



GREAT BEDWYN PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026 7.30PM  
IN GREAT BEDWYN VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr B White (Council Chairman), Cllr P Angus, Cllr C Thompson, Cllr D Sanday, Cllr K Nicholson, Cllr H Cooper.  
Clair Wilkinson (Parish Clerk).

**26/35. Welcome and public participation.** To note that any comments in this item are a summary only and not a verbatim report.

4 members of the public attended. Their comments were:

Bench by 3 Tuns pub. Could one be added. The resident offered to fund the addition of a bench. It was advised that the PC are waiting to hear from WCC as to whether a bench can be placed in this location. The Clerk will update WCC with the information that a bench can be funded. Will discuss at a further meeting when we have the response from WCC.

Dog walkers leaving dog mess around. Can more signs be placed to ask residents to pick up and place waste in bins.

Farm Lane sign and noticeboard. Residents would not want a new board here. Could perhaps have something smaller near Castle Cottage? Or could the end of Church St have another noticeboard?

How is the Social Connections project progressing? Are there any documents yet explaining what it will cover? After the next meeting Cllr White will make sure there is information that can be published.

Village Hall representative – can a letter of support be written from the PC for the hall for a grant request for £20,000.00 from SSEN for solar panels for the hall roof. The Clerk will write this ASAP and send it over.

**26/36. Apologies for absence and vote on whether to approve them.**

Cllr D Cooper is unwell. Cllr Withanichchi has a family matter to attend to. Cllr Sheerin is working away from home. Cllr Shills work schedule was too busy.

**A proposal was made to accept these apologies given with the reasons stated. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

Cllr P Sims has a 6 month's dispensation due to injury.

**26/37. Declarations of interest.** None

**26/38. Approval of Minutes from 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026**

**The minutes of the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 were proposed as accurate. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

Chairmans Signature.....

Full Council 14.05.26

## 26/39. Review of action points from last meeting (completed items in grey)

Owner	Minute ref	Action
Cllr H Cooper	878.24 – 24	Talk to Steve Smith and PCAP about provision needed to tie in with trains. Share any information found on community car shares.
Clerk	900.24 – 17	To look for other types of leave policy such as carers leave.
Clerk	937.25 – 27	Invite someone from North Wessex Downs to a council meeting once consultation and plan complete.
Cllr Sims	971.25 – 30	To see if the newer SID is downloading information ok
Clerk	975.25 – 33	Arrange for suggestion box at surgery to be brighter.
Clerk	981.25 – 01	Ask WCC about re-painting white lines Ask LHFIG/WCC about re-painting white lines or adding new white lines.
Clerk	1000.25 – 20	Are white lines enforceable? – check Check emergency access requirements for 999 vehicles
Clerk	1009.25 – 01	Ask Cllr H Cooper for update on public transport meeting plans.
Clerk	1054.25 – 16	The Clerk will arrange for the planters to be refreshed. Can close this item as a grant has been received to change the area to drought resistant planting in the ground.
Clerk	1055.25 – 17	To check the scope of the WCC funds to see if a bench can be added at the 3 Tuns stop. Look at GBPC adding one if not.
Clerk	1081.25 – 09	Arrange for the handyman to do the playground inspection course
Clerk	1085.25 – 13	Ask Wiltshire council about planting plans and crown lift for central chains area. Can cut back the tree at the right time on year and go ahead with planting scheme. Is there a way to get the road sweeper out more often. For the Feb agenda – pavement gritting. Pot holes and pavement conditions
Clerk	1090.25 – 18	Work with the handyman on improving the shed area.
Clerk	1091.25 – 19	Add Data Protection policy to the website <b>DONE</b>
Clerk	1109.25 – 12	To work on stages 1 to 6 on the follow up actions from the Housing Need survey. Also contact Little Bedwyn – <b>DONE</b> . No reply.
Clerk and Cllr D Cooper	1112.25 – 15	Cllr D Cooper to complete the letter to Wiltshire Council/Network Rail. Clerk to write to WCC and WC Wheeler ref potholes and other questions raised.
Clerk	1116.25 – 19	Work through action points ref shed and add item to the next agenda.
Clerk	1117.25 – 20	Load up approved policies to website <b>DONE</b>
Clerk	1120.25 – 23	Purchase additional Xmas lights
Clerk	26/06	Check clashing meeting dates and rectify offline with Cllrs to choose new dates if required
Clerk	26/09	Arrange for grant of £1440 to Performing society with RFO <b>DONE</b>
Clerk	26/11	Arrange for AI policy to be written and completed and then sign up for 2 paid seats with Claude AI

