



BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 25th September 2025 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty.

PRESENT: Cllr Tony Roberts (Chair), Cllr Hannah O'Donnell, Cllr Philip Cosford, Cllr Amanda Whitaker

NOT PRESENT: Cllr Alistair Whitaker

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr Tim Hoskin, Cllr Steven Watson, 5 members of the Public, Clerk – Laura Brooks-Payne

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and approve:** Cllr Alistair Whitaker - approved
- 2. To receive declaration of interest and dispensation:** None
- 3. To approve minutes of Parish Council meeting on Thursday 24th July 2025:**
Unanimously approved.
- 4. To receive a report from District Cllr Tim Hoskin:**

Cllr Hoskin reported that there is an opinion survey on the Herts County Council website re. Devolution of Power, which ends on 30th September. Recommendations from County Councils are due into Central Government by this Autumn. East Herts Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan - Public Consultation is currently live on Herts County Council website. Veolia Environmental grants are live.

Standing orders suspended for public participation

- 5. Comments from members of the public:**

Cllr Steven Watson advised that he has been looking at Highways issues in the area, including flooding on Parish roads. It was noted that the flooding around the culvert on Cock Lane between Pembridge Lane and approx. 100m before Woodside Barn is on the current works schedule.

A resident noted that the water leak on the corner of Brickendon Lane has been repaired which has also been re-seeded, though now a car is parked over the area.

A resident asked if the County Cllr is advised when a Highways issue has been repaired. Completed jobs are reported back to management but not necessarily to the County Cllr.

Standing orders reinstated from here

6. OPEN SPACES

- 6.1 To update on the Defibrillator location in Wormley West End:** Cllr Roberts reported that a location has been agreed. The electrician will now need to attend to complete the instal.
- 6.2 To update on the purchase of the Village Green:** Cllr Roberts reported that there is no further update. The case is currently with Land Registry.
- 6.3 To update on ditch clearing:** Cllr Amanda Whitaker advised that works are scheduled, see item number 10.1 for dates.
- 6.4 Update on fencing replacement surrounding the Village Green:** Cllr Roberts reported that Cllr Whitaker has advised that the length of fencing may be slightly increased and needs clarification. There will be a metal trim at the bottom of each post to protect the post from the grass strimmer. Cllr Roberts will speak to the Golf Club to ask if the fencing on the land they own, requires re-fencing.
- 6.5 To update on tree maintenance on the Village Green:** Cllr Roberts advised that the tree surgeon has cut out dead timber from the two oak trees and removed the single stump left from previous tree surgery.

7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

- 7.1 To receive the latest minutes:** Linda Ashley read the minutes. See Addendum. Cllr Roberts advised that the Fete was a huge success and profits are not as yet completely finalised but are to be in the region of £3700.

8. LOCAL CRIME

- 8.1 To receive a report on incidents of local crime:** The Clerk had circulated the reports from July & August prior to the meeting. In July there were no reported crime and in August, one theft. Also see addendum – report which was read out by the Clerk.
- 8.2 To update on the Police public information event held in July:** Cllr Roberts reported that the event was poorly attended by only 10 residents. Local issues were discussed including fly-tipping and speeding. Cllr Roberts suggested advertising the Herts Connected system more widely which is useful for local up to date information. The information is already in the newsletter.

9. PLANNING

- 9.1 **To receive the latest planning report & discuss applications:** The Clerk had circulated the latest report prior to the meeting. Current applications were briefly discussed.
- 9.2 **To discuss recent applications, any new planning enforcements & progress on any outstanding:** Cllr Roberts noted again that the High Court injunction deadline for the clearance of the illegal site at the bottom of Fanshaws Lane was the 4th December 2025.

10. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

- 10.1 **To discuss and report on any issues arising:**
Cllr Amanda Whitaker reported;
2nd – 7th October - Brickendon Lane road closure daily for rebuild camber, patch, regrade and ditch clearance
7-13th October - Cock Lane road closure – drainage investigation and ditch clearance.
- 10.2 **To discuss possible traffic calming measures in Wormley West End:** Cllr Roberts explained that the speeding is a long-standing issue, encompassing a very tight bend, the signs have disappeared, are hidden by foliage or broken. Highways have discussed remarking of the road and a possible Speed Indicator Device (SID). Cllr Watson advised there may be funds in his locality budget to go towards the project. Cllr Roberts will liaise with Cllr Watson tomorrow.

11. ENVIRONMENT

- 11.1 **To update on the Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme & "naturalisation" of areas on the village green:** Cllr Roberts advised that the project is still ongoing but there is no update.
- 11.2 **To discuss the possibility of a public meeting for Cllr Hoskin to explain the new recycling scheme:** It was discussed and agreed that the new recycling bin system is in place now though Cllr Hoskin is happy to speak to residents who need some help with the system going forward.
- 11.3 **To update on the recent litter picking day & arrange another date:** A date of Sunday 2nd November was suggested and approved.

