

# 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 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 7.00pm at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NF**

**Members present:** Cllrs R Cholmondeley, C Hotham, P Perry, M Roberts, S Whitehand, S Tucker, O Pardo-Roques.

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

WCC Cllr Alan Bailes (left at 8.06pm)  
WCC Footpath Warden Simon Richards (left at 8.05pm)  
Events Volunteer Danny Bromage (left 8.05pm)

2 members of the public (left at 7.33pm)

**25/488 Apologies** Cllr Williams.

**25/489 Declarations of Interest:** Councillors are reminded that to ensure transparency and retain public confidence in the council's decisions they are required to -

- Keep their Register of Interests form up to date.
- 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.

**25/490 To consider any dispensations**  
No dispensation requests had been received.

**25/491 Open Session – Participation to hear from:**

- Members of the public. Residents questioned what was happening regarding the flags that have been attached to the lamp posts. Cllrs explained they had expected the flags to be removed after Remembrance Day by the people that had put them up. Even though the lamp posts along Hewell Road are owned by the parish council, the ultimate responsibility lies with WCC Highways Authority. The resident said that the majority of residents would like them to be taken down. The PC is waiting for WCC to remove the flags. The question was raised, if the flags got stuck on the children's Xmas lights and damaged the lights, who would pay? The flags could also set alight when the lights are switched on. The fire service could be contacted to carry out a risk assessment regarding their safety.
- Supporting organisations, e.g. Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), Footpath Warden. WCC Volunteer Footpath Warden Simon Richards asked WCC Cllr Bailes what was happening regarding cycle paths and footpaths. Simon Richards was worried that over 20 years of work on public paths could be wasted. Cllr Bailes said Reform UK is a minority party and put forward a variation to budget regarding active travel, this was voted down and Reform UK has to get cross party agreement. The Redditch rail station has been

cancelled. Cllr Bailes is meeting the Reform UK finance member on Friday. BDC Cllr Hotham informed about the new walkway put in for the 8 Hills Regional Park by the motorway bridge side of the M42 to the footbridge in the scout field.

- c) Worcestershire County Councillor – Alan Bailes (Alvechurch division) Cllr Bailes had written to officers regarding the flags and the consequence of putting them up if there had been no request to do so. He had not received a response. Cllr Bailes has also written to Rachael Benson, Head of Highways and Transport and will write to Rachel Hill, Assistant Director for Economy, Major Projects and Waste. There was a council meeting in early November. A cabinet variation of the capital program is being discussed to get an agreement that all groups are comfortable with. WCC has approved one unitary authority, and this has been recommended to Central Government. Colin Bell, Highway Liaison Officer, has resigned and a replacement is sought. Tony Dallinson, who is the Redditch Liaison Officer, is standing in. The speed limit reductions including the Blackwell Road review are all still on hold. Cllr Bailes is on a multitask group looking at speed limits.
- d) Bromsgrove District Councillor - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood). The BDC Chief Finance Officer Section 151 left after 6 months and we wish him well. The Market Hall project was due to cost £10 million but this has now increased to £15 million, a £5 million overspend. There is a meeting on Wednesday regarding Local Government Reform (LGR). BDC are suggesting a north and south authority. The government will decide in Mar/April. The report looking into the options cost £300k. The results from the strategic plan consultation are being analysed. A briefing is to be held in the first week of December. There are concerns regarding Commonplace and AI that were used.

**25/492 To adopt previous minutes**

To approve adoption of the minutes of the Ordinary Parish council meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025, previously circulated but also attached.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 20/10/2025 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**25/493 Meetings / Training Attended**

The EO attended a Scribe Budget webinar and is attending a WALC webinar tomorrow regarding the Practitioners Guide compliance with Assertion 10 IT Policy.

**24/494 Annual Business –**

**i. Governance arrangements:**

**a) Review of council policy:**

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

- i) Communications Risk Assessment
- ii) Press & Media Policy
- iii) Training Policy

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

**25/495 Consultations – None received.**

**25/496 Chairman's Report –** A college student is carrying out volunteer litter picking duties in Barnt Green as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award. A new hiring of the meeting room is due to start in January.