Owner	Minute ref	Action
Clerk	26/13	To check our service level with Tactical ref bin empties and if there are any penalties. To check with WCC on what bins they empty.
Clerk	26/14	Look at SSEN grants for well water provision.
Clerk	26/19	To bring back draft logos for the social connections project for approval when ready
Clerk	26/21	To get a quote from the handyman to build a new shed. To look at using CIL to fund. Add to future agenda.
Clerk	26/22	Add personal data audit to website policy page. DONE
Clerk Cllr Angus	26/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find out more about water testing. DONE</li> <li>• Work out a plan so the site is safe.</li> <li>• Need to work out how often in the year there is water on site.</li> <li>• The Clerk to update the Ramsbury estate as landowner.</li> <li>• The Clerk is to find water testing companies DONE</li> <li>• Cllr Angus will look at ways the water can be drawn</li> </ul> Add to the next agenda for a progress report.
Clerk	26/24	To check with handyman on whether greenhouse glass is safe and look at alternatives.
Clerk	26/26	Add to next agenda the Bedwyn event day for a progress report DONE
Clerk	26/27,28,29	Respond to WCC with the decision of the 3 planning apps DONE
Cllr White	26/30.	Update Bedwyn News with AI article update DONE
Cllr Nicholson	26/32	Respond to contractor with approval of items for repair at Play Area. DONE
Clerk	26/34	Add items to next agenda. DONE

To note. The handyman will need a second person to assist when the SID is moved. The hi-viz and cones should be used. The handyman has downloaded the current set of data and emailed it to the Clerk. The next location can be Browns Lane.

Clerk to follow up with WC Wheeler with regards to Cllr D Cooper meeting up with Steve Smith to discuss railway parking. A WCC/Network Rail contact is required.

Cllr Thompson has contacted Andy Cadwallader at WCC Highways with regards to when the white lines in Great Bedwyn will be re-painted. Also asked about the re-painting of the yellow lines near the Primary School.

## **26/40. FINANCE To approve the council's bank reconciliation for year ending 31.3.26.**

**A proposal was made to approve this reconciliation. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

**26/41. FINANCE To approve the council's last bank reconciliation carried out by a Cllr.**

A proposal was made to approve this reconciliation. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

**26/42. FINANCE. To vote on paying the ongoing annual subscription to WALC/NALC. £617.62 per annum.**

A proposal was made to approve the ongoing payment. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in approval.

**26/43. FINANCE. To approve £159.98 inc delivery and VAT for wood preservative for the play area.**

A proposal was made to approve this cost. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

The Clerk is to make sure the handyman jet washes the equipment before using the preservative.

**26/44.FINANCE. To vote on approving costs of £500 maximum for a new noticeboard at Farm Lane. To look at other areas where a noticeboard may be needed and approve any values to spend.**

A proposal was made to approve a new board for Farm Lane costing a max. of £500.00 The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

The Clerk is to liaise with Cllrs on what type of board is required and place the order.

The Clerk will check the legislation regarding funding a board for the church grounds, if the church would be happy to have one on site. To look at whether the board can be shared between the church and PC and so costs also shared. The Clerk to ask the handyman if he can make a suitable board. To add to the next agenda once costs and legislation is known.

To add to the next agenda to consider the far end of Church St as a new board location.

Also, a question from Cllr Thomson on whether a new road name sign can be placed on the side of a house on High St (with homeowners' permission) to direct visitors as the High St currently doesn't have a sign. The Clerk is to check with WCC and Cllr Thompson to send photos. Add to next relevant agenda.

**26/45. FINANCE. To note the updated charges from Unity Bank.**

Removal of monthly transaction fee and monthly account fee increased from £6 to £7 per month.

These changes were noted.

**26/46. FINANCE. To approve section one of the AGAR for 25/26**

A proposal was made to approve section one of the AGAR from 25/26. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

**26/47. FINANCE. To approve section two of the AGAR for 25/26**

A proposal was made to approve section two of the AGAR from 25/26. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

**26/48. FINANCE. Approval of Asset Register.**

The asset register was approved at the councils annual meeting on 14.5.26

**26/49. FINANCE. To approve an overspend of £11.00 on items needed for the Best Kept Village Competition.**

A proposal was made to approve this additional expenditure. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.

**26/50. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION. Update from Cllr Thompson.**

There will be a list of people to thank for their work. Special thanks to Drew the handyman.

The forms have been submitted along with reports and maps. There are 13 entrants for the large village category.

