

BRINKLOW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held in the Community Hall on the 12th February 2026

Present:

Councillor J Reid (Chairman)

Councillor T Heenan

Councillor S Brown

Councillor K Keene

Councillor I Currington

D Lloyd (Clerk & RFO)

J Boonham (Cemetery Agent)

Councillor A Warwick (WCC)

17 Members of the public

1. Apologies.

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor T Gillias (RBC) and Councillor J Brickwood

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 15th January 2026 were approved, signed and initialled by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

4. Comments, Questions or Suggestions made by Members of the Public.

Residents mentioned the 2 local plan presentation meetings held recently by RBC, the first one was very lively and heated but some good points were brought up, a lot of questions were left unanswered in both meetings. People attending felt it was not a discussion, they were just being spoken at by RBC, they failed to answer questions, the RBC representatives were very programmed and there was very little empathy. There was no sympathy for the amount of work that the Parish Council and residents of Brinklow have to put in and Councillor Moran was very condescending. There was mention of a list of concerns the Parish Council would have for residents to put their names to, two public meetings are to be held for this purpose listing the five main arguments.

Councillor A Warwick (WCC) stated that responding to regulation 19 is a different process to regulation 18, they are interested in if it is sound and legal at this stage. Use the available form to submit any objections and state which policy you are objecting to, this will keep us on side with the inspector (forms available to be picked up at the end of the meeting) Rugsbys housing market has collapsed but houses still need building if they are in the Local Plan, any shortfall will be carried forward not disregarded.

It was mentioned that responses need to be specific and planning expertise is needed; the response was that we already have the help of an excellent experienced planner, for no fee, who has recently been awarded an MBE for services to planning.

It was mentioned that a young lad was hit by a car today and taken to hospital, caused by the amount of traffic at school time and the issues caused by school busses reversing into Heath Lane to turn around.

Councillor A Warwick (WCC) suggested Wolvey and Brinklow share any information collated to help with their objections.

5. District and County Councillor Reports for Information.

Councillor A Warwick (WCC) reported that after 12 hours trying to set the budget WCC failed and adjourned to next Tuesday. Money received from the government to pay for special educational needs is not enough, more is paid out than received and interest is paid on the debt. Home to school transport has increased tremendously. There is a Local Government Reform Consultation that everyone should respond to, in 2 to 3 years WCC will no longer exist, if two unitary councils are decided on there will be North Warwickshire and South Warwickshire. We will fall under North Warwickshire along with Nuneaton and Bedworth but the council tax base will not generate enough income to exist, the South Warwickshire council covers the more affluent areas giving them a better income advantage. The Parish Councils will have to take on extra tasks, expected to do more work for nothing, and will be unable to cope so more funding and support will be needed. 1 unitary council would be the better to option and Parish Councils to be better funded and supported – please respond to the consultation.

WCC has a small pot of money available to help anyone struggling with utility bills

6. Report by Cemetery Agent.

Jennie read out her report to all present; there has been an interment of ashes and a number of enquiries from people wishing to reserve plots, one plot has been agreed and the paperwork being finalised, two or three others may be finalised in the next few weeks; the order of reservation posts has been received and thanks to the lengthsmen for their help installing them and other jobs they have done in the cemetery; There appears to be a delay in installing a new bench in the cemetery, awaiting a response from the family; comparative fees from local cemeteries and churchyards is still to be completed, hopefully by the next meeting.

7. An update on the Local Plan.

Councillor T Heenan reported that 13th March is the last date to respond. On 3rd March 7.15pm – 9pm and 7th March 10am – 12noon 2 public drop in sessions are to be held in the village hall to share the information prepared by the volunteer group and help to be given with responses. There are 3 ways to respond – use the online form, download the form and email the response or post a hand written form to RBC – note that part B of the form needs completing separately for each of the sites in the plan quoting the separate references. Brinklow is unique due to its heritage and listed properties, the scale of the proposed housing, the transport issues, healthcare availability and the greenbelt status. There will also be a list of common points to sign up against. Information and the ability to cross reference is available on the Parish Council website, public notices and help sessions for guidance will be used to help get people involved rather than shy away thinking it is too difficult to respond, all to be co-ordinated by the Parish Council and volunteer group. As well as using posters, Facebook notices and the PC website for awareness door knocking was also suggested by a resident.

8. To Approve the Accounts for Payment.

Date	Ch No /so	Details	Total Payments	Payment Particulars
12/02/26	EFT	Creative Wood Solutions	250.00	20 x grave markers
12/02/26	EFT	Luke Smith	116.00	Cemetery work
12/02/26	EFT	J Boonham	202.90	salary
12/02/26	EFT	D Lloyd	473.30	salary
12/02/26	EFT	Secure 21	36.00	data card - CCTV
12/02/26	EFT	J Reid	521.57	Expenses
12/02/26	EFT	Equals Money	220.79	card top up
12/02/26	EFT	Melbros	23.90	building materials

**APPROVED Proposed: Cllr K Keene, Seconded:
Cllr I Currington**

The Cashbook, Bank reconciliation and bank statements were checked, initialled and balance agreed.

9. Progress Reports for Information.

Brinklow Castle – Some people were spotted ferreting on the Tump, approx. 15 carcasses were removed, this issue was taken up with the police. It has now been resolved, with a written warning issued and the offender gave a sum of money to the Royal British Legion in lieu of a fine.

Playing Field - The field is currently very wet and muddy so the grass cutting has not been able to commence yet.

Any other business – Chairman J Reid requested a PC meeting invite to be sent to Belinda Garcia going forward - **CLERK TO ACTION**

10. Correspondence received for information.

Lengthsman Vince supplied the Parish Council with a quote for some training which is to be discussed separately so that any training needs, and insurance cover, can be looked into for any work done on behalf of the Parish Council by the Lengthsmen.

11. To confirm the date of the next meeting.

The next official public meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March 2026.

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm

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CHAIRMAN