeting. These payments totalled £947.30.

   b) Forthcoming Expenditure – these include a payment for a repair to the \council laptop of £39.00, Payments for grass cutting (2 Months) employment payment including salary and HMRC, and payments relating to Internal Audit. There also included future payments expected before the next meeting in September. The total payment were estimated to total £1879.43 see attached schedule. Cllr Barber proposed and Cllr Legg seconded that these payments be approved **carried unanimously.**

   c) Internal Audit – council received papers relating to the Internal Audit i) schedule of checks ii) Recommendations iii) Internal Report for the AGAR (Annual Governance Audit and Review iv) the Audit opinion letter indicating **reasonable assurance.** The clerk went through each recommendation 1) Record precept amount in minutes, this years precept has been added retrospectively to January's minutes 2) Reserves policy to be agreed – on the Agenda 3) Asset register to be reviewed an item had been removed but value unchanged, this was because the item had no value marked on the register. 4) Public \rights notice be published – it is on the web site. 5) Have at lest 1 generic e-mail address, we have clerk@bradfordabbaspc.org.uk 6) That GDPR Training be undertaken by Councillors, Councillors were directed to the DAPTC web site which is offering such training. 7) That a retention schedule is developed and adopted – on Agenda. The Internal Audit be accepted was proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded by Cllr Barber -**agreed unanimously.**

   d) Reserves Policy – The clerk presented a draft reserves {policy for discussion, it was explained that the

policy had been arrived at by researching SAPPP Practitioners \guide, NALC, SLCC and other councils. The

appendix would require updating annually when the Budge was discussed. Adoption of the Policy was

proposed by Cllr Lagg, seconded by Cllr Thomas – **agreed unanimously**

e) Records Retention Policy – The Clerk presented a draft policy including a retention schedule. The

schedule is arrived at by legislation and best practice. Reference was made to policies from other councils.

Adoption was proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded Cllr Jenkins – **agreed unanimously.**

8. **Planning Applications and decisions since last meeting –** There were no new applications

   P/FUL/2024/04791 Station 3 holiday lodges, install a package treatment plant at Saxon Maybank, East Farm Grain Mills. DT9 6JN – **Decision Appeal allowed and planning permission granted subject to conditions in attached schedule**

   P/FUL/2024/07616 Loscombe House Old Compton Lane Bradford Abbas DT9 4FF PI ref 6006813 Method New Portal Written Representations Start date 27/03/2026 **Decision: Appeal dismissed 19.06.2026**

   P/TRC/2026/01736 Location: Virginia Cottage North Street Bradford Abbas DT9 6SA **Proposal:** T1 Cypress – Fell **Decision: Granted 23.04.2026**

   P/TRC/2026/02152 Location: Land Adjacent Tudor Cottage Church Road Bradford Abbas DT9 6RF **Proposal:** T1 Multistem Goat Willow - Dismantle to ground level T2 Multistem Goat Willow - Remove all outside sections down to ground level leaving the main 3 sections within the centre of the tree T3 Hazel - Remove branches as per annotated photo submitted T4 Green Gage - Remove branches as per annotated photo submitted T5 Ash - Remove all overhanging limbs / branches over the playing field **Decision: Acceptable 01.06.2026**

9. **Changes to Register of Interests –** It was explained that home addresses would now be redacted from the public accessible Register of Interest for councillors, as a result of changes to the English Devolution and Empowerment Act. Councillors are required to check their entries held at present by Dorset Council. The Clerk circulated instructions on what to do. The forms required completion by 17th July 2026 by all councillors as a legal obligation.
10. **20mph zones –** Speed surveys would be required £315 for first and £210 for each additional conducted at the same time. Measured speeds have to be within a certain rage to qualify. The survey conducted when producing the Draft Neighbourhood Plan indicated a wish for such restrictions in the village. It was proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded by Cllr Jenkins that Dorset Council be contacted to advise on survey points. – **agreed unanimously**

11. **Reports from Representatives – Pennant** – Cllr Barber passed on contact details for Pennant. **Rights of Way** – Cllr Furby presented a report, 3 areas to be followed up, the condition of Mill Farm Path, East Lane cottages path underutilised and become overgrown. The padlock on the gate has still not been removed by Dorset Council. Gollops Ground, again underutilised owing to proximity of barbed wire on the fence. Dorset Council investigating the legality of the issue **Village Hall –** working with the school over the provision of fencing around the playground which be erected inside the wall, parking access would be retained when the school is closed. The question of the Conservation Area was raised. Planners had been contacted and they were happy with the proposals. The fence is needed to satisfy OFSTED safety concerns. The committee are working with the playschool regarding cleaning arrangements and the chemicals being used. **DAPTC** – the work on Register of Interests is being driven by DAPTC who have provided guidance sheets.
12. **Reports from Working Groups** - **Telephone Box Group.** Grateful thanks were expressed for the work undertaken by residents in watering the plant boxes. The telephone box requires repainting and the council was asked if it would support and fund paint and new shelves for the box. This was provisionally agreed.
    Neighbourhood Plan Group – The draft plan had been submitted 28/05/2026 and accepted by Dorset Council The following response war received on 07/07/2026 – 'Please find attached formal notification that Dorset Council is satisfied that the requirements set out in Schedule 4B para 6 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 have been met and complied with.
    The council will now put in place arrangements to publicise your Neighbourhood Plan for a period of at least six weeks. We will then be submitting the draft neighbourhood plan and accompanying documents for independent examination**.**
    Recreation Field and Play Area – Council to investigate providing a piece of climbing play equipment for 3-8 year olds. At least 3 quotations will be required. If parents/carers have any suggestions of the type of equipment they think would be suitable please contact the Parish Clerk clerk@bradfordabbaspc.org.uk or a local councillor.
13. **Communications and Urgent Business –** There was no urgent business notified to the Chairman in advance of the meeting. Communications include a report from the local police for June indicating arson at the skatepark – Reminder if anyone sees anything please contact the police. If the play area is damaged we cannot necessarily replace damaged property.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Date of next meeting to be advised for September at 7.00pm Bradford Abbas Village Hall