BROAD HINTON AND WINTERBOURNE BASSETT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 11 May 2026, 7.30pm
Broad Hinton Village Hall

MINUTES

Councillors: Present:	Cllr Adrian Smith (AS) (Chair) Cllr Adam Gilmore (AG) (Vice Chair) Cllr Damian Le Gresley (DL) Cllr Ade Rudler (AR) Cllr Tony Iles (TI) Cllr Louise Skillen (LS)
Apologies	Cllr Liz Moakes (LM) Cllr Candace Gaisford (CG) Cllr David Conroy (DC)
	Cllr Allison Bucknell (AB) (Wiltshire Council)
	Peter Barry (PB) (Clerk)

1. Introduction, Quorum & Declaration of Interests
The Chair welcomed all to the Meeting and informed the Meeting he had received apologies from CG, LM and DC all of whom were away. He declared the Meeting quorate. He asked for declarations of interest, and both TI and LS informed the Meeting of their interest in the planning item.

2. Minutes of Parish Council Meetings held on 2 March 2026
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 2 March 2026 were agreed and signed off by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising from last Meeting.
There were no matters arising from the last Meeting which were not already on the Agenda.

4. Issues Log and Actions Outstanding
The Issues Log and Outstanding Actions list was considered by the Meeting and updates given. The following actions had been completed by Councillors since the last meeting:

- Bank opposite the Old Post Office. LS had entered the need into the MyWilts web site. In the meantime she would keep an eye on the problem to see if further remedial work needed to be done.
- Playground Proposal. LM and TI had yet to get together to work out a way forward for this proposal.
- Playground Concerns. Letters had been written by the Chair to the concerned residents who had contacted the Council on the subject of a possible playground at Pitchens End.
- Annual Parish Meeting. AG had made contact with other community groups within the Parish and all were keen to be involved with the Meeting.
- Village Clean Up. Advertising had taken place and an excellent turn out had been seen at the Clean Up.

- Ground Nesting Birds. Places where signage could be erected had yet to be cleared. AR had yet to make contact with the relevant farmers.
- Ground Nesting Birds. AR had placed a notice in the Village News and had obtained the necessary signage.
- Registration of new Councillor. DC had been contacted and had completed all of the necessary paperwork.
- Bus Stop Roof. CG had been in contact with Chandler's Roofing and work was due to start in July.
- Emergency Battery Storage. DL had been in contact with the Village Hall Committee. The subject of possible battery storage was on the Agenda for the next meeting and the grant request were to be considered.
- Spare Allotment. All of the Allotments had now been filled.
- Annual Parish Meeting. This had been widely publicised and was on track for 19 May 2026.
- Councillors Roles. Details of the current list had been circulated and this would be refined at the next Council meeting
- National Emergency Briefing Film. DL had discussed this with Nick Moakes on the Village Hall Committee and it was being considered.
- Railings next to the Crown Inn. The Clerk had spoken to the resident who had the railings in place and had been assured these would be removed in August 2026.

The Clerk was tasked to update the log which was live on the shared drive…………**Action: PB**

5. Finance Update

Bi-Monthly Finance Update. The Clerk introduced the subject of the Council finances which covered the months of March and April 2026.

In regard to Receipts, the Clerk stated that during March, all of the Allotment rents had been paid. The Clerk thanked AR very much for his assistance in getting all of these funds in. In April the first half of the Precept was paid, so the account is in good shape. The Clerk also informed the meeting that he had undertaken all of the annual transfers from the General Account into the Reserves.

In regard to Expenditure, apart from the usual sums required for Village Hall hire and the Clerk's salary and expenses, there were a number of other expenses that needed explaining. A number of annual expenses had been paid, such as the subscription to WALC and Friends of Ridgeway. Also the annual fee for the running of the Scribe accounting system was paid.

The consolidated Bank Account broken down by section is set out below

PC Bank Account Balances - as of 1 May 2026

Current Account: £474.96
Deposit Account (Total): £23,587.21 made up of
Deposit Account (General): £6,142.30
Allotments: £1,060.00
Defibrillators: £2,404.00
Neighbourhood Plan: £1,253.27
Maintenance Savings: £1,711.99
Emergency Fund: £800.00
Donations Fund: £370.00
Traffic Speed Management: £300.00

Highways: £3,819.67
Major Projects: £3,626.00
Notice Boards: £1,049.98
Footpaths: £650.00
Nature Improvements: £100.00
EV Charger: £300.00

Strategic Spending Report. DL took the meeting through the figures which had changed significantly since last meeting. The following points were covered:

