



Bronington Community Council

serving the wards of Iscoyd, Bronington and Tybroughton

Minutes of the meeting of Bronington Community Council held at Whitewell Parish Rooms on Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 7.00 pm

Present	Cllrs Sharon Beddow, Sue Clarke, Anna Edwards, Dave Evans, Rob Hill, Louise Lindsay, Ben Martin (Chairperson), Robert Millington, Ian Rowley, Mark Watson. The Clerk. No members of the public attended.
1- Apologies	Cllrs Ethna Norris, Steve Swinden.
2- Declarations of Interest	Cllr Evans declared a non-pecuniary in item 13 of the minutes as he is a church warden at St Marys Church. Cllr Rowley declared a non-pecuniary in item 13 of the minutes as he carries out work for Bronington Church.
3- Police Update	The police report had been circulated previously. <i>Residents are advised to report any suspicious activity to the police.</i>
4- Open Forum	There was no consideration of this item.
5- Adoption of the minutes	Resolved:- The Council approved the minutes of the Business Meeting held on Wednesday 15th April 2026. Proposed by Cllr Rowley and seconded by Cllr Evans.
6- Matters Arising	The list of Highways faults that were raised at the April meeting have been sent onto WCBC for actions.
7- Corres.	List previously circulated.
8- Training Plan	Cllr Lindsay is to update the training plan which will then be published on the website. She circulated a training policy; this is to be formally considered at the June meeting and to be included in the Standing orders.
9- Internal Procedures	Resolved:- The Council agreed to the following:- 9.1 To adopt Councillors Code of Conduct 9.2 To confirm the appointment of Responsible Financial Officer as Ruth Shackleton 9.3 To confirm and agree bank signatories – Cllrs Evans, Swinden, Martin and the Clerk. 9.4 To approve the Risk Assessment 9.5 To approve the Standing Orders 9.6 To approve the Financial Regulations Proposed by Cllr Watson and seconded by Cllr Millington.
10- Internal Audit	Resolved:- The Council agreed to formally appoint Morren Accountancy to carry out the internal audit for 25 – 26. Proposed by Cllr Lindsay and seconded by Cllr Evans.
11- Accounts	11.1 <u>Financial Year 2025 – 2026:-</u> The reconciled bank balance as at 1 st May 2026 is as follows:- Lloyds Current Account £35,103.74

11.2 Insurance:-
The Council agreed to take out a three year LTA with Zurich at discounted premium.

11.3 Payments:-
To approve the following payments:-

Chq	Payee	Amount
Online	Running Costs / additional hours worked	£ 114.14
Online	Little Red Tractor Company (Apr 26)	£ 262.80
Online	Ian Beardmore BBPA works	£ 300.00
Online	Morren Accountancy Ltd - internal audit	£ 150.00
Online	Bronington School – rent	£ 398.00
Online	British Hearts Foundations (paid) – defibrillators	£2,100.00
Online	Zurich insurance	£ 857.05
Online	Christmas donation - Higher Wych	£ 219.25
Online	Christmas donation - Rainbow Centre	£ 219.25
Online	Coffee morning donation - Bron friendship Club	£ 180.00
Online	Coffee morning donation:- Bradbury Centre	£ 180.00
Online	Reimburse:- L Lindsay - Easter Costs	£ 22.09
Online	Reimburse:- B Martin costs	£ 225.27

The Clerk's salary was paid by standing order.

Receipts:-

None received

Resolved: - Councillors agreed to accept the Financial Report and to approve the above payments.

Proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Millington.

12. Annual Audit

- 12.1 To approve the Annual Governance Statement with respect to the Council's accounting statements for the year ended 31st March 2026 – The Council is to defer the item to the June meeting.
- 12.2 To approve the Annual Return for year ended 31st March 2026 (including Explanation of Year on Year Variance, Fixed Assets and Allocation of Closing Balance - The Council is to defer the item to the June meeting.
- 12.3 Internal Audit:- The accounts for the year ending 31st March 2026 have been prepared and delivered to Morren Accountancy to carry out the annual internal audit. Morren Accountancy have sent an letter of engagement for their services which has been signed and returned. They have carried out the internal audit; there were no issues arising.
The Clerk updated the meeting of the requests made by the external auditor in respect of the full audit including bookings diary for the community room and schedule of room hire rates.

13- Grant Application Process

The Council has received requests for grants including Chariotts, The Rainbow Foundation and Nightingale House. It was agreed to raise funds at future coffee mornings for such requests.

Bronington School have also requested a £300.00 donation towards transport cost; this is to be considered at the June meeting.

