BARNT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

80 Hewell Road, Birmingham, B45 8NF

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Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on

Monday 15th June 2026 at 7.00pm at 80 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, B45 8NF

Members present: Cllrs R Cholmondeley, C Hotham, P Perry (arrived 7.04pm), L Williams, O Pardo-Roques.
In attendance: Executive Officer, Eleanor Choudry

WCC Cllr Alan Bailes (left at 8.45pm)

1 member of the public (left at 7.12pm)

26/579 **Apologies** Cllrs Whitehand, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Roberts.

26/580 **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.

26/581 **To consider any dispensations**

No dispensation requests had been received.

26/582 **Open Session – Participation to hear from:**

a) Members of the public. A resident from St Andrews Church Fundraising Committee advised that the 115-year-old church requires its roof replacing at a cost of £200k. The building is grade 2 listed so specific rules and regulations are required to be met. During late autumn and throughout next year fund raising activities will be organised. The EO to send the Grant Application Form for completion. Councillors agreed to publicise their fund-raising events and provide advice if required. Cllrs agreed that collection buckets could be used at the Christmas lights switch on.

b) Supporting organisations, e.g. Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT), Footpath Warden. None present.

c) Worcestershire County Councillor – Alan Bailes (Alvechurch division) The Green Party and Independents have formed an Alliance in conjunction with the Liberal Democrats. This follows the motion of no confidence in the previous Reform leader. Cllr Bailes is now the Cabinet member for Health and Wellbeing. The bollard near the tactile paving is awaited. The H lines on Hewell Lane are to be considered. Complaints have been noted regarding the narrowness and issues with vehicle priority along Hewell Lane due to parking. A parking study along Hewell Road is to be carried out with the parish council facilitating between the

businesses and Bromsgrove District Council. Cllr Hotham will pursue this. Discussion took place regarding the flags on the lamp posts along Hewell Road and streetlamp ownership. Cllr Bailes to send further details to confirm ownership of the streetlamps and those that light the footway. Discussion included the parish council giving notice to WCC to invoke under section 98 of the Highways Act 1980 to determine the council's position as a lighting authority.

d) Bromsgrove District Councillor - Charles Hotham (Barnt Green & Hopwood). The Strategic Plan timeline has been published. A scoping consultation will consult on infrastructure rather than sites; it is not until the timeline reaches Gateway 3 that speculative planning applications are considered. As BDC cannot demonstrate a five-year housing land supply, developers are submitting speculative applications on unallocated Green Belt/Grey Belt sites, the council considers and makes decisions on these independent of the gateway dates. There will be potentially two years of speculative planning applications. Cllr Bailes stated that 1,500 houses are currently with the planning department either at consultation or pre-application stage so there could be 5,000- 6,000 by the end of this year. Due to planning staff shortages the applicants may put in for non-determination. The government wants smaller sites so that the houses are built all in one go. If the Planning Committee wants to refer applications for over 100 houses the application is decided by the Inspector. From September minor household planning applications under 10 houses will be decided by Case Officers. Cllrs agreed to delay the production of the Bulletin to include the latest planning update which will be available in mid-July. Parking Enforcement Officers can now issue fines for littering. Work is being carried out for a community governance review of the whole district. Parish council boundaries are being discussed. The District Council elections held in May 2027 will be for councillors in the unitary authority coming in May 2028. Existing councillors are expected to remain for an extra year.

26/583 To adopt previous minutes

To approve adoption of the minutes of the Annual parish council meeting held on 18th May 2026, previously circulated but also attached.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 18/05/2026 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

26/584 Meetings / Training Attended None**.**

26/585 Annual Business –

i. Agree representation arrangements:

a) St Andrews C of E First School

For 2025/26 BGPC representative was Cllr O Pardo-Roques.

RESOLVED: Cllr Pardo-Roques to check her school governor status.

a) **Review of council policy:**

The following policy has been circulated prior to the meeting for review:

a) Document Retention

RESOLVED: That the policy is approved.

26/586 Consultations- None.

26/587 Chairman's Report – Cllr Cholmondeley said that Bradley Thomas, MP for Bromsgrove and the Villages, had appeared in an article on the opening of the station lifts in the Bromsgrove Advertiser. Although instrumental in obtaining the station lifts it was noted that no mention of the parish council was made.

26/588 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) West Mercia Police Crime Statistics	Crime Statistics from 18/05/2026-15/06/2026. Please be aware that figures shown below may differ slightly compared to other source of information due to the boundaries/wards set by West Mercia Police. Our systems display crime statistics for Barnt Green and Hopwood.
b) Parish Council Tree Survey	Tree survey of both Bittell Rd playing fields and Millennium Park have been completed. Awaiting quotes for recommended works.
c) Total Football Signage	The letter of consent for the Total Football banner to be added to the entrance gates at Bittell Rd playing fields has been signed. The EO has invoiced Total Football for the £130 charge. RESOLVED: Awaiting an update from Total Football.
d) Parish council office lighting	Our electrical contractor is awaiting the office asbestos report prior to commencing the fitting of the new office lights. RESOLVED: The asbestos report has been received. The new office lighting will be installed on the 18 July.

