BRADFORD ABBAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.00pm on Bradford Abbas Village Hall

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

1. **Welcome:** In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman took the chair and welcomed councillors and the members of the public to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr D Coffin, (apologies were given and accepted) Cllr S Jenkins
3. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no Declarations of Interest.
4. **The Minutes of the Meeting of the 15th September 2026:** These had been circulated. – Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Clark seconded that they be accepted. **Agreed unanimously**
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes:** Defibrillator pad and battery and been ordered,
6. **Public Forum:** Item 8 was discussed at this point as members of the public were from the Neighbourhood Plan Group.
7. **Finances: a) Income and Expenditure** since the last meeting – a paper had been circulated which is appended to the minutes indicating payments agreed and made at the September meeting. Since that meeting HMRC Q2 had been paid for £189.60, Salary month 6 £284.20, a grass cutting invoice for £188.71, Bank service charge £4.25, .gov e-mail hosting £2.99 and a wreath for Remembrance Day £27.50. Income had been received re the Allotments £500, Precept of £9104.00 and Bank interest of £16.93 and £17.84. As of 9thNovember the Current account was £981.93 and the Instant Access Account stood at £49297.64 **Future Expenditure –** included two grass cutting invoices £188.71 each, Play Inspection for £102.00, Salary month 7 and 8, DAPTC Clerk's conference split with Thornhackett PC £30.00, 2 bank service charges st £4.25 each, SLCC Clerk's manual £49.20 and postage for the Neighbourhood Plan Group of £11.35. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded Cllr Thomas – **Agreed unanimously**

   b) Six month review of expenditure – The clerk presented a paper indicating items that were in line with the budget and those indicating an underspend (the telephone group, Section 137 sums, and the web site budgeted as a 3 year contract had been anticipated, but it was now an annual contract. It was suggested that underspends on the fingerpost, war memorial and new equipment be placed in earmarked reserves.

   c) Draft Budget for 2027-2028- The clerk presented a paper indicating possible changes to the Budget for 2027-2028. The paper included earmarked reserves as at 2025-2026 A cost of living increase of 3.5% had been assumed in the calculations a new line had been included for sustainability and resilience as recommended by SLCC and NALC. A sum had been included for new play area equipment in addition to that in reserves. A sum was suggested for the new noticeboard of up to £1000 and 2 tommy figures for the telephone box Group (S137) and other items raised during the meeting (Traffic speed survey, paint for telephone box). The Clerk would prepare the Budget for formal adoption in January along with the annual Precept setting

   Acceptance of the Financial Report was proposed by Cllr Legg, seconded Cllr Clark, **agreed unanimously**
8. **Neighbourhood Plan -** the Examiner has concluded that, subject to only three modifications, the Plan met the Basic Conditions and could proceed to referendum. Regarding the fact-check report, Dorset Council had now read through it and checked many of the statistics, spellings, dates, and cross-references and suggested that these be combined with Parish Council comments and be circulated to the External Examiner. It was resolved that: 'The Parish Council had considered, accepted and

unanimously agreed the proposed modifications made by the external examiner and had responded to the changes by 4th November 2026.' Proposed Cllr Legg, seconded Cllr Thomas **– agree unanimously.** The next step would be a referendum run by Dorset Council possibly between December and February. The Parish Council will be notified of the dates by Dorset Council. At this stage the referendum will be on the copy presented which at this stage cannot be altered. The next stages will be to start to look at the projects indicated in orange in the Plan. A final, updated copy of the Neighbourhood Plan was sent to the Council. It was suggested that a fireproof filing cabinet be purchased in which to store the paperwork. There would be another payment due to the Consultants.

The Neighbourhood Plan Group were thanked for their hard work in getting the Neighbourhood Plan to this stage and especially to Helen Ferdinand for her help and extensive knowledge in the preparation of the document. The Council was thanked by Mr Hunt for seeing the project through once external funding had been removed by the Government.