The Council considered the following grant applications:-

Organisation	Details	Amount Requested
St Marys Parochial Church Council	Maintenance of the church yard at St Marys Whitewell	£1,750.00
Bronington Children's Club	Play equipment	£ 459.74
Bronington Church	Tree safety works	£ 800.00
TOTAL		£3,009.74

Resolved: - Councillors agreed to award the following grants:-

St Marys Parochial Church Council - £1,000.00

Bronington Church - £800.00

The Council is to request a breakdown of the costs of the play equipment from Bronington Children's Club.

Proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Millington.

14- Annual Report

The Annual Report for 2025 – 26 is to be presented at the June meeting to the Council and published on the website.

15- Planning

Planning

15.1 Applications Received:-

No new applications have been received

15.2 New Applications Received:-

To consider any Planning Applications received after the agenda has been distributed

15.3 Decisions:-

No updates

15.4 Bronington Against Waste Facility:-

Cllr Martin updated members on recent activity relating to the proposed waste facility. A public meeting was held on 21 April 2026, attended by 110 people, including representatives from Veolia.

A further meeting took place in the Community Room with representatives from Veolia and Axis (planning consultants). Cllr Martin recorded the meeting and is to prepare and publish a report summarising the discussions.

Veolia has invited representatives of the Council to visit its' site in Reading. MP Andrew Ranger has submitted an objection to the planning application. To date, 66 letters of objection have been received. The campaign has also received coverage in the local press and media.

Cllr Martin will prepare and circulate a draft response for the Council's formal consideration at the June meeting.

16- Vehicle Activated Signage (VAS)

The Clerk is to obtain quotations for Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) to be installed on the A495 and A525, similar to those recently installed in Whitchurch, and report back to the June meeting.

	<p>The Council discussed improving the road signage on the A495 in advance of the bend near the church.</p> <p>The Clerk is to follow up the request with WCBC.</p>
17- Roads Working Group	<p>Following the recent A495 site meeting with Andrew Ranger MP initiated by Charles and Diane Nunnerley a meeting of councillors and residents heard feedback from the meeting and discussed next steps to renew efforts to tackle speeding issues on the A495. Evidence will be required to support any request for a reduction in speed limits, including records of accidents since 2021 and clear indication of residents' concerns.</p> <p>There will be a further meeting of the group next week. Cllr Martin has prepared a petition, which Cllr Watson will co-ordinate.</p> <p>Once matters relating to the A495 have been progressed, the Council will consider what further action(s) are required in relation to the A525.</p>
18- Barry Barlow Play Area	<p>The Clerk obtained a quotation for the post-installation inspection of the recently installed play area equipment. The inspector is due to visit in June. Cllrs noted that an additional charge of £50.00 would apply should councillors wish to attend the inspection. It was resolved that the Council place an order with ROSPA for the annual inspection to be carried out. Cllrs also discussed potential improvements to the basketball facilities.</p>
19- Community Room	<p>Cllr Martin updated the meeting on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Community Room continues to be used regularly by local groups and organisations, including Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Bronington Church, the mobile library, craft club, BAWF meetings, as a polling station, and the Saturday coffee mornings. - A meeting has been held with the governing body of Bronington School to discuss the £22,000.00 grant that is available from WCBC to Community Councils and how the funding could be used to improve facilities at the Community Room for the benefit of both local residents and the school. A preliminary document has been submitted to WCBC in support of the application, with the full application form required to be submitted by 31st May 2026. Members noted that a similar level of funding will be available from the Council in the next financial year. - The Council agreed that funds raised from the May coffee morning would be donated to Nightingale House Hospice.
20- Street Furniture	<p>20.1 <u>Bench:-</u> Arrangements are in progress for the bench to be installed next week.</p> <p>20.2 <u>Noticeboard for Whitewell:-</u> The Council agreed to investigate the provision of a wooden noticeboard for Whitewell. The Clerk is to obtain quotations for consideration at the June meeting.</p>
21- Defibrillators	<p>The Council approved the purchase of two replacement defibrillators for Whitewell Parish Rooms and Bronington School, as replacement parts for the existing units are no longer available. The total cost of the replacement units is £2,100.00.</p> <p>The Clerk is to investigate arranging defibrillator training sessions to be delivered by First Responders.</p>
22- Email Address	<p>The Clerk is to make enquiries regarding the development of a new Council website and the provision of individual email addresses for councillors.</p>

23- To receive updates from outside organisations	Cllr Watson formally thanked the Council for the recent donation made to Bronginton Friendship Club from funds raised at the recent coffee morning.
24- Any Other Ward Business	There were no updates.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm