

# BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

80 Hewell Road, Birmingham, B45 8NF

0121 447 9893

[exec@barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:exec@barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.barntgreenparishcouncil.gov.uk)



Minutes of the **Ordinary Parish Council** meeting held on  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at 7.00pm at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NF**

**Members present:** Cllrs R Cholmondeley, P Perry, M Roberts, S Whitehand, S Tucker.

**In attendance:** Executive Officer, Eleanor Choudry

WCC Cllr Alan Bailes (left at 7.31pm)

Richard Peach, The Village Magazine

**25/473 Apologies** Cllr Hotham, Cllr Williams, O Pardo-Roques.

**25/474 Declarations of Interest:** Councillors are reminded that to ensure transparency and retain public confidence in the council's decisions they are required to -

- a) Keep their Register of Interests form up to date.
- b) Declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and any Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in agenda items and the nature of those interests.

Cllr Hotham cannot comment on any planning applications due to his role as D Cllr at BDC and the possibility that he could be on the Planning Committee.

**25/475 To consider any dispensations**

No dispensation requests had been received.

**25/476 Open Session – Participation to hear from:**

- a) Members of the public. None present.
- b) Supporting organisations, e.g. Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), Footpath Warden. None present.
- c) Worcestershire County Councillor – Alan Bailes (Alvechurch division) A full council meeting was held in September. Reform UK were questioned on budget cuts but questions remain unanswered. The speed limit review on Blackwell Road is on hold along with all reviews across the county whilst a multi-agency panel is looking into policy and guidance. WCC have confirmed that they will not be removing the flags from streetlamps. Cllr Cholmondeley advised that the PC had emailed WCC regarding the contractual relationship between the PC and WCC, but no response had been received. The bollard by the tactile paving on Hewell Road will be installed imminently. The legal status of the dropped kerb outside the shops on Hewell Road is awaited. It is hoped improvements can be made including adding a service bay if possible. WCC are looking at adopting Station Approach which will then be retarmaced.
- d) Bromsgrove District Councillor - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood). Apologies received. Cllr Bailes said that a briefing had been held regarding the Local Government Reorganisation. BDC are finalising the report and going forward with a north and south authority. The plan is due to be ratified by the beginning of November. The Local Plan Draft Development Strategy consultation period ended

today. Cllr Bailes has written to Cllr Taylor and the Strategic Planning Team asking for a complete breakdown of consultation responses to ensure that there is no bias. There were 25 questions, but participants only answered 2.4 questions as the Commonplace software was so clunky to use.

**25/477 To adopt previous minutes**

To approve adoption of the minutes of the Ordinary Parish council meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025, previously circulated but also attached.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 15/09/2025 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**25/478 Meetings / Training Attended – None attended.**

**24/479 Annual Business –**

**i. Governance arrangements:**

**a) Review of council policy:**

The following policies have been circulated prior to the meeting for review:

- i) Risk Assessment and Management Policy
- ii) Balances and Reserves Policy
- iii) Publication Scheme
- iv) Volunteer Policy and Procedures

RESOLVED: That policies i) to iv) above are approved.

**25/480 Consultations**

**Neighbourhood Governance Survey – closed on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) want to understand how existing neighbourhood governance structures operate, areas of “best practice” in neighbourhood governance and areas which could be improved.

**WCC Budget Consultation 2026/27 – closing date 1<sup>st</sup> November 2025**

The consultation will gather views from residents, businesses and employees on the following:

- How comfortable would you be with reductions in spending across our different service areas
- Your suggestions for how to make further savings, efficiencies, and increase income
- Your views on Council Tax options.

All the information can be found here: [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/budget26/27](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/budget26/27)  
Cllr Cholmondeley responded in a personal capacity.

**25/481 Chairman’s Report –** The PC was notified of a letter that had been distributed to some Barnt Green residents from ‘The residents of the Barnt Green Estate’ who are administering a private security company scheme.

**25/482 Bromsgrove District Council Strategic Plan**

a) BGPC response.

RESOLVED: The PC's response had been submitted by email. The link to the response was posted on Facebook and is available on the BGPC website.

b) A leaflet entitled STOP BAR03 has been delivered to residents. A resident believed it was from the parish council and was concerned about parts of the wording being unethical.

RESOLVED: To be noted. The consultation closed today.

**25/483 Executive Officer's Report**

To be advised of any decisions taken under delegated powers, receive updates to ongoing matters and list any relevant office communications since the last council meeting.

