

Drayton Bassett Parish Council

Minutes of the Drayton Bassett Full Council meeting held Tuesday 19^h May 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr R Bridge (Chairman), Cllr A Price, Cllr E Wilson, Cllr M Gwynn & Cllr H Parton.

Also Present: Robert Pritchard, Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 10

1	Election Of Chairman: Cllr Rosemary Bridge was elected Chairman, nominated by Cllr M Gwynn and seconded Cllr E Wilson.
2	Election Of Vice Chairman: Cllr Emma Wilson was elected Vice-Chairman, moved Cllr M Gwynn and seconded Cllr A Price.
3	Apologies: None
4	Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: Cllr A Price declared an interest in relation to Item 17.
5	Minutes: The minutes were approved with a correction to two typos. Moved by Cllr R Bridge and seconded by Cllr M Gwynn.
6	Public Participation. The Chairman to suspend the meeting under rule 10a (12). Residents asked if the cutting at the church could not be done during rain as grass was stuck to the headstones. There was also a query if there was a strim taken out. A resident raised a complaint about the location of the new litter bin. The layby for access to the gas main near to the nursery is being used as a public toilet,. Residents hoped there could be signage erected. Residents reported the canal bridge by Drayton Manor has human waste in it. Parking on pavements on Drayon Lane is an issue with cars are also parking fully on the pavement by the new bin. Links to report issues - SCC Highways - www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/highway-maintenance/problems-roads LDC: Human waste - www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/oneform Canal and River Trust - https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us/reporting-an-incident-accident-or-near-miss
7	Chairman to reopen the meeting: The meeting was reopened.
8	Reports from District Councillor & County Councillor (for information) if present: Cllr Brian Yeates and Cllr Alex Farrell were unable to attend.
9	Clerk's Report: The report was approved, moved by Cllr R Bridge and seconded by Cllr M Gwynn.

10	Reports from Council Members (for information) only: Cllrs have already reported many of the issues that were raised in the public participation The Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC) application was submitted; the council wishes to thank residents for their contribution. The school was also thanked for their input to the BKVC. The Old Rectory planning issues was raised and Cllr Brian Yeates called in the application. However, it was passed by the Planning Committee at Lichfield District Council. Councillors also enjoyed undertaking the Village Green consultation. The survey will close in two weeks. Another speed watch took place yesterday and 232 cars passed and 8 were speeding.
11	Neighbourhood Governance: The following motion was approved – This Council notes: 1. That the Government’s English Devolution and Community Empowerment (EDCE) Bill introduces a new duty on all local authorities to establish “effective neighbourhood governance” structures, with further detail to be set out in forthcoming regulations. 2. That the Government has stated it wants all local authorities to have a way of working with neighbourhoods “so they are not relying on town and parish councils to do it,” indicating that parish and town councils may not automatically be recognised as the primary neighbourhood governance mechanism. 3. That the Secretary of State will have powers to define neighbourhood areas and set criteria for neighbourhood governance arrangements, but these definitions and criteria have not yet been published, creating uncertainty about the future role of parish and town councils within the new framework. 4. That parish and town councils are the most local and democratically accountable tier of government, with established relationships in communities and a strong track record of facilitating local engagement and service delivery. This Council believes: 1. That parish and town councils should play a central and influential role in any new system of neighbourhood governance, reflecting their democratic mandate and deep local knowledge. 2. That any new neighbourhood governance structures should complement, not duplicate or marginalise, existing parish and town councils. 3. That clear guidance from Government is essential to avoid confusion, overlap, and the dilution of local democratic accountability. 4. That parish and town councils are offered the opportunity to join any neighbourhood governance structures created in their area.; This Council resolves to: 1. Call on our local Member of Parliament to press the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to: ○ Ensure that parish and town councils are formally recognised as key partners within the emerging neighbourhood governance framework;

	○ Guarantee that the forthcoming regulations and guidance clearly set out how parish and town councils will be integrated into neighbourhood governance structures; ○ Provide assurance that new neighbourhood governance arrangements will not duplicate functions or undermine the democratic legitimacy of parish and town councils. 2. Write to the MP enclosing this motion and requesting active lobbying on behalf of parish and town councils during the development of regulations under the EDCE Bill. 3. Engage with our principal authority to express the Council's expectation that parish and town councils be meaningfully involved in shaping local responses to the neighbourhood governance duty. 4. Publicly communicate this Council's position to residents, reaffirming our commitment to maintaining strong, local, democratic representation. Moved by Cllr M Gwynn and seconded by Cllr E Wilson.
12	Standing Orders: The Standing Orders were approved, moved by Cllr A Price and seconded by Cllr M Gwynn.
13	Financial Regulations: The Financial Regulations were approved, moved by Cllr E Wilson and seconded by Cllr R Bridge.
14	Finances: 14.1 The following payments were approved: Bradleys Payroll Services - £150.12 14.2 The following payments made under delegated authority were approved – Staffing costs - £510.15 Grounds Maintenance April - £510.00 APM Supplies - £23.32 Website and Emails costs - £269.70 BKVC Entry Fee - £35.00 Stationary - £17.50 Handyman – £291.66 Bulbs £156.00 Grounds Maintenance March – £445.00 SLCC – £211.20 Clerk Travel Expenses - £69.44 Village Green Repairs - £1000 SPCA membership - £371.38 14.3 The financial reconciliation for March & April 2026 was approved. 14.4 The following Standing Orders were approved - Water Supply Water Waste Scribe EDF Electricity Pavilion Business Rates 14.5 The CIL statement for 25/26 was approved.

14.6	The authorising signatories are set to any two of the current signatories. Moved by Cllr R Bridge and seconded by Cllr A Price								
15	Policies & Registers: The following policies were approved, moved by Cllr A Price and seconded by Cllr R Bridge. • Risk Register • Data Audit • Asset Register								
16	Council Logo Competition: The plan to create a council logo was approved. Moved by Cllr E Wilson and seconded by Cllr A Price.								
17	Planning: No objections Application No: 26/00554/FUH - (Full Application) Location: 5 Rectory Close, Drayton Bassett Proposal: Alterations to external fascia including changes to windows, doors and installation of cladding.								
18	Dates for Council Meetings for 2026/2027 <table> <tr> <td>Tuesday 16th June 2026</td><td>Tuesday 21st July 2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 15th September 2026</td><td>Tuesday 20th October 2026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 17th November 2026</td><td>Tuesday 19th January 2027</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 16th February 2027</td><td>Tuesday 16th March 2027</td></tr> </table>	Tuesday 16 th June 2026	Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Tuesday 15 th September 2026	Tuesday 20 th October 2026	Tuesday 17 th November 2026	Tuesday 19 th January 2027	Tuesday 16 th February 2027	Tuesday 16 th March 2027
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19	Date of Next Meeting and Items for Next Meeting: The next Full Council meeting is scheduled for 16 th June 2026.								