

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 7.00pm at Longford Village Hall

1. Attendance noted as

Cllrs C Young (Chair), G Bocking, C Byers (Vice-Chair), K Doherty, L Gough, R Harris, D Melvin

Also present: Mrs J Shirley (Clerk), County & Borough Cllr Sarah Hands

Members of public present: None.

Apologies: None

2. Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2026.

Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th January 2026. Proposed by Cllr Byers, seconded by Cllr Doherty, all in favour.

4. There were no applications to fill two councillor vacancies by Co-option.

5. Council received updates regarding outstanding items not already on the agenda.

) Brushcutter course: there has been no response from the Gloucestershire company previously selected, and other companies are more expensive. This matter will be brought back to council at the March meeting.

) Playing field use by school on 5/2/26 and 12/2/26 was confirmed by Council.

) Whole Council training will be held at the GAPTC offices; councillors to propose 3 dates the majority are available.

) Grassroots funding has been approved for bike racks.

Public Participation

None.

Report from County & Borough Councillor: Cllr Hands forwarded a report on County Council matters; and updated the meeting on Borough Council matters.

6. Finance

- Council received the latest bank reconciliations and budget comparison report.
- Council approved the installation of a 360-degree motion sensor and replacement light on the outside of the village hall at a cost of £294+VAT as this will improve safety of people walking from Victoria Court. **Action: Clerk.**
- Council resolved the appointment of GAPTC as internal auditor for 2025-26 at a cost of £250. **Action: Clerk.**
- Council approved the invoices for payment (Cllr Byers and Cllr Harris will approve the online payments):

Date	Supplier	Details	Gross
06/01/26	Greenfields	Adjust play area gate	£257.40

7. Parks & Open Spaces

- Council received an update on the community orchard and playing field; Cllr Byers authorised to purchase topsoil to cover the tree roots at an approximate cost of £65. **Action: Cllr Byers.**

Signed

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Date

- b) The next working party date will be on 28th February.
- c) Council received a verbal update from the Clerk on the grass cutting of Highways-owned verges within the parish.
- d) Council discussed the issue of car parking at the playing field and surrounding area on Saturdays. It was noted that the youth football club have hired the village hall and car park throughout February and March so will have more car parking on site available to them. Any vehicles parked dangerously or blocking the roads should be reported to the Police.

8. Planning

- a) Council considered new planning applications including those received since publication of the agenda.

Date received	App Ref	Address	Details	LPC Comments
16/01/2026	26/00022/TPO	112 Tewkesbury Road	TPO 69 - T1 Turkey Oak - 2.5m reduction	No objection.

- b) There has been no update on the planning enforcement 25/00108/ENFC from the County Council.

9. Highways

- a) Cllr Harris provided an update regarding the Traffic Regulation Order for the A38 reduction in speed. The TRO is progressing for a section of the A38 to reduce the speed limit.
- b) Council received a brief update on village gateways.
- c) Council discussed the condition of the access road to Victoria Court and consider options for progressing repairs with Bromford Housing. It was agreed that the Clerk to report the matter to the MP and request assistance in progressing the issue. **Action: Clerk.**

10. To receive reports from representatives:

-) Allotments: no updates. Clerk to add the purchase of hawthorn whips to the next agenda. Allotment competition to be organised for July with the usual arrangements.
-) Finance: Cllr Doherty and Cllr Young to conduct a check of the accounts. **Action: Clerk.**
-) Personnel: Council noted that the Clerk has given 2 months' notice to leave the council; the Council approved the job advert and the Personnel working group will proceed with recruitment, interviews scheduled for w/c 16th March with an aim for an April start date. The Council agreed an overlap between the outgoing and incoming clerk.
-) Playing Field: Cllr Byers mentioned that he hadn't been able to source a free silver birch tree for the wildflower area and requested that council approve purchase; this to be added to the March agenda. **Action: Clerk.**
-) Village Hall: the village hall committee has offered that the bike racks can be installed next to the village hall. **Action: Clerk** to confirm location with village hall.

Next ordinary meeting to be held on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7pm.

-) Agenda items to include the grass cutting contract for 2026, brushcutter training, hawthorn whips for allotments, silver birch purchase for wildflower area.
-) Deadline for receipt of agenda items is Monday 23rd February 2026.
-) Council noted that the Clerk is unavailable for this meeting and Council will record the audio of the meeting for the Clerk to prepare the minutes.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.