<p>a) Station Lift Update from Network Rail</p>	<p>Awaiting update.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllr Cholmondeley and the EO had met the Site Manager on the platform. He took a photo for the Bulletin and said that the residents had been superb. They had not received any complaints even though there had been night working. Residents had even taken the workers ice lollies in the heat and cakes/biscuits! The installation is due to be complete in about a months' time. Cllr Cholmondeley noted there had been an article entitled 'New lifts on way' in the Bromsgrove Standard. Cllrs agreed that it was too late to run a name the lifts competition as NR had not yet approved the idea. An advert will be sent to The Village magazine in time for the next edition.</p>
<p>b) Public Bleed Control Kit</p>	<p>The bleed kit is a large strong plaster that prevents bleeding whilst waiting for Emergency Services. The kit includes a tourniquet and costs £85 with a lifespan of 8 years and can be stored in the defibrillator cabinet. Cllrs to decide whether to purchase.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Cllrs unanimously agreed to purchase the bleed kit that will be kept in the defibrillator cabinet. Once in situ details will be added to the spring Bulletin and the noticeboards, website etc.</p>
<p>c) School sign</p>	<p>WCC have agreed to change the school signs by St Andrews First School from 'Patrol' to 'School' as requested by a resident.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To be noted.</p>

d) Street Lighting Contract	The streetlight contract expires in February. Please see attached quotes for renewal.  RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to renew in February 2026 with SSE on a 36-month contract.
e) The Village Magazine Advertisement	To consider advertising the council meeting room hire in the magazine.  RESOLVED: The EO to send the details to The Village magazine.
f) Rats in Millennium Park	Two sightings of a rat have been seen in Millennium Park. The EO to organise pest control.  RESOLVED: The EO had sought quotes and the cheapest was £280 + VAT. Cllrs agreed that the pest control service be organised as soon as possible.

#### 25/484 Finance

- (i) To note the current financial position, income and bills for payment. See page 4 of the agenda.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the current financial position be approved.
- ii) That the list of payments be approved.

- (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by the Executive Officer. No expenditure to date.
- (iii) The two councillors that authorise the online monthly payments are to be named in the minutes.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Cholmondeley and Perry approved the payment for the replacement streetlamp columns. Cllrs Cholmondeley and Hotham approved the September payments.

- (iv) A Finance meeting was held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October with Cllr Cholmondeley and Cllr Perry. The quarterly checks were carried out by Cllr Perry and the budget monitored. The Balances and Reserves Policy was updated for approval under agenda item 24/479 ii).

RESOLVED: The quarterly checks were in order and the budget on track. The agreed Balances and Reserves Policy was discussed in detail and signed by the Chairman.

#### 25/485 Environment & Community Wellbeing

- a) The installation of the replacement streetlamp columns will begin the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

RESOLVED: To be noted.

- b) Lack of departure screens and PA on Platform 1 at Barnt Green train station. No update.
- c) Pollinator Site update.

RESOLVED: The site has been strimmed.

- d) Planters and tiered planters.

RESOLVED: Cllrs discussed the 2-tiered planters that are to be removed. It was agreed that the tiered planter outside Barnt Green Dental should be replaced with a square planter that is the same as those on Hewell Road. The cost including delivery is £1459 and was unanimously agreed. Cllrs agreed unanimously that additional planters outside Tesco's would cause an obstruction as the area was already cluttered with the bins etc. The EO to see if any parish councils or district councils would like to purchase the tiered planters.

- e) Biodiversity.

RESOLVED: The fruit trees planted in Bittell Rd playing field are all doing well.

- f) England Flags and Union Jacks in Barnt Green.

RESOLVED: It is understood that the flags will be removed by the people putting them up after Remembrance Day on 11<sup>th</sup> November so that the Christmas lights can be installed.

- g) Barnt Green flag flying in Millennium Park update.

RESOLVED: Cllr Perry will fly the Union flag on Remembrance Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November and King Charles III birthday on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. The England flag will be flown if England win the Women's Cricket World Cup on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

- h) Barnt Green community Events
  - i) Christmas Lights Switch On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Quote for Christmas tree lights in Millennium Park

RESOLVED: Arrow Valley Brass Band, Father Christmas, Cofton on The Green, Cofton Pizza and Village Vineyards have all confirmed their attendance in Millennium Park. Resident Danny Bromage has confirmed a stage, singer, cocktail bar, Warwick Butchers and a fostering recruitment tent. The contractor had provided a quote for replacement tree lights in Millennium Park as the existing tree lights are broken. Cllrs agreed to purchase the 100 festoon lights in warm white. The EO to inform the contractor.

