

BICTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 11th August 2026. 7.30pm Bicton Village Hall

MINUTES

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

SC Cllr Ed Potter; Parish Clerk-Maxine Baker and 3 parishioners.

Neighbourhood Alert - there was no report received this evening.

Open Forum – A resident requested that the highway drains be cleared. Cllr Potter advised that Shropshire Council has only one drain cleaner, therefore the service will be reactive, only attending emergency issues. Councillor Sue Llewellyn answered a previous request made by parishioner and advised that there are 40 dogs a day which attend Wags and Whiskers.

A resident also raised concerns regarding faded white lines on Highways especially at junctions and near the school are bad.

Report from S.C. Ed Potter – Cllr Potter gave the following report: Shropshire Council remain in a very difficult financial position and may seek to devolve some services to parish and town councils, which would need to ensure appropriate insurance cover. A review of library services was noted, with possible reductions affecting the mobile library service, which remains important to residents in isolated communities.

Shropshire Council was also continuing to sell assets, and non-capital highway works, including white lining and drain clearance, were likely to be delayed unless required to address a risk to life

1. **Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Sue Llewellyn – Agenda item 7i – related to contractor T.R.J.L Contracts.

2. **Verify draft Minutes dated 14th July 2026** - the minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.

3. **Matters arising:**

i. Lengthsman – nothing to report.

ii. Updates from the last meeting: Cllr Potter reported that the builders have placed the swale over the footpath and are considering rerouting the path in front of it. Councillor Maddox advised that six residents and the school had expressed interest in the Scarecrow Competition, but more resident support would be needed for it to proceed. The meeting thanked Tom Llewellyn for re-siting the flowerpots free of charge, noting that this was challenging due to their weight. Mrs Quigley has agreed to continue watering the planters. Tom Llewellyn has also been asked to look at making a canopy for over the bench in Muriel's Little Wood. Shropshire Council will review the remedial tarmac work on Bicton Lane/Holyhead road Junction caused by a Severn Trent contractor.

4. **Parish Matters.**

i. **BKVC** – The meeting was advised that Severn Trent volunteers had rescheduled their visit to Monday 17th August. A schedule of works was agreed; however, the meeting **RESOLVED** that the volunteers would not be utilised to paint the wooden fence at the playground. Cllrs Stephen Griffin and Mandie Lee agreed to supervise the volunteers. Cllr Lee also agreed to provide boxes for the books from the phone box.

ii. **Volunteer Risk Assessment** – The meeting was advised that Severn Trent was conducting its own assessment. Cllr Sue Llewellyn had prepared a risk assessment for the Parish Council, which the Council agreed to adopt subject to a few minor amendments. Cllr Llewellyn advised that the risk assessment would be amended and recirculated.

iii. **Residents Correspondents:**

- a. Consideration was given to a resident's request for CIL monies to be used to create dropped kerbs. The meeting was advised that the cost would be approximately £420.00 per kerb. Cllr Maddox advised that she had walked the area to assess the request but felt it would be beneficial to do so again with the resident. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Blackmore and Maddox would arrange to meet the resident and walk the area.
- b. Overgrown hedging and nettles, blocking Holyhead Road pavement was considered. It was **RESOLVED** trimming the hedge could be done by the volunteers on Monday.

5. **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.
26/02496/FUL Address: Horton lane Farm, Cruckton – Pending consideration
- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications:
26/02564/FUL Address: West Of Isle Lane Bicton; Proposal: Change of use of an agricultural field to a dog walking paddock and pet cemetery, installation of perimeter fencing and small field shelter.
Concerns were raised on the increased traffic this would have on Isle Lane and how would the two play areas be managed. It was **RESOLVED** to respond that, should Shropshire Council be minded to approve the proposal, the Parish Council asks that the cumulative traffic impact of recent and ongoing developments along Isle Lane be fully considered. The Council requests that a 30mph speed limit be secured for the whole of Isle Lane and that a white stop line be added at the Lion junction to improve safety. Concerns were also raised that the proposed pet burials could generate repeat visits and additional traffic. To help manage traffic flow and congestion, the Parish Council asks that a condition be applied requiring only one play area to be open at any one time.

6. **Reports**

- i. Muriel's Little Wood; Safety Report – a bit more clearing is needed which will be carried out by the volunteer group on Monday.
- ii. VAS – Speed indicator Devices – The progress report was received and noted. A proposed new annual report format was received, and consideration was given to adopting it as the Parish Council's annual reporting template. It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the proposed new annual format. The meeting wished to record its thanks to Andy for his time in compiling the reports, which is much appreciated.
- iii. SALC Meeting notes were circulated to Cllrs. Cllr Lee advised that, following each meeting, she would provide notes to the Clerk for inclusion at the next available Council meeting.

7. **Financial Reports**

[Cllr Llewellyn took no part in the following discussion and/or decision]

- i. **RESOLVED** approval of the list of payments:

Maxine Baker	£416.26	Wages (July 2026)
K Williams	£126.00	Lengthsman Duties
T.R.J.L Contracts	£670.00	Bike Rack Supply & Installation
T.R.J.L Contracts	£530.00	Grange Bank Strim & Fix Oval Sign

- ii. **RESOLVED** approval of the latest reconciliation of banking statements dated 31st July 2026.

8. **Extra Information** – The meeting was advised that the Car park retaining wall cost an extra £1,096.66. It was **RESOLVED** to approve this extra expenditure. Cllr Griffin asked if the council would provide an extra bin and he would empty it.
9. **Date of the next meeting** - to note that the next meeting shall be held on September 8th, 7.30 pm at Bicton Village Hall

[21.11 meeting closed]