



## Buckhorn Weston and Kington Magna Parish Council

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Responsible Financial Officer and Parish Clerk: Mrs Sandra Mackintosh

### FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 at 7.30pm at Buckhorn Weston Village Hall

Item	Parish Councillors Present: Tim Wilton (Chairman (TW), Simon Stranger (SS), Ms Phillipa Chapman (PCN), Matthew Hoskins (Vice-Chair (MH), Matthew Trim (MT), Mrs Anna Grant (AG), Ms Safeena Allison (SA), William Tremlett (WT), Bob Farrand (BF) Dorset Councillor(s) Present: 1 Members of the public: There were 4 members of the public present Members of the press: There was 1 member of the press present In attendance: Parish Clerk: Sandra Mackintosh (SM) Dorset Council (DC), Parish Council (PC), Buckhorn Weston (BW), Kington Magna (KM)	Action
	<b>Public Session:</b> Concerns were raised regarding the state of the land by the railway line in BW and DC's response to the PC's letter. See agenda item 65/25i. The KM War Memorial requires some refurbishment. SS will look into this in time for the next meeting.	
58/25	<b>To receive apologies for absence:</b> Kevin Aldred, Cllr Belinda Ridout	
59/25	<b>Co-option of member(s) for Buckhorn Weston:</b> Cllr Wilton proposed Bob Farrand be co-opted as a member for BW. Cllr Ms Chapman seconded. Unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b> Acceptance form signed.	
60/25	<b>Approve and adopt the minutes of the last Full Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 and planning meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025:</b> Cllr Ms Chapman proposed "the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting as dated above be approved as a correct record". Cllr Trim proposed "the minutes of the planning meeting dated 22 <sup>nd</sup> September be approved as a correct record" and Cllr Stranger proposed "the minutes of the planning meeting dated 13 <sup>th</sup> October be approved as a correct record". Cllrs Wilton, Ms Chapman and Mrs Allison seconded. All unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b> All minutes signed.	
61/25	<b>Matters arising from the previous minutes:</b> None	
62/25	<b>Declarations of interest:</b> None.	
63/25	<b>Brains Farm (BF) AD Plant update:</b> The grass/crop harvests are done for 2025. The next is expected in May 2026. Most of the maize/grass volumes anticipated were received, although a little down on targets. One traffic complaint was received from a Wincanton resident during the maize harvest period. BF contacted the resident directly and the farmer was reminded of his responsibilities. Nobody from BW or KM registered a complaint. Between now and next May the plant will be fed by some remaining maize/grass held on contracted farm sites along with a steady supply of livestock manure and agricultural products, e.g. pomace and straw, being delivered via regular low level traffic rather than concentrated periods of high intensive traffic. BF have assured the approved routes still apply. BF also confirmed their licence does not cover human food waste. The next possible "badged campaign" may be in March when farmers start to require digestate for crop growth but mostly this will be provided by the site pumping digestate directly from its lagoons onto nearby farmer's fields. Only a certain proportion will need to be ferried by road. Concerns were raised regarding the condition of the road. CAG will discuss this with BF.	

64/25 i.	<p><b>Planning:</b></p> <p><b>Decision notices from Dorset Council:</b></p> <p>APP/D1265/W/24/3356053, Ref: P/FUL/2024/00654, Coneygar Farm Shutes Lane BW, Conversion of stables to residential dwelling. Appeal against refusal of Dorset Council: <b>allowed</b></p> <p>P/HOU/2025/03589, Bye Barn Hartmoor Hill To Weston Road KM, Erect single storey side extension to form a garage: <b>granted</b></p> <p>P/OUT/2025/03850, Land At Top Of Weston Hill Church Hill BW, Erect 1 no dwelling. (Outline application with all matters reserved): <b>granted</b></p> <p>P/HOU/2025/04752, Gigg Cottage, Access to Pitt House Farm BW, Erect detached double garage. Erect detached single garage with 2no. dormer windows and office over (Demolish concrete panel garage): <b>granted</b></p>	
65/25 i.	<p><b>Enforcement updates:</b></p> <p><b>Land by railway line – consideration of Dorset Council's response to letter and comments received from resident:</b> Members were unsatisfied with DC's response to the PC's letter as it sends the wrong message to others. Cllr Woode will investigate this further. Concerns now focus on the remaining 10% and whether this can become immune over time. It was suggested that the Head of DC should be invited to a future meeting as per his recent comments in DC News. Cllr Hoskins proposed "the Parish Council respond to Enforcement stating the outcome is highly unsatisfactory and query whether the 10% remainder is liable to immunity". Cllr Mrs Allison seconded. Unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Write to Enforcement &amp; send invite to Head of Dorset Council</b></p>	
ii.	<p><b>Land by railway line - consider source of water, land contamination and waste removal (AG):</b> This was considered a matter for the Environment Agency but previous contact with them has been unsuccessful. It was noted suspicions are not facts and that proof is required to back up claims prior to submitting any report. See agenda item 72/25ii.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
66/25	<p><b>Consider Dorset County Farms Strategy and relevance to villages (PCN):</b> The question was raised if there are any county farms in the villages. It is believed most have been sold off over time. Dorset Explorer may identify any local county farms.</p>	
67/25	<p><b>ID badges update:</b> Two more badges can now be made. Only one is outstanding.</p>	
68/25 i.	<p><b>Buckhorn Weston</b></p> <p><b>Consider hosting Horticultural Show in Buckhorn Weston next year:</b> The last Garden Produce show was successful but a lot of work. As the show used to alternate between the villages, KM would like to see BW host it next year. KM organisers would be happy to offer guidance. With children playing a significant role, mid to late August was considered the best time for the event. Possible interested parties will be approached to measure interest.</p> <p><b>Action: Speak to various residents &amp; report back at next meeting.</b></p>	<b>BF</b>
69/25 i. ii. iii.	<p><b>Kington Magna &amp; Nyland</b></p> <p><b>Update on KMPA lease negotiations and consideration of alternative options for play equipment (MH):</b> MH has been unable to start a dialogue with Strutt and Parker but will try again.</p> <p><b>ROSPA works update (SS):</b> Work should be completed by the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Consider temporary no through traffic road closure for toad and newt crossing on Church Hill (SA):</b> A registered toad patrol group monitors and safeguards the toads during breeding season where a small section of Church Hill is used to cross between ponds. With a gradual decline in numbers over the years, help is being sought from DC to install a temporary road closure during the evenings between the 15<sup>th</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> April. The group need the support from the PC prior to submitting an application. Cllr Hoskins proposed "the Parish Council support the application for the temporary road closure". Cllr Ms Chapman seconded. Unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b> It was noted the group would need to raise any funds required for signage themselves.</p>	
70/25	<p><b>Dorset Councillor's reports: Cllr Ridout – The Dorset</b> Local Plan and Local Transport Plan drop in event was well attended. <b>A Design</b> Code Cross Party Panel are working to develop a county design code that respects local character, connecting new development with the surrounding built environment. <b>The Empty</b> Homes Strategy aims to replace long-term empty residential properties with homes for local people. DC has committed £1.6 million over 4 years for the voluntary and compulsory purchase of houses. <b>Grants</b> up to £5,000 are available for not for profit groups</p>	

