

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held at Brewham Village Hall on Tuesday, 11th November 2025

Present: Robert Jackson (Chair), Nick Mann & Patricia Stainton.

In attendance: Sue Price (Clerk), Councillors Lucy Trimnell and Tom Power and three members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Richard Hiscock and Mark Perry.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th September 2025:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2025 were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere.

5. **Financial Business:**

The Clerk advised that since the last meeting no income had been received and there had been expenditure of £862.00. So far no income has been received for the Burial Ground Fund in the current year.

Although at the last meeting Councillors had authorised payment of a new battery and pads for the defibrillator, the Clerk had since been told by the supplier that they are not due for renewal until the Spring so that expenditure will come later in the current financial year.

The financial transactions for the period 9th September 2025-10th November were as follows:

Bank balances brought forward on 9 th September 2025	£15,413.17
---	------------

Expenditure:

Lloyds Bank – Service charges August	5.25
Nigel Payne – Final mowing of the Burial Ground	500.00
David Dabinett – Mowing of Common Ground for 2025 season	300.00
Lloyds Bank – Service charges September	4.75

The Fund balances on 10th November 2025 were therefore:

General Fund	£4051.65
Burial Ground Fund	151.52
Burial Ground Wall Repair Fund	8,400.00
Reserve Fund	2,000.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£859.03
Lloyds Bank Treasurers a/c	5,344.14
Hinckley & Rugby Building Society	8,400.00

Bank balances at 10 th November 2025	£14,603.17
---	------------

Debtor

Office of the Information Commissioner – Data protection annual fee	52.00
---	-------



Bank balances to include Debtor £14,551.17

Bank balances carried forward on 10th November 2025 £14,603.17

Payment of invoices:

The Village Hall Committee have now set a date for the defibrillator training session and although the donation of £50 had been agreed at the last meeting, the Clerk again requested that this be authorised for payment and this was unanimously agreed.

The Clerk also requested authorisation to pay the invoice for the two Remembrance Sunday wreaths when received – this should be in the region of £40-50. It was unanimously agreed that this invoice should be paid when received.

At the September meeting Nick Mann had offered to look into the cost of setting up a new Brewham website. The costs and his recommendations had been circulated, and it was unanimously agreed to go ahead probably with a local firm Zonkey, but that he would try and negotiate the cost down to more in line with the other two and that any invoices received between now and the January meeting should be paid.

NB – Following the meeting Zonkey agreed to reduce their fee by £100 and the overall cost for setting up the new website, together with the total costs for one year, is £984. This includes VAT which it is hoped can be recovered. Payment will be required in two instalments – the first for £453.00 which the Clerk will arrange to pay when the invoice is received.

It was unanimously agreed to donate £350 towards the Church rewiring fund.

6. **Planning Applications:**

i. **Decisions on applications already considered by the Parish Council:**

- a. 25/00485/FUL - Border Farm, Border Lane, Brewham, Bruton, BA10 0JQ – replace stable building with artist studio and bat roost. Application approved.
- b. 25/00503/FUL - Batts Farm, Hutchins Lane, Brewham, Bruton, BA10 0QN - Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement self-build dwelling, associated landscaping and formation of access. Application approved.
- c. 25/00181/FUL - Hillcombe Farm, Kingsettle Hill, Brewham, Bruton, BA10 0LB – erection of a Dwelling, as an alternative design and siting for consented and commenced replacement dwelling. Application approved.
- d. 25/00971/HOU – Goodhaven, Bruton Road, Brewham, Bruton, BA10 0JF – conversion of existing detached bungalow into a 1.5 storey house to include demolition of existing conservatory, erection of a single storey extension to rear and internal refurbishment. Application approved.
- e. 25/01526/FUL – Land at Picketts Farm, Bedlam Green Farm Lane, Brewham, BA10 0LP – construction of an agricultural building to be used for storing farmyard manure to reduce fouled surface run off. Decision awaited.
- f. 25/00644/FUL – Forest Barn, North Brewham, BA10 0JR – demolition of existing storage building and erection of a self-build dwelling to provide a sustainable live/work environment. Application refused. Patricia Stainton noted that not all the documents had been included because there was nothing from the Parish Council confirming that they had no objections and were happy to support the application. Tom Power thought that there will be an appeal on this decision and it was agreed that the Clerk will check her records and get in touch with the Planning Department to advise that confirmation of support was previously sent from Brewham Parish Council.
- g. 25/01770/LBC – Hardway House, Hardway, BA10 0LR – internal alterations. Decision awaited.
- h. 25/01506/FUL – Holland Farm, South Brewham, BA10 0JZ - erection of ancillary accommodation for staff associated with the running of the farm and equestrian businesses. Application refused.