**25/497 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.

a) Station Lift Update from Network Rail	<p>For a number of reasons Network Rail did not want to support the naming of the lifts. They will contact the PC in due course regarding publicity.</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESOLVED: The report to be noted.</p>
b) School sign	<p>WCC to change the sign outside St Andrews First School on Hewell Rd from 'Patrol' to 'School'.</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESOLVED: The report to be noted.</p>
c) Rats in Millennium Park	<p>A pest control company has visited the park and will provide a fortnightly update.</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESOLVED: The pest control company checked and none of the bait was taken. Another check will be made in two weeks.</p>
d) CAB Grant	<p>Citizens Advice Bromsgrove &amp; Redditch have applied for a £500 grant. The application form has been circulated. Cllrs to discuss.</p> <p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed unanimously to pay the grant. The EO to organise.</p>

**25/498 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.

RESOLVED: To be approved.

- (iii) The two councillors that authorise the online monthly payments are to be named in the minutes.

RESOLVED: Cllr Cholmondeley and Cllr Hotham authorised the payments.

## 25/499 Environment & Community Wellbeing

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

RESOLVED: The EO to contact the property owner again of the hedge on Bittell Road that is surrounding the street column and requires trimming prior to the replacement being installed.

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

RESOLVED: Cllrs Cholmondeley, Hotham, Pardo-Roques, Perry and Whitehand to meet on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December in Millennium Park at 10am to carry out winter planting in the planters. The EO to buy the flowers and invite the interested volunteer. Cllr Perry suggested that the two-tiered planter on Kendal End road could be replaced with small shrubs.

- e) Biodiversity. No update.  
f) England Flags and Union Jacks in Barnt Green. Discussed under agenda item 25/491 a).  
g) Barnt Green flag flying in Millennium Park update.

RESOLVED: Cllr Perry had flown the flag on Remembrance Sunday, Remembrance Day and the King Charles III birthday. On Remembrance Day pupils from St Andrews First School attended to help raise the flag, sing and hold a 2-minute silence. Cllr Perry said the next date for flag flying is in June and the pole needs washing prior to this. The item to be removed from the January agenda.

- h) Barnt Green community Events  
i) Christmas Lights Switch On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November

RESOLVED: The EO to send Cllr Tucker and Ignited Voices the Arrow Valley Brass Band contact details to discuss the carols. The switch on will be at 5pm and the singer will perform until 8pm. The EO to confirm the disco dome is inflatable and bouncy inside and to book for the event.

- ii) Best Dressed Christmas Shop Window Competition

RESOLVED: Cllr Pardo- Roques and resident Kay Cholmondeley will judge the competition the week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> December. The EO has ordered the postcards and will deliver to the businesses to notify them.

- iii) Chairmans Xmas 'Thank You' Buffet Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December

RESOLVED: The EO has sent the invites. Cofton on The Green will be supplying pizza and the EO will purchase mince pies etc. Non alcoholic drinks will also be included.

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

RESOLVED: Cllr Cholmondeley will set up in the morning. Someone to act as a back marker for the walk is required. The EO to order the banner.

v) Summer 2026

RESOLVED: A working party consisting of Cllr Pardo-Roques, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Hotham and Cllr Perry are to meet in December to discuss ideas for a summer 2026 event. The EO to send suggested meeting dates on Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays. Cllr Pardo-Roques to ask St Andrews First School if they would like to be involved for their centenary year celebrations.

**25/500 Planning**

- a) Bromsgrove District Council Strategic Plan. Discussed under agenda item 25/491 d).
- b) Responses to consultations.

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
<b>25/01142/S73</b>	64 Bittell Road, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8LY.	Variation of Condition 2 (Plans listed) and Condition 3 (materials) attached to planning permission reference 25/00090/FUL dated 18/03/2025 (Extensions to dwelling). Replacement of approved drawings with revisions: (elevational and floor plan amendments)
BGPC Recommendation: No comment submitted.		
BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
<b>25/01202/FUL</b>	1 Brookwood Drive, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8GG.	Proposed ground floor side infill extension and loft conversion with rear dormer
BGPC Recommendation: Barnt Green Parish Council recommends approval.		

**25/501 Date and Venue of Next Meetings**

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 7pm at 80 Hewell Road.

The meeting ended at 20:43 hrs

Signed:..... Date.....  
 Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council 19/01/2026

Agenda Item 25/498 (i) To approve the current financial position and bills paid.

### October Payments Report

137	31.10.2025	£3.00	£0.00	£3.00	Lloyds Corp Card Charge	Unity Bank
136	31.10.2025	£2.29	£0.00	£2.29	Office Energy	Pozitive Energy
135	31.10.2025	£280.00	£56.00	£336.00	Pest control in Millennium Park	Pest Express

### October Income Report

19	31.10.2025	£750.00	£0.00	£750.00	Xmas event funding from BDC	Bromsgrove District Council
18	31.10.2025	£230.40	£0.00	£230.40	Lengthsman refund	Worcestershire County Council

### November Payments Report

154	30.11.2025	£177.40	£0.00	£177.40	Commercial Multipay Card Balance 3.11.25	Lloyds Corporate Card
153	30.11.2025				Employers NI	HMRC
152	30.11.2025				PAYE	HMRC
151	30.11.2025				Salaries	Salaries
150	30.11.2025				Pension contributions	Pension contributions
149	30.11.2025	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00	Live music at Xmas lights switch on 2025	AR Music Agency
148	30.11.2025	£180.00	£36.00	£216.00	The Village Magazine publication re train lifts	The Village Magazine
147	30.11.2025	£89.00	£17.80	£106.80	First Aid Bleed Kit	Sevenside Defibs and Training Ltd
146	30.11.2025	£221.54	£11.08	£232.62	Street Light Energy	YU Energy
145	30.11.2025	£345.00	£0.00	£345.00	Printing of the Bulletin newsletter	Heron Press
144	30.11.2025	£295.08	£59.02	£354.10	Grounds maintenance at playing field	Hosking Ground Maintenance
143	30.11.2025	£612.00	£0.00	£612.00	Outdoor Parish Caretaker	Andlin Cleaning
142	30.11.2025	£6.00	£0.00	£6.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Bank
141	30.11.2025	£770.00	£154.00	£924.00	Street Lamp Repair	First Choice Electrical Solutions Ltd
140	30.11.2025	£170.00	£0.00	£170.00	Grounds maintenance at Millennium Park	John S Bishop
139	30.11.2025	£1,056.00	£211.20	£1,267.20	Christmas Tree, supply, install and remove	Singletons Nurseries
138	30.11.2025	£39.95	£7.99	£47.94	Office landline, broadband & calls	BT

Agenda Item 25/498 (i) To approve the October Bank Reconciliation 2025

4 November 2025 (2025-2026)

**Barnet Green Parish Council**

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

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

	<b>Bank Reconciliation at 31/10/2025</b>			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025			102,274.94
	<b>ADD</b> Receipts 01/04/2025 - 31/10/2025			82,697.59
				184,972.53
	<b>SUBTRACT</b> Payments 01/04/2025 - 31/10/2025			61,743.95
<b>A</b>	Cash in Hand 31/10/2025 (per Cash Book)			123,228.58
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash 31/10/2025	0.00		
	Unity Bank Current Account 31/10/2025	816.02		
	Unity Bank Deposit Account 31/10/2025	26,236.58		
	Cambridge Building Society 31/10/2025	96,175.98		
				123,228.58
	Less unrepresented payments			
				123,228.58
	Plus unrepresented receipts			
<b>B</b>	Adjusted Bank Balance			123,228.58
	<b>A = B Checks out OK</b>			

Agenda Item 25/498 (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer

November 2025 Lloyds Corporate Card Payments

Lloyds Corporate Card Reconciliation up to 3rd November 2025					
Voucher	Date	Description	Supplier	Expenditure	Total
15	28.10.25	Best Dressed Xmas Window postcards	Vistaprint	42.99	
16	29.10.25	2026 A5 Diary	Amazon	4.99	
17	28.10.25	2 x Xmas Switch On Banners	Banner Warehouse	105.00	
18	02.11.25	Cable ties, Stick on LED lights (Portaloo) AAA batteries	Amazon	21.42	
19	03.11.25	Monthly Fee	Lloyds Unity Bank	3.00	177.40
			<b>Balance to pay</b>		<b>177.40</b>