

BITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting held on 11th November 2025. 7.30pm Bicton Village Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT: Parish Cllrs: Elliott Blackmore (Chairman), Richard Brett, Stephen Griffin, Wendy Horan, Mandie Lee, Sue Llewellyn, & Edward Swain

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

Before the meeting began the Chairman held a two-minute silence to mark Armistice Day.

Neighbourhood Alert – An alert was addressed to Bicton Parish Council to advise that speed enforcement had been undertaken at Pontesbury.

Open Forum - A resident wished to draw the Parish Council's attention to a broken sign at the top gate in Muriel's Wood which is hidden in the bracken. Also, there is a sign rotted off at the Oval – it has been reported on Fix My Street in September, but it still has not been fixed and the resident was worried that the sign might fall on a child.

Another resident reported a lifted manhole cover at Grange Bank.

Report from S.C. Ed Potter: Cllr Ed Potter advised that he would report the issues noted above, but suggested it might be more practical for the Parish Council's Lengthman to repair the sign at the Oval.

Councillor Ed Potter went on to explain that the exact form of the bypass is still unclear. Confirmation about the funding already allocated to Shropshire Council will be made by the end of November, at which point a clearer picture will emerge regarding possible alternatives.

Finances at Shropshire Council remain precarious and will be in his view, for quite some time; Shropshire Council are being proactive in getting measures in place.

Residents of Bicton are advised to stay informed about upcoming developments expected in the next few weeks. Taking a coordinated approach to infrastructure would benefit the area as these different projects move forward.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received and accepted from Cllr Maddox. Cllr Llewellyn would arrive later.
2. **Declarations of Interest** – agenda item 7.1 – Cllr Llewellyn a pecuniary interest.
3. **Verify draft Minutes dated 14th October 2025** – the minutes were approved and signed as a true copy.
4. **Matters arising**
 - I. **Lengthsman** – confirmation that weeds had been cleared around the Oval, however the Parish Council is left with a lot of green waste. **RESOLVED** to approve for the clerk to include a notice in the Parish Magazine, encouraging residents to agree for the Parish Council to use their green bins to dispose of waste. If no resident volunteers their green bin, then composting will be done within Muriel's Wood.
 - II. **. Gov.Uk – Website** – details and costings of moving the council's website to a provider of a .gov.uk compliant website were considered. **RESOLVED** to defer until December's meeting.
 - III. **The Pensions Regulator** – the meeting was notified that the Parish Council has automatic enrolment duties to be completed by 2nd February 2026 – presently the Parish Council does not have a qualifying person to be automatically enrolled.
RESOLVED approval for the interim Clerk to submit Bicton Parish Council's declaration of compliance to the Pension Regulator.

- IV. **Banking Arrangements** - the meeting was advised that completion of forms to change the council's bank account is being done.
- V. **Standing Orders** –the circulated Draft NALC's Model Standing Orders with suggested revisions shown in red was considered. **RESOLVED** that the item be postponed to the December meeting to give Councillors additional time for review.

5. **Parish Matters.**

- i. **Bicton Pool** – members were advised that further to the Council's decision in September, an application to the Land Registry had been submitted by the Interim Clerk.
- ii. **Defibrillator**- the meeting was advised that the new parts had been purchased but the Parish Council might have to look to purchasing new defibrillators in 2028 due to support and the availability of parts.

6. **Planning Decisions & Planning Applications**

- i. To note planning decisions made since the last meeting - None.
- ii. To consider and agree responses to planning applications - None.

7. **Reports**

- i. Muriel's Little Wood; Safety Report – **RESOLVED** to ask Tom Llewelyn to look at the gate and broken signage.
- ii. VAS – Speed indicator Devices, Progress report was **received and noted**.
- iii. Clerks Report was **received and noted**.

8. **Financial Reports**

RESOLVED approval to the following list of payments:

Sally Maddox	£208.80	Defibrillator – Pads & Battery Sticks
Maxine Baker	£288.84	Wages – October
Shropshire Council	£225.54	Joint Energy Costs – 2 nd Quarter
Kevin Williams	£128.00	Lengthsman's Duties

- i. **RESOLVED** approval to the latest reconciliation of banking statements dated 31st October 2025
- 9. **Extra Information** – bridleway sign past Ratcliffe Drive has been damaged by a Tractor. Cllr Sue Llewlyn advised that she would report the issue on Fix My Streets.
- 10. **Date of the next meeting** - to note that the next meeting shall be held on December 9th, 7.30 pm at Bicton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 20.50