- A new EV Charger Reserve had been established.
- The Defibrillator fund had been increased although the major expenditure was not expected until next year.
- £300 had been allocated towards the purchase of the final Notice Board. This is to be situated on the side of a building in Post Office Lane and AG agreed to make contact with the resident to ensure he was content……………………………………………**Action: AG**
- £200 had been carried over for a Bus Stops seat in the north-bound shelter. TI was asked to make contact with Stagecoach to enquire where they procured their seats ………………………………………………………………………………………….**Action: TI**
- The fund for Gadbourne Banks Speed limit change was carried over. AB reported that Wiltshire Council was progressing this along with other changes to speed limits in other areas of the County and hopefully would be in place before long.
- The Neighbourhood Plan fund had been carried over and would be used to support the forthcoming referendum preparations, though the referendum itself is funded by Wiltshire Council.
- A fund had been introduced to install gates on local footpaths.
- £200 had been allocated towards kitting out the Emergency Centre and £500 had been allocated towards a battery system to be installed in the Village Hall for use in emergencies.
- 4 new items had been introduced. These were children's amenities; a shelter for the Uffcott bus stop; benches to be placed at agreed viewpoints and planters for Winterbourne Bassett and Uffcott. The Clerk was to ensure these subjects were considered at the next Meeting and it was hoped other suggestions would be gleaned from residents……………………………………………………………………………..**Action: PB**
- Funds had also been allocated towards ensuring community support for older residents.

AGAR Documentation. The Clerk informed the Meeting that it was the time of year when documents had to be sent up for the Government auditors. The internal audit had already taken place and the auditor was totally satisfied with the way the account had been run. She had recommended that during this FY some form of depreciation be applied to the holdings of the Council. The Clerk then took the Meeting through the documents that needed to be sent off to the Government auditors. He explained how income and outgoings were compared with last year and where there had been a significant difference, explanation was needed.

The Clerk then took the meeting through the main document explaining how these differences had occurred and finally through those documents which showed when the Accounts needed to be open to the public.

The meeting was totally content with all of the documents and the Chair then signed in the appropriate places. The Clerk was tasked to ensure the documents were dispatched to the Government auditors in good time to meet the deadlines………………………………..**Action: PB**

Village Hall Projector. AG took the meeting through the argument for replacing the old projector in the Village Hall. He explained that the proposed system included a ceiling mounted projector, hearing loop installation as well as a 3 meter drop down screen. The total cost would be in the order of £7,000 and Wiltshire Council would expect to see a contribution from the Parish Council before allocating funds towards this venture. There was slight concern that funds were being steered continuously towards Broad Hinton projects and that Winterbourne Bassett and Uffcott might feel they had missed out. But it was pointed out that the Village Hall was a Parish community asset and was well used by others from neighbouring villages.

After discussion it was agreed to donate £1,000 towards the Projector fund with £500 coming from the emergency reserve, instead of contributing to the battery system, and a further £500 coming from the Major projects reserve.

6. Planning

TI stated that all of the outstanding applications had been passed except for three, which were still ongoing. These were:

- PL/2025/09767 - The Lodge, Summers Lane, Broad Hinton, Swindon, SN4 9PA
- PL/2026/00924 - Bowmans Paddock, Winterbourne Bassett, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN4 9QA
- PL/2026/02422 - Stones Farm, Uffcott, Swindon, SN4 9NB

AG took the Meeting through the PL/2026/00924 application. TI declared an interest and left the meeting. AG stated that this application was to review new documents submitted to the application, primarily regarding biodiversity net gain. The council discussed the proposed response and unanimously agreed on no objection with comments relating to the relevant emerging Neighbourhood Plan policies. TI re-entered the meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan Update. AG updated the meeting on all that had happened in the Neighbourhood Plan since the last meeting. The following points were covered:

- Steve Sumner had resigned from the Steering Committee due to other commitments. The council wished to express their thanks in all the efforts he had put into the plan since its inception.
- In regards to funding all was in hand with another Consultancy bill expected, but there were funds to cover this.
- The timings of the Referendum had yet to be fixed, as mush depended on Wiltshire Council. It looked like happening in the July/August timeframe, but thought would need to be given to ensure it did not clash with the major holiday period, when many might be away.
- In regards to the running of the Referendum, we needed to find out exactly how this was to take place. AG was asked to enquire of Wiltshire Council and report back. ……………………………………………………………………………………….**Action: AG**
- Members had been surveying the feelings within the community and there was still work to be done to ensure success.
- The examiners final report was still awaited and some amendments to the plan might be needed once this had been received. But it was hoped that nothing significant would be brought up.