Judging will conclude by 15<sup>th</sup> May.

If we win this round, there is another round of judging.

Its understood that the judges visited on 14.5.26 and appeared happy.

Cllr Thompson will send the Clerk a list of people to thank.

Will look to get feedback from judges on what can be improved.

**26/51. Pride in the Parish (PiP)**

No updates. Hedge cutting due at allotments in Autumn and also ask residents to cut back their hedges.

**26/52. Social Connections Project. Update from Cllr White.**

Cllrs White and Sanday met with the vicar, a representative from the school and interested residents.

Need to encourage all demographics to be represented. Suggestions for people to represent demographics welcomed – young people, young families, the elderly.

There have been 2 meetings to date. Working on what activities can be created. There will be a story box placed in the BT box on the High St. Hilary Stock is assisting.

The Clerk noted that there are contacts for different demographics on the council’s website – such as parents of neurodivergent children.

Ideas include:

Audio recordings of local stories.

Xmas lunch for anyone alone on Xmas day. Waitrose provide food for other groups doing this.

More ideas welcome.

Next meeting either 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr White will share the date. Make sure updates are added to local news outlets.

**26/53. Bedwyn Day update.**

There may be a donation from the owner of the Tottenham House estate. The Clerk has written to Mr Rokos.

The volunteer group is being set up. Date set for July 25<sup>th</sup>. The date has been chosen as it co-insides with St Anns Feast which occurred for 300 years.

Cllr White has given the volunteers an update on their working parameters with regards to using the PC funds that were earmarked for this event. The group is meeting on 14.5.26 so an update is expected shortly.

**26/54. Travel and Highways. To receive any updates from Cllr D Cooper with regards to Network Rail.**

Cllr D Cooper is making contact with Network Rail to further discussions. He has spoken to Steve Smith already. There is some information needed from Ward Cllr Wheeler. The Clerk will organise this. The item will be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Thompson advised there is a community rail project on the Westbury to Newbury line. There is a project lead who works along the line station by station, looking at improvements that could be made. Great Western pay for this but further projects would be self-funded by the PC. If someone was nominated then they become part of a group and report to Andy Pope. A letter of support for the project is needed. The Clerk will arrange this.

A resident noted that the ticket machine at Great Bedwyn is hard to read.

**26/55. Work to council shed. Update.**

No update received. Add to next agenda.

**26/56. Play Area. Update**

The approved works are under way. Bark can be ordered when work complete. Cllr Nicholson will supply a date that is suitable for delivery and volunteers to spread the bark.

**26/57. To approve the following policies:**

- ICO Publication Scheme
- Personal Data Audit
- Freedom of Information requests

**A proposal was made to approve all 3 policies. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

**26/58. Allotments. To discuss any well updates and next steps.**

Cllr Angus is looking at pump options. Manual preferred over powered pump to reduce the risk of mis-use. Needs a pump system rather than a bucket system

**A proposal was made to approve an annual testing of the water quality by Storm Facilities Management costing £60.00. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

Council staff will make sure the allotment tenant is happy with the well being uncovered and arrange the handyman to do this. The opening needs to be made safe whilst waiting for Storm to visit to take the water sample.

**26/59. Allotment orchard update.**

Pruning will now be year on year maintenance works.

The handyman is going to strim and then mow the area.

The handyman is going to quote for replacing the greenhouse glass with Perspex.

**26/60. Allotments. To approve a tree pruning on plot 100A. To cut back an apple tree.**

**A proposal was made to approve the cutting down of the tree in Autumn. (Sept onwards) The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

The Clerk will contact the landowner to make sure there are no issues with this.

**26/61. COMMUNICATIONS. To discuss any actions for the following.**

Cllr Shill to liaise with the school with regards to holding council meetings there. This is still desired by the council.  
To add an item to the June annual parish meeting to ask how comms can be improved.  
The Clerk is to add a diary entry to get a date set for the 2026 Xmas event.

Cllr Angus is happy to do the next Cllr profile for the Bedwyn News.

**26/62. To review any comments in the suggestion box at the Drs surgery.**

No comments received.

Could the box be moved to the Post Office? A Cllr to ask them and add to the next agenda. The Clerk will ask the handyman if the fixings on the box mean it can go on one of our noticeboards.

**26/63. Review of requests for white and yellow lines in the Parish.**

A resident request for double yellow lines outside the school did not get a proposer to be voted on to proceed with the request.

**A proposal was made for white lines to be added at Church Street near the Post Office. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

The Clerk will log with LHFIG.