12. FINANCE

- 12.1 **To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:** The accounts had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. Accounts were briefly discussed

- 12.2 **To update on the conclusion of the External Audit:** The Clerk reported that the external audit was now complete with no issues arising. The invoice has been received.
13. **To update on making Parishioner Beryl Matthews an Honorary Freeman of the Parish:** Cllr Roberts reported;
14. Beryl has lived in the Parish for almost 30 years. Beryl started the Newsletter and edited it for 10 years which continues to this day. Beryl started the Friendly Club, Book Club, pétanque club & jointly the gardening Club. Beryl was lead organiser of the fete for a number of years and Christmas parties and also organised car boot sales. Beryl was a member of the PC for 8 years and Chairman for 4 years. Beryl provided much enthusiasm, organisation and encouragement to all to engage and become part of the vibrant Brickendon Community.
Making Beryl an Honorary Freeman of the Parish was unanimously agreed. Cllr Roberts and the Clerk will organise a certificate and presentation in due course.
15. **Matters for future consideration:** None
16. **Confirmation of the dates of the next meeting:** Thursday 6th November 2025
17. **To close the meeting:** Cllr Roberts closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Laura Brooks-Payne
Parish Clerk

ADDENDUM

POLICE MATTERS - Other news and updates – (from August)

Now that the summer holidays have begun please make sure that you make your home and vehicle are safe and secure, even when you are at home. A property in Little Berkhamsted has had an attempted burglary during day light hours when the homeowners were present. Offenders entered via an unlocked rear door and made it to the top of the stairs before they were confronted. Close windows when you leave etc. Don't leave windows open on your vehicle even if is parked on your driveway. Opportunist thieves only need a second to commit crime.

*There has been a spike in Vehicle crime across the county with a period of just days impacting on Hertford Heath, before it moved out of the area.
Fly-Tips have also been on the increase. These should be reported to EHDC as lead agency. None of these reports have included large macerated waste tips.*

Its lovely to see all the local kids enjoying being kids in this lovely weather...but please as a parent make sure that you know what your children are getting up to when they are out and about. Something that seems like fun at the time can be very distressing for others. Remind them of road safety etc. Wheelies are great...but not in the middle of the road in front of traffic. A moments stupidity can cause a lifetime of grief.

The East Herts Rural Team continue to conduct late night operations over the past few months for rural crime. Shifts have been changed and rest days cancelled in order to provide better coverage particularly during late evening and early morning. Hare Coursing season has begun as the harvest has started slightly earlier due to the hot weather. Please report any suspicious activity that you may see in the fields.

In addition, the team have continued to host events this month for local residents to speak with members of the team, bike security marking, and speed checks on roads where local people have raised concerns, and street meets in the harder to reach rural communities as well as responding to many incidents across East Herts when no other resources have been available. Cottered has been the focus for speed checks over the last week or so, weekend and weekday rush hour monitoring has taken place, no offences to record.

If you need to report a crime in progress, please call 999, for all others please use 101 or online reporting <https://www.herts.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/> Social media is great for alerting your friends and neighbours to local issues but please let us know so that we can deal with the issues.

The Herts Connected system delivers Hertfordshire police's crime alerts. Registered local residents can receive the latest crime or emergency updates and alerts, as well as information about policing events in your area. Local residents can get involved in helping to make their local area a safer place, tell us what police should be doing in their area, shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe, and tell us what matters are causing local communities harm.

The more residents that register, the better informed and safer our communities will be. We would be most grateful if you could continue to share the link below in any parish communications, and especially on social media, to encourage as many local residents as possible to sign up.

<https://www.hertsconnected.co.uk/>

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

*Additional Crime Prevention Advice can be found via this link:
<https://www.herts.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/> Thank you*

*East Herts Rural Highlights Video 2024-25
<https://youtu.be/bnf6PE4uuvvc?feature=shared>*

Apologies: Alison Blakely, Robert Williams

Money End July: £7,232.86

£10,002.89

£ 10,000 to go to Village Green Fund

Fete: Music, food, stalls –all ok

Carousel booked

Volunteers –cakes etc to go on WhatsApp week before fete

Bric-a-brac Sunday morning

Books: Deborah (Bentley Cottage)

Marquees to go up Saturday 6th Sept

Check with Russell about Trailer with Roof (LJA)

Ask Steve Saville or Pete about the Bales for Fete (LJA)

Childrens Christmas Party

Hertfordshire Zoo 6th December '25 (spoken to Carly –already booked in)

Speak to Amanda & Becky re organisation of guest list

Age of Children 1 – 7 yrs birthday by 25 December 2025 – a present to be purchased for all

Don't pay for food for those who cannot eat it to avoid waste (especially those who are too young)

OAPS lunch

Rachel- at Farmers Boy 18th December '25

Tony to confirm invitees

Events leading up to Christmas-Rachel Farmers Boy

31st October(Friday) Halloween in pub car park - Tickets available

5th November – Bonfire and BBQ In Pub Car park – private event

Nativity –Play at Brickendon Church, (cast whoever wants to take part)

Walk to lighting of Christmas tree –Carols then back to the Pub 14th December

Starting at 3.00pm

Next Meeting –after the FETE TBC