9. **Tree Policy –** The clerk had attended a session run by the council's insurers on risks caused by trees. Although the majority of trees on our land are young they do present a risk, and trees grow! The clerk had prepared a draft policy which was discussed. Acceptance and adoption of the Policy was proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded Cllr Legg **– agreed unanimously**
10. **Planning Applications - PLANNING ITEMS – As at 10th November 2026**

P/HOU/2026/05850 Location: 5 Manor Close Bradford Abbas DT9 6RN
Proposal: Form block paved/tarmac driveway to front of dwelling. **Decision:** Awaited

P/TRC/2026/05037 Location: The Old Coach House Church Road Bradford Abbas DT9 6RF **Proposal:** T1 Lime - Reduce height by approx. 2-2.5m off height & approx 1-1.5m of width to create a pollard, remove epicormic growth to crown lift T2 Yew - Reduce height by 1m & trim/cut back width T3 Cherry - Reduce to 2.5m height & width to 2.5m **Decision:** Tree Works - CA – Acceptable **Decision Date:** 21/10/2026

P/TRT/2026/05056 Location: Ash Cottage North Street Bradford Abbas DT9 6SB **Proposal:** T1 Ash - Re pollard, removing decay pockets and managing shape better to be more balanced. 17m tall, reducing by 1.5m, 15.5m reduce all remaining side limbs to existing pruning points. 1.5m of regrowth. Section over footpath to be reduced back 1.5-2m **Decision:** Tree Works - TPO – Consent **Decision Date:** 23/10/2026

P/HOU/2026/04660 Location: St Marys House Church Road Bradford Abbas DT9 6RF **Proposal:** Install two heat pumps to the rear of garage. **Decision:** Granted **Decision Date :** 11/09/2026

P/HOU/2026/03981 Location: St Marys House Church Road Bradford Abbas DT9 6RF **Proposal:** Install solar panels to a detached garage roof **Decision – Granted** 11/09/2026

P/LBC/2026/03982 Location: St Marys House Church Road Bradford Abbas DT9 6RF **Proposal:** Install solar panels to a detached garage roof **Decision: Granted** 11/09/2026

P/OUT/2026/04250 Location: Land North Of Compton Road Yeovil **Proposal:** Erection of up to 380 dwellings, including affordable housing, provision of new pedestrian and cycle routes, internal roads, parking, open space, hard and soft landscaping, play areas, surface water drainage, ancillary infrastructure including new and repositioned utilities, and associated engineering works (outline application to determine access only) **Decision:** Awaited

11. **Reports from Representatives – Trees** – Nothing to report. **Pennant and Heritage** – a report would be prepared to include information on A30 consultation and defibrillator. **Rights of Way** – not all routes had been walked due to illness majority were OK. Rights of Way definitive map incorrect, Dorset Council will relocate it officially. **Village Hall –** No report. **Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils** – Clerk attended conference, useful to meet other clerks, also contractors. **Defibrillator –** battery and pads ordered.
12. **Reports from Working Groups** – **Telephone Box Group** – Volunteers to repaint the box. A thank you to all the volunteers who have planted the boxes and the verge and to those who decorated the War Memorial for Remembrance Day. The council agreed expenditure for the Christmas tree.

Neighbourhood Plan – Highways to be contacted re speed checks in the village suggested 1 by war memorial and 1 by Manor Road or Bishops Lane. **Recreation Field and Play Area** – Cllr Furby had prepared a spread sheet for works required and completed.

13. **Communications and Urgent Business notified in advance of the meeting –** Dangerous motor bike riders, two up no helmets. Reported to police. Dorset Flood Investigation Pack – no reports showing on no flood reports for period 1 Jan-26 Oct – stress that the public and councillors must report all floods. Clarify what they call a flood. Capital Leverage Fund deadline is 10-01-27. Community Conversation Cllr Furby attended – information sheets collected.

***Date of next Council Meeting WEDNESDAY 13th January** meeting was declared closed at 9.05pm

DRAFT