

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

Present:

Councillor J Reid (Chairman)
Councillor T Heenan
Councillor S Brown
Councillor K Keene

Councillor I Currington
Councillor J Brickwood
J Boonham (Cemetery Agent)
D Lloyd (Clerk & RFO)
6 Members of the public

1. Apologies.

Apologies received and accepted from Councillor T Gillias (RBC) and Councillor A Warwick (WCC)

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 12th February 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.

Jeanette Lomas: the new History Group is going very well and there is a lot of interest; thank you to the Parish Council for working so hard on the response to the RBC Local Plan, a lot of work involved and she is very proud of the outcome. John Reid responded that the Parish Council handed the response into RBC personally and two separate responses were sent from the Parish Council electronically.

Chris Parsons asked about the fate of the village garages – Yew Tree Hill garages were auctioned and sold, George Birch Close garages, residents have been given notices to vacate and are to be auctioned for housing by a developer. The Parish Council hope to have some say in what happens, it was felt that RBC would have found it more affordable to have demolished them and build on the land themselves.

Jill Parsons asked for a litter pick date – nothing arranged yet, dependant on weather and safety procedures put in place.

5. District and County Councillor Reports for Information.

No County Councillors were present at the meeting.

6. Report by Cemetery Agent.

Jennie read out her report to all present; There have been two plot reservations, a couple of enquiries about interments of ashes and a family who are interested in installing a commemorative bench in the cemetery, some admin matters need resolving before this is finalised. Records and a grave were located following an enquiry from a family whose child was buried 50 years ago. The cemetery map is still being worked on, due to being complicated in some areas it is still a work in progress. A representative from the War Graves Commission spoke at the WI meeting recently and commented on how well the cemetery is looked after.

7. To discuss the Cemetery Fees.

Looking into the fees at several local churches and cemetery's (Rugby, Coventry, Lutterworth) it is complex to compare like for like and some include the grave diggers fees, ours are separate. The cost of the running and upkeep of the cemetery needs taking into account (salary, grass cutting, maintenance etc..) It has been noticed it is hard to find any info for our cemetery online,

suggested to add the info to the PC website to make it easier to find the fees and the cemetery agents details.

DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING – CLERK TO ACTION

8. Report from our PCSO Ian Barker.

A recent issue with ferreting was resolved and a warning given to the person involved; a couple of individuals loitering late at night reported – make people aware to look out for loiterers or slow suspicious vehicles etc.. and report any suspicious activity to the police, in the first instance via 101, if urgent dial 999 or email one of the team rrn.snt@warwickshire.police.uk; the village CCTV has had a massive impact and reduced the village being targeted; the tent in the woods is believed to have been abandoned and reported to the council for removal. Chair J Reid mentioned the litter pick – there is not much to collect in the immediate locality as it is kept on top of so well but towards Coombe tree branches and logs need moving to tidy the roadside and towards Shilton it is very littered, a pick can be publicised for early one Saturday morning but it is roadside/dangerous locations – can the police help with a safety warning system to provide protection for the volunteers. PCSO Ian Barker said that he could ask but depends on availability. Councillor I Currington said he appreciated Ben Gaut contacting him to say the police will attend the next festival.

9. Update on the Local Plan.

Councillor T Heenen reported that the PC response was prepared with a lot of help from the group of volunteers and was handed in personally to RBC. (Chair J Reid and Cllr T Heenan were applauded for the amount of work they have put into achieving this) RBC gave very little help and showed no empathy for the amount of work needed to prepare the response and no appreciation of how many hours had to be put in. It was very rewarding to see the number of people attending the sessions held to add names to the responses. RBC don't expect any outcome until the end of the year or into 2027 from this part of the process.

10. To discuss the need and cost of a storage container.

The storage container is rusted through and leaking, a temporary repair will be done when it is dry, but it needs replacing to protect the contents. Councillor J Brickwood was asked to refresh the three quotes previously obtained and to ask about disposal of the old container.

DEFERRED TO NEXT MEETING – CLERK TO ACTION

11. To discuss issues with the footpath to the Tump adjacent to the Raven.

The Parish Council previously obtained a £15k quote for the repairs deemed necessary and WCC agreed to accepting 50% of the cost. WCC emailed recently to say this footpath belongs to WCC, making them responsible for its upkeep, they have inspected it and find it acceptable and removed the 50% funding offer. The PC would like to see proof of this ownership, who is responsible, is it safe, has it been checked. This remains ongoing. The funds allocated to this project could be re-directed to a previously discussed project to have a gate installed to the field adjacent to the Scout hut. Scout leader Faith Archer is to be contacted and 50% funding from WCC would be applied for.

12. To discuss lighting for the soldier silhouettes.

4 bespoke spotlight holders sourced to illuminate the silhouettes £195.00

APPROVED Proposed: Chair J Reid, Seconded: Cllr T Heenan.

13. To discuss and agree a response to Planning Application –

- R26/0147 at Cottage Farm, Heath Lane – For removal of condition 4 of R25/1003 (proposed replacement of an equestrian stable building) – previous application was for a replacement stable to be built on the same footprint as the stable that burnt down. The condition attached is related to ownership – PC to respond that they have no issues with the removal of condition 4. **ACTION Clerk to send response to RBC**

14. To Approve the Accounts for Payment.

Date	Ch No /so	Details	Total Payments	Payment Particulars
12/03/26	EFT	Luke Smith	58.00	cemetery grounds work
12/03/26	EFT	Godfrey Payton	180.00	6 months rent for the Tump
12/03/26	EFT	J Boonham	202.70	salary
12/03/26	EFT	D Lloyd	473.10	salary
12/03/26	EFT	HMRC	585.71	PAYE
12/03/26	EFT	Secure 21	36.00	Data card - CCTV
12/03/26	EFT	Red Shoes	72.00	payroll services
12/03/26	EFT	WCC	256.22	Streetlight Maintenance
12/03/26	EFT	J Reid	93.37	expenses
12/03/26	EFT	Equals Money	440.97	pre pay card top up
12/03/26	EFT	Leicestershire Gardens	3767.42	VAT only payment for 2025/2026 contract
12/03/26	EFT	CPRE	60.00	renewal of annual membership

APPROVED Prop: CllrT Heenan, Sec: Cllr S Brown

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

15. Progress Reports for Information.

Brinklow Castle – Lengthsman Vince asked if we could purchase a more substantial rough cut mower to use on the embankments and Church fields rather than pay a contractor to do this work. A used £3K machine has been sourced for sale for £650.00, our old machine could be sold for approx. £300 to compensate. Agreed as a good idea.

APPROVED Prop: Chair J Reid, Sec: Cllr I Currington

Health and Safety training needs looking at for the Lengthsman, tailored training to be looked into for the machinery that is used.

Playing Field - No hedgecutting going ahead currently due to the bird nesting season.

Any other business –

A commemorative seat is to be installed on the land at the top of Green Lane.

The old, unused, speed camera has been sold for £104.00 (pre selling fees)

Dog waste issues again on Pocket Park, additional signs to be installed.

16. Correspondence received for information.

A renewal notice for our CPRE membership has been received £60 per year. Clerk to Action

APPROVED Prop: Cllr I Currington, Sec: Cllr K Keene

17. To confirm the date of the next meeting.

Due to Councillor commitments the next official public meeting will be held on Thursday 16th April 2026.

The meeting closed at 8:15 pm

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CHAIRMAN