Planning Appeals. AG wished to bring the attention of the Meeting to a change in the planning appeals process within Wiltshire Council. Where an application was rejected by Wiltshire Council, then taken to appeal by the applicant, additional written representations would not be permitted. The inspector will review only the original comments made. This means the original submission must be watertight and report any objections very thoroughly, with clear references to planning policies and evidence.

7. Travel

LHFIG. There was nothing to report on this subject. TI stated that if there was nothing to report from our Council's point of view there was little point in him attending. The meeting agreed to this approach, but TI did agree to join remotely if needed.

Bus Stops. As has been reported earlier, Chandler Roofing are to start work on the La Strada bus stop roof in July.

School Crossing. The subject of some form of controlled crossing in the area of Broad Hinton School had been raised once again. Wiltshire Council would be undertaking a traffic survey to gauge the density of traffic on the roads in the vicinity of the School. For any action to be take, there would need to be in excess of 100 pedestrian and vehicle movements in a 30 minute period. The meeting did not think this threshold would be reached.

8. Public Rights of way

Footpaths. AB pointed out that the Open Spaces Society had introduced a new initiative concerning gates and stiles. The new ruling stated that unless there were animals in the fields no barriers around the fields should be introduced. Thus, the new stiles and gates proposed in the strategic spending item might not be allowed. Authorization would also be needed to replace existing structures. This might impact the decision to install or repair gates and stiles in our area.

9. Emergency Planning

Nothing new to report at this meeting.

10. Amenities and Infrastructure

There was little new to add to this heading. The subject of caravan and motor home parking at The Crown was raised by a resident as the ruling over what and how many were allowed was not clear. After some discussion, AB agreed to discover the exact ruling and report back to the Council (*AB has since written to the Council with a full outline of the current ruling.).*

11. Strategic Planning

The subject of allocation of responsibilities was raised and the Chair agreed that this was not the time to try and allocate these out without any prior thought. The Clerk, with the help of others was tasked to ensure that at the next meeting Councillors were made responsible for the following areas:

- Children's amenities
- Bus Stop Shelters
- Benches at key viewpoints
- Planters
- Community Support Fund

……………………………………………………………………………………………**Action: PB/AG**

12. Comms

Councillors Contact Details. It was generally agreed that the current list of Responsibilities did not reflect the current agenda structure. There was a need to realign the Responsibilities column and there was also a need to ensure where possible for joint ownership to be in place to ensure all items were properly covered. AG and DL were asked to set out an initial listing, which would be considered and amended at the next Council meeting,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,**Action: AG & PB**

Annual Parish Meeting. AG reported that planning for this event, which would take place on 19 May 2026 was well underway. So far 16 community groups had agreed to attend and a table layout had been agreed with each. An Agenda would be prepared to include:

- General welcome from the Chair.
- Agreement of the Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting.
- An Annual Report given by the Chair.
- A Financial Report given by the Clerk.
- Group updates.
- Open floor discussion
- Open question time

The Village Hall would become available at 6.15pm and AG asked that as many as possible be present to help set up. Groups had been asked to arrive at 6.30pm and the Meeting was scheduled to start at 7pm.
Refreshments would be available and LS and DC would be responsible for this area.
There was a concern that when it came to questions, there could possibly be a silence. Thought should be given to councillors raising a few questions they've heard from residents to get the ball rolling.

13. Church Bells

A letter of complaint had been received over the ringing of the Church Bells in Broad Hinton. It was noted that this was not the first time this subject had been raised. Currently Bell ringing practice takes place every Wednesday evening for 1.5 hours.
The subject was discussed in detail, and eventually it was agreed that this was not a Parish Council matter. There were feelings on both sides of this argument and it was not the place of the Council to take a position. A letter responding to the complaint would be written and sent to the original complainant. In the letter it would be pointed out that there was a logging form for complaints on the Wiltshire Council website. The Clerk was tasked to draft a letter for the Chair to sign………………………………………………………………………………………**Action: PB**

14. Reports from Wiltshire Council

The Chair asked AB is she had any points she wished to raise from Wiltshire Council. AB mentioned the following:

- Local Plan Update. AB reported that the Examiner had recommended the withdrawal of the Wiltshire Local Plan, as otherwise it was liable to be rejected. The cabinet had reluctantly agreed to this approach and would start again with a fast track approach. The withdrawal means that Wiltshire Council don't have an up to date Local Plan, and this is leading to increased speculative development across the county. It made the need for a Neighbourhood Plan even more important as this provides additional protection from speculative development.

15. Any Other Business

Council Social Event. The Chair suggested that a Social Event be held during the summer for Councillors and partners. This was a generally popular suggestion and the Chair and Clerk agreed to look for a suitable date…………………………………………………………**Action: AS & PB**

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.15pm