- ii. **Any new applications received:**
No new applications had been received.

7. **Burial Ground, Churchyard, Common Land and Village Amenities:**

As noted above, there has been no income from the Burial Ground in the current year.

Ric Rogers had very kindly offered to once again compile the 2026-27 edition of Below the Tower. Councillors were extremely grateful to him for this offer and the Clerk will confirm to Ric Rogers that they would be delighted if he is happy to continue to compile this publication, which is very useful to everyone in the Parish, and that she will pass on their thanks for this very kind offer.

The Parochial Church Council are organising a quiz in aid of the cost of rewiring the Church on 12th November and all the tables have been sold. Also as noted above, after discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would make a donation of £350 towards the rewiring of the Church.

The Village Hall Committee are organising a training session on the use of the defibrillator on the 24th November and as agreed above the Parish Council will make a donation of £50 to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance for delivering this training.

8. **Roads:**

a. **Outstanding matters:**

As always potholes continue to appear throughout the parish on a regular basis and as soon as the Council mark new ones for repair others appear. The drain near Crawley Cottage and the one outside Hillside House are still blocked. Some, but not all, of the potholes on Druley Hill have been repaired and the Clerk will follow this up. The Bridges Department had checked the bridge in the middle of the village and reported back that the crack that Mr Turner was concerned about does not need repairing, the trees growing out of the brickwork do not need to be removed and the bridge is quite safe for heavy lorries and farm machinery to go over.

b. **New matters:**

The Clerk has reported the large hole that has again appeared at North Brewham end of Strap Lane.

The Chairman and Clerk had received an email from Michael Hancock about the possibility of speed reduction measures along Hammer Street, particularly from the junction of Strap Lane to the 30pmh limit in North Brewham following concerns expressed locally that the speeds on this length of road are inappropriate and hazardous. He had attached a report which recommended that there should be a 40mph limit after the current 30mph limit. He would like to rally local support, possibly through a neighbourhood consultation or to make residents aware of their objectives in the hope that together with the speed survey traffic assessment, and proven local support, the Parish Council can open a constructive conversation with Somerset Highways about traffic calming measures in this area and he had asked whether there was someone in the village who would be willing to volunteer or organise a public consultation. The Clerk had replied that while the Parish Council would be fully in support of measures being taken to try and reduce the speed of traffic along that bit of the road, she thought that it really needed someone living in that area who would be able to speak with passion and conviction and that certainly in the current year the Parish Council would not have any funds to help in any way. Ric Rogers had subsequently written to the Clerk expressing his views.

Lucy Trimnell suggested that it would be worth Michael Vaughan and the Clerk contacting Bruton Town Council about this because they had managed to get the speed limit reduced at Wyke Champflower but not on Dropping Lane.



It was noted that there has been a general increase in commercial traffic in the village and the speed at which a lot of it travels. Nick Mann asked whether the larger lorries have to Obtain permission to use the smaller roads and Tom Power confirmed that there is a notional limit, but that it is not policed.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

Outstanding matters:

The Clerk had nothing to update about outstanding problems on footpaths throughout the parish, but she will continue to press for work to be done.

10. **Report from County Councillors:**

Tom Power had recently circulated his November report.

Lucy Trimnell noted that they should hear about the new boundaries in December with an update likely in January. At a cost of £20m the Council have employed consultants to work out how to save £190m and this work is already £5m over budget. Garden waste dates will be changing in December. There is a Yeovil masterplan to build housing on a number of car parks in Yeovil and there is a petition against this that can be signed. There have been no results from the inspection on the Adult Social Care service, but a new Director has been appointed.

11. **Dates of future meetings:** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6th January and the final meeting of the financial year on 10th March 2026.

12. **Open Forum:**

There were no further points anyone wished to raise and the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.22pm.

Signed.......... Date.....6th January 2026.....