- ii) Best Dressed Christmas Shop Window Competition

RESOLVED: Cllr Pardo-Roques and resident Kay Cholmondeley to be asked to judge the competition entries.

iii) Wassail Walk Monday 29<sup>th</sup> December

RESOLVED: Walkers to meet in Millennium Park at 2.45pm for the 5-mile walk and 3.30pm for the 3-mile walk.

Cofton on The Green agreed to host and supply pizza at the Chairmans Thank You Buffet. The EO to confirm dates.

**25/486 Planning**

a) Responses to consultations. None received.

**25/487 Date and Venue of Next Meetings**

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 7pm at 80 Hewell Road.

The meeting ended at 20:28 hrs

Signed:..... Date.....  
Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council 17/11/2025

Agenda Item 25/484 (i) To approve the current financial position and bills paid.  
September Payments Report

81	31.07.2025	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Bank
80	31.07.2025	£219.59	£0.00	£219.59	Petty cash top up	Eleanor Choudry
118	30.09.2025	£3.00	£0.00	£3.00	Lloyds Multipay Card Charge	Unity Bank

October Payments Report

134	31.10.2025	£18.09	£0.90	£18.99	Office Energy	Positive Energy
133	31.10.2025	£56.43	£2.82	£59.25	Office Energy	Positive Energy
132	31.10.2025				PAYE	HMRC
131	31.10.2025				Salaries	Salaries
130	31.10.2025				Pension contributions	Pension contributions
129	31.10.2025				Employers NI	HMRC
128	31.10.2025	£96.00	£0.00	£96.00	Lengthsman Work	Bromsgrove District Council
127	31.10.2025	£561.60	£112.32	£673.92	Annual Subscription	Scribe Accounting
126	31.10.2025	£770.00	£154.00	£924.00	Street Lamp Repair	First Choice Electrical Solutions Ltd
125	31.10.2025	£39.95	£7.99	£47.94	Office landline, broadband & calls	BT
124	31.10.2025	£612.00	£0.00	£612.00	Outdoor Parish Caretaker	Andlin Cleaning
123	31.10.2025	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Bank
122	31.10.2025	£295.08	£59.02	£354.10	Grounds maintenance at playing field	Hosking Ground Maintenance
121	31.10.2025	£195.00	£0.00	£195.00	Grass Cutting - Millennium Park	John S Bishop
120	31.10.2025	£181.36	£9.07	£190.43	Street Light Energy	YU Energy
119	31.10.2025	£9,808.74	£1,961.75	£11,770.49	Replacement street lamp columns	Prysmian Cables and Systems Ltd

October Income Report

17	31.10.2025	£39,250.00	£0.00	£39,250.00	2nd Half Precept	Bromsgrove District Council
16	31.10.2025	£220.00	£0.00	£220.00	Playing Field Hire	Total Football
15	30.09.2025	£67.20	£0.00	£67.20	Credit interest	Unity Bank
14	23.09.2025	£96.00	£0.00	£96.00	Lengthsman refund	Worcestershire County Council
13	15.09.2025	£112.25	£0.00	£112.25	Office Hire	Conexus Tuition
12	10.09.2025	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	Office Hire	Wai Ling Bickerton
11	31.07.2025	£249.60	£0.00	£249.60	Lengthsman refund	Worcestershire County Council

Agenda Item 25/484 (i) To approve the September Bank Reconciliation 2025

1 October 2025 (2025-2026)

**Barnt Green Parish Council**

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)*

<b>A</b>	<b>Bank Reconciliation at 30/09/2025</b>		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025		102,274.94
	<b>ADD</b> Receipts 01/04/2025 - 30/09/2025		42,267.19
	<b>SUBTRACT</b> Payments 01/04/2025 - 30/09/2025		144,542.13
	Cash in Hand 30/09/2025 (per Cash Book)		<b>44,079.57</b>
			<b>100,462.56</b>
<b>B</b>	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash	30/09/2025	0.00
	Unity Bank Current Account	30/09/2025	1,000.00
	Unity Bank Deposit Account	30/09/2025	3,286.58
	Cambridge Building Society	30/09/2025	96,175.98
			<b>100,462.56</b>
	Less unrepresented payments		
		100,462.56	
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
			<b>100,462.56</b>
	<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		<b>100,462.56</b>
	<b>A = B Checks out OK</b>		