

## Meeting of Clayworth Parish Council

Minutes of **Clayworth Parish Council Meeting** held on the 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026 at Clayworth Memorial Hall; the meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

**Council Members & Officer Present:**

Cllr Edwin Rose	Chairman
Cllr Eve Moralee	Vice-Chair
Cllr Peter Wilkinson	
Cllr Sarah Brack	
Ed Knox	Clerk/RFO

**Also Present:** 3 Members of the Public

65/25 To Approve Apologies for Absence  
None.

66/25 To Record Declarations of Interest in any items to be discussed  
None.

67/25 To Approve the previous meeting Minutes  
After discussion, Cllr Moralee **Proposed**, Cllr Wilkinson **Seconded** and the council **resolved** to accept the minutes. The chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting.

68/25 To Receive District & County Councillors Reports  
**Dist Cllr McFarland:** Did not attend.  
**County Cllr Robertson:** Did not attend, however, Cllr Robertson provided the following update: *“The County Council Full council meeting is on 26/02/2026. This is the councils budget setting meeting, so will provide an understanding as to council tax rates for the coming year. At present, I cannot advise on where plans are for the budget, but should be able to share some information in February.*

### **Clayworth matters:**

- **40mph buffer zones** – I have a range of these across the division to propose to the principal design officer. Due to this, I have compiled a presentation document to put to him, which has taken some time. I am arranging a meeting to present this to him in the next week, so this will be progressed.
- **Toft dyke maintenance** – I have spoken to Colin on this. Scott Stone, lead flood officer, has suggested that the Saville’s land would possibly come under the control of the IDB rather than the county council due to it bordering IDB controlled land. He is double checking this before looking to engage Saville’s to push for the additional land management around the Toft dyke on their land be completed. Scott is on jury leave until 19th January, but is completing work when not required in court.
- **Replacement of walls for railings on Town street for Toft dyke** – This has apparently been raised with highways. I am looking to enquire about this with the principal design officer when I have the call mentioned above.
- **Feedback from Wheatley Road petition** – I am expecting to get feedback at the full council meeting on 26/02/2026. I can then share what the outcome of this may be.
- **Town Street Road surface** – At the walk around, I mentioned that the recent resurfacing was the mastic patching that VIA are now completing which holds road surfaces together that are showing wear. This should be part of a resurfacing programme where a top dressing is then applied. I have enquired about the VIA plan for the road and will feedback when I have further information.
- **Clayworth Common** - County Cllr Robertson advised that the County Council have agreed to put the subsidence issue onto the list of works for ‘consideration’ in 2026/27.

69/25 To discuss Lengthsman Activities  
Cllr Rose gave an update of the latest activities. The Lengthsman Grant will be continuing from the County Council until at least 2029. The Council were grateful to hear of the hard work the Lengthsman has undertaken.

### ➤ Adjournment – (10 Minute max) Public Forum

A Member of the public discussed various drainage related issues and the Council noted that Saville’s have now removed the tree. A meeting is planned with the Bassetlaw Flood resilience Officer in February to discuss various ongoing concerns.

70/25 Finance:

## Monthly Income & Expenditure

After discussion of the Financial Information, circulated by email before the meeting, the council unanimously **resolved** to accept them as a true and accurate record.

### 1. To Approve Payments:

The Council **approved** the following: -

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
North Notts Landscapes	Grass Cutting	£444
QGS Supplies Ltd	17 x 25kg Whit Salt Grit Sacks	£97.89
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>£541.89</b>

### 2. Receipts:

<u>From</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>
None		£0
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>£0</b>

#### Bank Balances

The Current Account Balance **£16,342.67#**

Direct Debits and Standing Orders for staff salaries including PAYE and Pension, all **approved** unanimously.  
**#£10,000 ring-fenced as reserves.**

### 3. To Approve the next Financial Year's Budget & Set a Precept:

The Clerk circulated the draft budget statement, precept requirement for the next financial year and the facts surrounding the precept, prior to the meeting, to allow each member time to prepare for making a decision. Bassetlaw District Council Concurrent Grant has reduced year on year to just £11. Explaining the reduction of the Concurrent Grant, Bassetlaw District Council wrote to each Parish Council to state that: "we continue to reduce the concurrent grant; therefore, you need to factor in these reductions, you will see that Harworth & Bircotes Parish Council decided some years ago to substantially increase their precept and invest in their infrastructure for their local people."

NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and the SLCC (Society of Local Council Clerks) advise that Parish Councils should not set any arbitrary, random figure for their precepts, the law requires parish councils to set a precept that is a 'balancing figure' known in legislation as the 'council tax requirement'. The precept should be set to be the amount of money required to 'balance' the accounts after deducting all 'other expected regular annual income' in our case this is all rental income from Parish Land and Property:

Other Income	Income Amount	Precept Saving per home @ Band D	Precept Saving per home @ Band A
Bassetlaw Concurrent Grant	£11	£0.05	£0.08
Bassetlaw Street Cleaning Grant	£357	£1.70	£2.55
Notts County Council Lengthsman Grant	£960	£4.58	£6.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,328</b>	<b>£6.33</b>	<b>£9.49</b>

The Clerk emailed guidance from NALC, which included the following advice: "In recent national and regional County Officer meetings there has been discussion about setting precepts; several County Officers have been alarmed to hear comments from Parish Council Members such as 'we can't increase the precept because of the 'cost of living crisis'. If your council has an "average" council tax rate then a 10% inflationary increase in your council's precept would only cost a Band D household 50p a month more. This is regardless of the size of your parish, i.e., such an increase doesn't impact smaller parishes more, contrary to popular opinion. The same applies if your council chooses NOT to apply an inflationary increase to your precept, i.e., reducing your council's spending power to "save parishioners money" will not have a meaningful effect on the costs facing households but will limit your abilities as a local council.

It is worth remembering that the average total Band D bill only accounts for just under 4% of that overall bill, compared to the County Council for example, which accounts for 74% of the same bill. we hope these few words will help councils to justify any increases and to remove any guilt councillors may feel about those increases."

Inflation CPI for the previous 12 months approximately 3.5%. In addition to the usual running costs, after taking into consideration the self-generated income, a precept rise is required to cover the balance of regular recurring expenditure, including inflation.

After discussion of the budget options, Cllr Rose **Proposed** a vote, all members in favour for Option **A**, **resolved to 1)** approve the budget, **2)** to set precept of **£17,462=** to Band D at **£124.85** per year (**£10.40** per month).

**Action**, the RFO to submit the completed Precept paperwork to Bassetlaw District Council.

It is also worth noting that homes in bands A to C, will pay less than the Band D figure. Homes with only 1 adult occupant, are entitled to receive a further 25% reduction on the above figures, with additional reductions for residents in receipt of certain benefits. Details are found by contacting Bassetlaw Council regards Council Tax reduction.

In comparison with other parishes in Bassetlaw, this is still a modest precept for a parish electorate of 269.

71/25 To Note any Planning Responses by the Scheme of Delegation + any update on the adoption of the Clayworth Design Code

Since the previous meeting the parish council responded via the scheme of delegation as follows and also discussed the following at today's meeting:

- **Clayworth Neighbourhood Plan** – Bassetlaw DC have advised “*The Design Code is now live on the District Council website and was approved on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025*”.
- No New Planning Applications

72/25 To Note any update on the Emergency Plan

The Parish Council noted the following update discussed by the Emergency Planning Response team:

“*Clarification of Clayworth Parish Council's Role in relation to The Emergency Plan Team and Residents.*”

*The PC's position:*

- *it cannot act where they have no power to act and therefore included is an outline summary reinforcing what is and is not within the CPC's jurisdiction regardless of what went before. Basically, the PC cannot follow up a complaint if it has not gone through the proper channels in the first place.*
- *Calling issues raised as “Prevention of Emergencies” does not make it within the jurisdiction of the PC or any member of the Emergency Plan Team.*

*The Way Forward:*

- *Any member of The Emergency Plan Team can raise issues with The County Council as members of the public. Therefore, the **correct procedure** is via The County Council and our Notts County Councillor, Mike Robertson who can assist.*
- *If the County Councillor failed to respond, the PC can send a chaser email once a month to Mike Robertson or raise concerns at Parish Council Meetings.*
- *Questions to the County Cllr might include Riparian Ownership issues where the County Council have the remit to get involved and make riparian owners take action. Savill's/Charity Land County Council might be able to act on many aspects impacting on flood items (e.g. Pavements, house flooding, public footpaths).*
- *Someone local (member of the public, a Cllr or Emergency Plan Team member) can consider registering with County Council as **Flood Warden and Snow Warden, enabling the individual to have more power to act more specifically within the remits of both these roles.***
- *Bassetlaw District Council have some input into flooding matters which could impact residents' homes. By the public or Emergency Plan members contacting the new Flood Resilience Officer, Mr Wainwright and funnelling requests through Mike Robertson to relevant County Council Departments, both could help to drive matters forward.*

*Failure to go through the appropriate channels, also means that responses may not be forthcoming as the individuals concerned, do not have to respond if the correct channels are not followed.”*

Cllr Wilkinson discussed the latest news from the Emergency Plan team the Emergency Plan has been updated for 2026, will be on the website shortly and is already in the Noticeboard. The Group have audited the contents of the Flooding Reliance Container and distributed an information leaflet to local residents. The Annual Community Litter Pick is being arranged shortly and also a Defibrillator/CPR training course has been recently held at the Memorial Hall.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions and closed the meeting at 7:00pm.