	<p>delivering arts, heritage, sports and community activities across the county. <b>The Gillingham Community Bus Group</b> has secured funding from the DC Community Transport Fund and s106 funding from large Gillingham developments, allowing a pilot scheme to run for 6 months. To register tel: 01258 287987 email: <a href="mailto:dorset@ectcharity.co.uk">dorset@ectcharity.co.uk</a> <b>Cllr Woode – Household</b> Recycling centre changes will come into effect soon and the early stages will be monitored to see what does and doesn't work. Teething issues are expected but the proposed charges for other county users should keep the centre open.</p>	
71/25	<b>Chairman's report:</b> No report submitted.	
72/25	<p><b>Clerk &amp; RFO Financial reports:</b> The report and financial documents were circulated prior to the meeting. <b>Bank Reconciliation:</b> As at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025, the current account balance was £17489.30. The Nationwide account balance was £5500.57. Receipts to date are £11896.90. Total payments out so far this financial year are £6694.31.</p> <p><b>To receive and approve accounts and payments for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025, including salaries and associated accounts:</b> Cllr Ms Chapman proposed “the Parish Council approve the accounts and payments as noted.” Cllr Stranger seconded, unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b></p> <p><b>Present proposed precept figures for 2026/27 in advance of January's meeting prior to submission and discuss options regarding reserves at March 2027:</b> The proposed 2026/27 precept/budget figures were circulated prior to the meeting. An excess in reserves is anticipated by 31st March 2027. Suggestions included a reduction in precept and increase in drawdown now or to put forward ideas for expenditure at that time with members being asked to consider options, one being local community grants and another being a specialist report on the land by railway line. <b>Action: Investigate possibility &amp; cost of an environment report on land by railway line BW in time for next meeting.</b></p> <p><b>Variation of bank signatory update:</b> Further information remains outstanding. As MH is unfamiliar with online banking he suggested another be the back-up signatory. With SA's agreement, Cllr Hoskins proposed “the Parish Council appoint Cllr Mrs Allison as the signatory back-up”. Cllr Mrs Grant seconded. Unanimously agreed. <b>Resolved.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Complete variation of mandates.</b></p>	BF
73/25	<p><b>Other reports:</b></p> <p><b>Highways:</b> The raised ramp in Common Lane remains with no response to the request for warning signs.</p> <p><b>Action: Submit an online report and email DC Highways regarding warning signs.</b></p> <p><b>Community speed watch in Buckhorn Weston (AG):</b> No sessions have taken place since the last meeting due to volunteers having had other commitments. A minimum of four volunteers is needed each time. A session is scheduled for next week.</p> <p><b>Public Footpaths:</b> PCN has contacted the local rambler's group to ask if a hedge lined footpath being 3m wide is standard and also where one can find DC decisions on footpaths. The damaged steps at the top of Shepherds Hill, BW have been repaired. No issues to report with KM footpaths.</p>	PCN / Clerk
74/25	<p><b>Items for next agenda:</b></p> <p>War memorial refurbishment.</p> <p>Garden Produce show in BW</p> <p>Precept and information on costs for environment report</p> <p>Update regarding invitation to Head of DC to attend a meeting next year</p>	
75/25	<b>Matters pertinent to this meeting:</b> None.	
76/25	<b>Date of next Meeting:</b> Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026 Kington Magna Village Hall 7.30pm	
	Meeting closed at 21.28.	
	<p>Signed.....Chairman</p> <p>Date .....</p>	

**Items circulated with agenda:**

Clerk/RFO report

Accounts and payments for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Reconciliation 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025

Proposed precept figures for 2026/27

**Full copies of all reports noted in the minutes are available on request from the Parish Clerk.**