

BISHOPSBOUNRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 18:30

Present: Cllr Jamie Cole (Chairman); Cllr Debbie Tapley; Cllr James Thorneycroft; Three Members of the Public and Mrs Steph Woods (Clerk)

1. Chairman opening remarks, apologies and approval of absences:

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Dutta, Cllr Homewood, Cllr Sole, Flood Warden (Roger) and KCC Community Warden.

2. Declarations of interest:

None were received.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Meeting held on **Wednesday 12th November 2025** were approved as a true record, proposed by Cllr Thorneycroft, seconded by Cllr Tapley and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Forum:

Members of the Public in attendance were afforded the opportunity to ask a question or make a statement.

The Village Hall Caretaker enquired about obtaining a grant for repairs to the hall. Clerk to check legislation and let all know what amount can be given.

5. Report from County/City Councillor:

The monthly reports from Cllr Sole and KCC Community Warden have been previously circulated to all councillors.

6. Finance:

a) Payments and receipts:

The balance as of 14th January 2026 is £21,200.10 with £8,361.55 in the current account and £12,838.55 in the savings account.

Receipts:

Unity Trust Bank – Interest - £92.11

Payments:

Stephanie Woods – Salary (November & December 2025)

Unity Trust Bank – Service Fee (November & December 2025) - £12.00

Bishopsbourne PCC – Grant - £400.00

Noticeboard Company – New Noticeboard - £688.23

Playdale – Inv 0000063078 – Final Payment Play Equipment – £7,100.20

Jamie Cole – Reimbursement Poppy Wreath - £24.49

Envisage – November Grass Cutting – Inv 2233 - £102.00

The above payments were proposed by Cllr Cole and seconded by Cllr Tapley. ALL AGREED.

7. Planning

None.

8. Highways

- a) Crows Camp Road, Woodgate and Rose Lane/The Street – Clerk gave an update on outstanding issues and will update any progress at the next meeting.
- b) Hedges – no response to date from KCC. Cllrs to identify properties that have overgrown hedges and Clerk to write to them asking for them to be cut back.

9. Neame Meadow/Maintenance

- a) Neame Meadow Play Equipment Opening Ceremony – It was agreed to postpone the event until Easter with a possible egg hunt. To be agreed at the next meeting.
- b) Moles – Clerk to obtain quotes to remove the moles.

10. Other Parish Matters

- a) BT Telephone Box – no update. Cllr Cole to look at plastic shelving and obtain a quotation for someone to paint the outside. Clerk to get some paint in line with Planning requirements as listed site. If a book store is not suitable for the telephone box, the village hall may be able to offer a room as an alternative.
- b) Noticeboard – they have arrived. Clerk to order extra magnets and keys. The possibility of having a defibrillator at pub was also raised. Clerk to message lady who used to maintain the PC's defib on village hall to see if this is still happening and the need for a weekly visual inspection was raised.
- c) Parking – no update. Clerk will obtain planning advice for next meeting.
- d) War Memorial – application has been submitted for listing status.
- e) Christmas Trees – Cllr Dutta issued a report that this was not possible this Christmas but is looking to work with Bridge as they offer a similar scheme. Bulbs have been planted on triangle area.
- f) Newsletter – a future newsletter was discussed and it was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.

- a) **Matters arising for future discussion**
Annual meeting

- b) **Date of next meeting: 11th March 2026**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed to the public 19:46.

Please note these Minutes remain as draft until they are approved by the Parish Council at their next Parish Council meeting.

Signed (Chairman)

Date