It was noted that LHFIG funds have been slashed and they are not looking at any new issues this year.

The next Pewsey Area Board meeting is 8<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Angus is happy to attend. Our lighting proposal referred by LHFIG will be discussed.

**26/64. To consider flower beds and planters at key locations.**

There was an error on the agenda. Farm Lane should have been Browns Lane.

Areas to be planted:

- Jockey Green
- Browns Lane
- Church Street

**A proposal was made to approve £300 for ground plants/bulbs for these areas. The proposal was seconded and all Cllrs were in favour.**

Cllr Angus will draw up a list of plants and arrange to plant with the handyman.

The Clerk will advise WCC so the areas are not mown over.

**26/65. Finance report**

There were no comments or issues with the finance report shown below.

## Great Bedwyn Parish Council Finance Report 12th May 2026

### Payments Since Last Meeting

Date	Payee	Description	Gross £	VAT £	Net £
26/03/2026	Tactical Facilities Management Ltd	March grass cutting and bin empties	519.97	86.66	433.31
26/03/2026	Staff	March salaries	593.10		593.10
26/03/2026	HMRC	March payroll Tax/NI	145.80		145.80
31/03/2026	Unity Trust Bank	Manual handling charge	1.80		1.80
31/03/2026	Unity Trust Bank	Monthly service & transaction charges	8.65		8.65
01/04/2026	Handyman	March handyman hours	380.00		380.00
01/04/2026	Handyman	March handyman expenses. Various bedding plants for planters	16.48		16.48
02/04/2026	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd	Year End payroll submission	37.80	6.30	31.50
14/04/2026	Great Bedwyn Parish Council	Internal transfer savings to current a/c	3,000.00		3,000.00
16/04/2026	Great Bedwyn Memorial Hall	Hall hire Jan-March 2026	57.00		57.00
16/04/2026	Cllr Christine Thompson	April Expenses. Best Kept Village leaflets printed and delivery	47.22	7.88	39.34
16/04/2026	Lloyds Bank	Unity card. Monthly fee, printer ink, 2 land registry fees for map & title doc for the Three Tuns AVC, LED warning flash light, warning triangle, Forrest Hill sign, BT box paint kit and 6x 2nd class large stamps.	274.39	37.82	236.57
21/04/2026	Wiltshire Association of Local Councils	WALC and NALC subs	617.92	102.99	514.93
21/04/2026	Last Landscaping	Grass cutting churchyard Q4 2025-26	1,026.00	171.00	855.00
21/04/2026	Staff	April salaries	584.24		584.24
21/04/2026	HMRC	April payroll Tax/NI	145.80		145.80
21/04/2026	Great Bedwyn Parish Council	Internal transfer current to savings a/c	13,000.00		13,000.00
21/04/2026	DCK Payroll Solutions Ltd	April payroll	37.80	6.30	31.50
21/04/2026	Information Commissioner's Office	Annual data protection fee renewal	47.00		47.00
24/04/2026	Cllr Christine Thompson	April Expenses part 2. Wharf visitor sign plus delivery	85.44	14.24	71.20
28/04/2026	Tactical Facilities Management Ltd	April grass cutting and bin empties	519.97	86.66	433.31
30/04/2026	Unity Trust Bank	Service and transaction charges	8.80		8.80
01/05/2026	Unity Trust Bank	Erroneous service charge, refunded on 11/05/26	8.95		8.95
		<b>Total</b>	<b>21,164.13</b>	<b>519.85</b>	<b>20,644.28</b>

### Bank Reconciliation at 12th May 2026

		£	£
Balance b/fwd at 24 Mar 2026		46,302.90	
Receipts		57,521.03	
Payments			21,164.13
Balance c/fwd 12 May 2026			82,659.80
		<b>103,823.93</b>	<b>103,823.93</b>
<b>Balance per bank statements</b>			
TSB Business A/c	51634	12/05/2026	206.00
TSB Saving A/c	7018306	12/05/2026	78.17
Unity Business A/c	20460060	12/05/2026	29,060.70
Unity Savings A/c	20482873	12/05/2026	53,460.73
			82,805.60
Less unapproved payments/unpresented cheques			
OLB 11		145.80	
			145.80
Balance at 12 May 2026			<b>82,659.80</b>

Chairmans Signature.....