	Year	2026	
Group	Sub_Group	May	Jun
		0	0
BURGLARY	RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY-HOME	1	0
NFIB FRAUD	NFIB	0	0
PUBLIC ORDER OFFENCES	OTHER OFFENCES PUBLIC ORDER	0	2
ROBBERY	ROBBERY OF BUSINESS PROPERTY	0	0
	ROBBERY OF PERSONAL PROPERTY	0	1
THEFT	OTHER THEFT	2	3
	SHOPLIFTING	3	1
VEHICLE OFFENCES	INTERFERING WITH A MOTOR VEHICLE	0	1
	THEFT FROM A VEHICLE	1	1
	THEFT OR UNAUTH TAKING OF A MOTOR VEH	0	0

e) SNT Police Priorities	Cllrs to discuss three parish priorities. RESOLVED: A weekly visible police presence to be requested.
f) WhatsApp groups for Cllrs / residents	Cllrs to discuss phone / sim options. RESOLVED: Cllr Pardo-Roques to check whether an unused phone is available. A pay as you go SIM card will then be purchased.
g) Bench repair in Millennium Park	The OPC is repairing the rotten section of the bench and repainting. RESOLVED: To be noted.
h) Bromsgrove Parish and Community Play Audit & Investment Strategy	Information request from consultancy that is carrying out an audit on behalf of BDC. The aim is to assess the condition of facilities and produce a realistic investment plan. Cllrs to agree top priorities for the play areas. RESOLVED: Adrian Spray, Greenspace and Heritage Consultant to carry out assessment and meet Cllr Cholmondeley and the EO in July to discuss.

26/589 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 Executive Officer. See page 6 of the agenda.

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 May payments.

(iv) The EO has submitted the AGAR to external auditors PKF Littlejohn. The Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance and

Accountability Return has been displayed. The dates of inspection are from Wednesday 3rd June 2026 to Tuesday 14th July 2026.

RESOLVED: To be noted.

26/590 Environment & Community Wellbeing

a) Departure screens and PA on Platform 1 at Barnt Green train station.

RESOLVED: Cllr Cholmondeley is meeting West Midlands Rail on 15 July and will discuss the departure screen that is still not working.

b) The replaced streetlamp columns will be painted when the weather is warmer.

RESOLVED: The EO to make contact again regarding a date.

c) Pollinator Site update. The volunteer group have asked for a new pack of strimmer blades at a cost of £6.99 and requested that Cllrs remove the weeds behind the pear tree wire.

RESOLVED: Thanks were given to Cllr Perry for weeding around the pear trees on the pollinator site and also for weeding the new shrub bed at the end of Fiery Hill Rd. Cllrs agreed to purchase the strimmer blades for the volunteer group. Cllrs thanked the volunteers for all the good work that has been carried out noting how much the site has improved.

d) Hanging baskets, planters and tiered planters.

RESOLVED: The hanging baskets have been delivered. The planters are to be cleared of the winter plants and new summer plants to be added. The EO to check Cllrs Saturday availability to meet to carry out the planting. The tiered planters have been sold and the new planter is to be filled with summer plants. The EO to contact the OPC about the four slabs that are from the base of the Fiery Hill Rd planter.

e) Biodiversity.

RESOLVED: Cllr Perry advised that a mite is eating some of the leaves on the apple trees in Bittell Rd playing fields but they are surviving. The cherry trees look good.

f) England Flags and Union Jacks in Barnt Green. Discuss approach to WCC for flag removal and the PC's role as a lighting authority.

RESOLVED: The draft letter had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Cllrs agreed that the EO is to send the letter to WCC.

g) Barnt Green flag flying in Millennium Park update. Flagpole maintenance quote £425 excl. VAT (see attached).

RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed to go ahead with the maintenance works. Cllrs responsible for the flagpole will attend. The EO to circulate available dates.

h) Community Energy Initiatives Update.

RESOLVED: Local support is required to explore renewable energy opportunities in Barnt Green. Matthew Eccles, Climate Change Manager, BDC, has created an email address climate.change@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk for residents interested in sustainability, finance or community projects. The flyer will be in the next Bulletin and had been published on the website / Facebook page.

i) Barnt Green Community Events.

i) Fun Run.

RESOLVED: The Fun Run is to be held in Bittell Road playing fields on Sunday 27 September 2026. The events team to meet on 23 June to finalise details. The event will include children's races, 5k and 10k races. The EO to book bouncy disco dome, Portaloo's.

ii) Christmas Lights switch On Saturday 28th November 2026.

RESOLVED: Ideas to be discussed by the events team include an inflatable Santas Grotto and a celebrity to turn on the Xmas lights.

26/591 Planning

a) Responses to consultations.

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
26/00314/FUL	22 Cherry Hill Road, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8LJ	Single storey orangery rear extension with two storey extension to pantry on ground floor as utility and bedroom accommodation on first floor, single storey entrance porch extension to front
BGPC Recommendation: BGPC recommends approval.		

BDC ref	Site Address	Proposal
26/00557/FUL	32 Bittell Road, Barnt Green, Worcestershire, B45 8LY	Proposed 2 storey / single storey rear extension.
BGPC Recommendation: BGPC recommends approval.		

26/592 Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next Parish Council Meeting, Monday 20th July 2026 7pm at 80 Hewell Road.

The meeting ended at 20:45 hrs

Signed:……. Date……..

Chairman, Barnt Green Parish Council 20/07/2026

Agenda Item 26/589 (i) To approve the current financial position and bills paid.

May Income Report

5	31.05.2026	£75.00	£0.00	£75.00	Room Hire	Kate Hall Counselling
4	31.05.2026	£32.00	£0.00	£32.00	Room Hire	Conexus Tuition
3	31.05.2026	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00	Room Hire	Wai Ling Bickerton
2	30.04.2026	£125.00	£0.00	£125.00	Wayleave (Millennium Park)	Cadent Gas

May Payments Report

42	31.05.2026	£52.74	£0.00	£52.74	31.05.2026	Office landline, broadband & calls	BT
41	31.05.2026	£234.60	£0.00	£234.60	31.05.2026	New office door lock	Lloyds Corporate Card
40	31.05.2026	£170.64	£8.53	£179.17	31.05.2026	Street Light Energy	SSE

June Income Report

6	30.06.2026	£33.02	£0.00	£33.02	Sale of tiered planters	Ebay

June Payments Report

59	30.06.2026	£622.99	£0.00	£622.99	Laptop	Lloyds Corporate Card
58	30.06.2026	£338.02	£67.60	£405.62	Annual insurance	John Truslove
57	30.06.2026	£148.95	£29.79	£178.74	Dog bags	JRB Enterprise Ltd
56	30.06.2026				Employers NI	HMRC
55	30.06.2026				PAYE	HMRC
54	30.06.2026				Salaries	Salaries
53	30.06.2026				Pension contributions	Pension contributions
52	30.06.2026	£235.00	£0.00	£235.00	Grounds maintenance at Millennium Park	John S Bishop
51	30.06.2026	£7.00	£0.00	£7.00	Bank Service Charge	Unity Bank
50	30.06.2026	£439.73	£87.94	£527.67	Hanging baskets	Where Next
49	30.06.2026	£642.00	£0.00	£642.00	Outdoor Parish Caretaker	Andlin Cleaning
48	30.06.2026	£253.00	£0.00	£253.00	Annual Membership	SLCC
47	30.06.2026	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00	Annual Website Hosting	BWP Creative - Parish Council Websites
46	30.06.2026	£295.08	£59.02	£354.10	Grounds maintenance at playing field	Hosking Ground Maintenance
45	30.06.2026	£43.95	£8.79	£52.74	Office landline, broadband & calls	BT
44	30.06.2026	£1,625.00	£0.00	£1,625.00	Office Rent	John Truslove
43	30.06.2026	£260.00	£0.00	£260.00	Lengthsman Work	Bromsgrove District Council

Agenda Item 26/589 (i) To approve the May Bank Reconciliation 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)

	Bank Reconciliation at 31/05/2026			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2026			88,404.47
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2026 - 31/05/2026			42,332.00
				130,736.47
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2026 - 31/05/2026			16,953.33
A	**Cash in Hand 31/05/2026** (per Cash Book)			**113,783.14**
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	31/05/2026	0.00	
	Unity Bank Current Account	31/05/2026	543.46	
	Unity Bank Deposit Account	31/05/2026	31,783.85	
	Cambridge Building Society	31/05/2026	81,455.83	
				113,783.14
	Less unpresented payments			
				113,783.14
	Plus unpresented receipts			
B	**Adjusted Bank Balance**			**113,783.14**
	A = B Checks out OK			

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Agenda Item 26/589 (ii) To be advised of any expenditure decisions taken by Executive Officer

	Lloyds Corporate Card Reconciliation up to 16th June 2026				
7	11.05.26	Laptop	John Lewis	619.99	
8	05.05.26	Monthly Fee	Lloyds Unity Bank	3.00	
		Balance to be paid by D/D 16/6/26			**622.99**