

Minutes of the Bulkington Parish Council General Meeting held on Monday 9th March 2026 at 7.30pm at Bulkington Village Hall, Bulkington, Wiltshire.

Present: Councillors P. Oakey (Chair), J. Anderson-Hill, A. Breach.

Proper Officer: T. Hicks, Wiltshire Cllr. T. Reay.

The meeting started at 7.45pm.

MINUTES

25-26/92 **Recording and filming of the meeting**

There were no MOP present, and the parish council did not intend to record the meeting.

25-26/93 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Macalpine-Downie, and the reasons given for this were UNANIMOUSLY ACCEPTED.

25-26/94 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest received.

25-26/95 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 12th January 2026 were APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

25-26/96 **Public Participation**

25-26/96.1 None.

25-26/96.2 There were no petitions or deputations received.

25-26/97 **Reports**

25-26/97.1 The members received an update from Wiltshire Councillor, Cllr. Reay, the main points being as below:

- Wiltshire Council have now agreed their budget for 2026-27, with a council tax increase of 5%, reduced spending on Highways and parish steward support, Parish Emergency Assistance Service to be removed, black bin collection to be moved to collections every three weeks from 2027, parking charges in Wiltshire Council car parks to now cover 7am to 7pm with Sunday charges to be in-line with Monday to Saturday charges, and a booking system introduced at Household Recycling Centres. For more information on the budget, please see <https://tinyurl.com/4vrpczpzp>.

25-26/97.2 The Chair updated the meeting with the end of the service by ID Verde for the removal of the litter bin collections for lots of small parish councils. A discussion took place regarding the options for this. It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to

- Cllr. Breach to remove the bin in the play park.
- Clerk to investigate other services and options (private contractor etc), and when the final collection day would be. Clerk also to notify parishioners via newsletter and posters with the outcome.

25-26/97.3 The Clerk gave no report.

25-26/97.4 The members received the up-to-date external meetings schedule.

25-26/98 **Planning Matters to discuss**

25-26/98.1 The council noted that no applications were received before the meeting.

25-26/98.2 The council noted the BPC Planning Schedule as at 1st January 2026.

- 25-26/99 **Maintenance**
- 25-26/99.1 The council noted that there was no parish steward visit this month as they had all been diverted for pothole repairs.
- 25-26/99.2 The Clerk confirmed they had requested the signs be changed and was waiting for LHFIG minutes.
- 25-26/99.3 The Clerk confirmed that there was no financial support from LHFIG for white gates.
- 25-26/99.4 See Chair's report.
- 25-26/99.5 The council discussed the woodland maintenance and future planning, and it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the spending from the grant already received on equipment and planting as required.
- 25-26/100 **Finance**
- 25-26/100.1 **Payments Approved:**
- 25-26/100.1a Clerk's expenses to 28th February 2026.
- 25-26/100.2 There were no further requests for payment received prior to the meeting.
- 25-26/100.3 **Monthly Management Accounts**
Members received the monthly financial report and bank reconciliation. Cllr. Breach signed the bank reconciliation and bank statements.
- 25-26/101 **Playground**
Members received an update on the playground maintenance. It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to only inspect annually due to time constraints of a very small parish council. It was agreed to bring to the Annual Parish Meeting for discussion regarding the reinstatement of the playground committee as volunteers are needed.
- 25-26/102 **Governance**
- 25-26/102.1 The council noted there has been no new applications for co-option.
- 25-26/102.2 The council discussed plans for the annual meetings, with permission to spend UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to be given for the clerk to purchase refreshments.
- 25-26/103 **Staffing**
- 25-26/103.1 The council noted the Clerk's new CiLCA qualification.
- 25-26/103.2 The Clerk updated the meeting that no new applicants had been received, so the recruitment process will continue and the clerk will remain in post for the time being to support the council.
- 25-26/104 **Confirmation of date of next meeting**
The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting on **Monday 11th May 2026** at 6.30pm, followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

These minutes are subject to approval at the next council meeting.
Minutes prepared by the clerk.

12.03.2026