Full Council 14.05.26

## 26/66. Items for the next agenda. None

The meeting closed at 20.48

**Date of next meeting: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026 Village Hall Legion Room at 7.30pm, The annual parish meeting is Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at the village hall starting 7.30pm**

### Action Points

Owner	Minute ref	Action
Cllr H Cooper	878.24 – 24	Talk to Steve Smith and PCAP about provision needed to tie in with trains. Share any information found on community car shares.
Clerk	900.24 – 17	To look for other types of leave policy such as carers leave.
Clerk	937.25 – 27	Invite someone from North Wessex Downs to a council meeting once consultation and plan complete.
Cllr Sims	971.25 – 30	To see if the newer SID is downloading information ok
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Clerk	981.25 – 01	Ask WCC about re-painting white lines Ask LHFIG/WCC about re-painting white lines or adding new white lines.
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Clerk	1009.25 – 01	Ask Cllr H Cooper for update on public transport meeting plans.
Clerk	1055.25 – 17	To check the scope of the WCC funds to see if a bench can be added at the 3 Tuns stop. Look at GBPC adding one if not.
Clerk	1081.25 – 09	Arrange for the handyman to do the playground inspection course
Clerk	1085.25 – 13	Is there a way to the get road sweeper out more often.
Clerk	1090.25 – 18	Work with the handyman on improving the shed area.
Clerk	1109.25 – 12	To work on stages 1 to 6 on the follow up actions from the Housing Need survey.
Clerk and Cllr D Cooper	1112.25 – 15	Cllr D Cooper to complete the letter to Wiltshire Council/Network Rail. Clerk to write to WCC and WC Wheeler ref potholes and other questions raised.
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Clerk	1120.25 – 23	Purchase additional Xmas lights
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Clerk	26/11	Arrange for AI policy to be written and completed and then sign up for 2 paid seats with Claude AI
Clerk	26/13	To check our service level with Tactical ref bin empties and if there are any penalties. To check with WCC on what bins they empty.
Clerk	26/14	Look at SSEN grants for well water provision.
Clerk	26/19	To bring back draft logos for the social connections project for approval when ready

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Clerk	26/21	To get a quote from the handyman to build a new shed. To look at using CIL to fund. Add to future agenda.
Clerk Cllr Angus	26/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work out a plan so the site is safe.</li> <li>• Need to work out how often in the year there is water on site.</li> <li>• The Clerk to update the Ramsbury estate as landowner.</li> <li>• Cllr Angus will look at ways the water can be drawn</li> </ul> Add to the next agenda for a progress report.
Clerk	26/24	To check with handyman on whether greenhouse glass is safe and look at alternatives.
Clerk	26/36 Public recess	Advise WCC that we have the option to fund a bench for outside the 3 Tuns. Add to a future agenda whether to purchase more signs with regards to dog mess. Write a letter of support for the Village Hall Trustees for their grant request to SSEN. Ask Handyman to move the SID to Browns Lane location. Needs one other person to assist with his vis and cones. Follow up with W.Cllr Wheeler on a contact from WCC/Network Rail for meeting with Steve Smith ref station/parking changes.
Clerk	26/43	Make sure the play equipment is jet washed before preservative added
Clerk	26/44	Arrange with Cllrs the required board for Farm Lane. £500 expenditure. Add to next agenda having a board at the end of Church St Check legislation with regards to funding a board in a churchyard. Ask Handyman if he can make us any boards. Talk to church about sharing cost of a board on site Talk to WCC about adding a new road sign to a house. Add this to next agenda.
Cllr Thompson	26/44	Send photos of preferred location for new road sign.
Cllr Thompson	26/50	Send the Clerk a list of people to thank for the BKV competition
Clerk	26/54	Write a letter of support to Network Rail for station improvements
Clerk	26/57	Add 3 policies to the website. ICO scheme, FOI requests and Personal Data audit.
Clerk	26/58	Arrange for water testing at allotment well. Ask Handyman and plot owners about opening the well up again.

<b>Owner</b>	<b>Minute ref</b>	<b>Action</b>
Clerk	26/60	Contact landowner about tree pruning on 100A. Ask RFO to update tenant
Clerk	26/61	Add diary entry to arrange Xmas 26 event date Add item to June annua parish meeting for comms update.
Cllr Shill	26/61	Keep contacting the school with regards to holding some PC meetings there
Clerk	26/62	Ask handyman if the suggestion box can be added to a noticeboard
ALL CLLRS	26/62	Someone to ask PO if the suggestion box can be placed in there
Clerk	26/63	Add LHFIG request for white lines to outside PO on Church St
Cllr Angus & Clerk	26/64	Create list of plants for £300 for 3 locations and work with handyman to plant them Clerk to advise WCC so areas are not mown over.

Chairmans Signature.....

Full Council 14.05.26