

Birtsmorton Parish Council

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Birtsmorton Parish Council held on **Monday 14 September 2026** following Castlemorton Parish Hall.

Present: Chair: PCllr: Michael Barnes

Councillors: PCllrs: Vance Withers, Julie Moore, Karen Hood and Mark Henderson

In attendance: Clerk

Public Comments: None

36/26. Apologies for Absence.

PCllrs Licqurish-Coleman

37/26 Declarations of Interest

1. *Register of Interests.*
2. *To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) and/or Other Disclosable Interests (ODI) in items on the agenda and their nature* None
3. *To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011)* None

38/26. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of last full meeting of 11 May 2026 were confirmed and signed as true record.

39/26. Matters Arising

29/26 Nutshell Annual agreement signed and rental paid.

30/26 Forest Of Dean Local Plan: Forest of Dean District Council has withdrawn the Revised Draft Consultation Version of the Forest of Dean District Local Plan 2025-2045. This included the proposals for the new Glynychbrook settlement. Councillors are mindful that the required housing may generate further ideas.

33/26 Notice Board: Thanks to Cllr Henderson for the immediate repairs. Agreed to seek quotes for further repairs or a replacement.

40/26 County & District Council Reports

None in attendance

41/26. Finance Report.

Current financial situation:

COMMUNITY ACCOUNT	£	£	
Balance May 26		1300.21	
Income pre meeting	2.00		Nutshell
	190.46		HMRC VAT
		192.46	
Expenditure pre meeting	61.92		HMRC PAYE
	17.00		Bank Charges
		78.92	
Expenditure at meeting	277.20		Clerk 1st Qtr
		277.20	
Balance at end of meeting Sept 26		1136.55	
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	8.32		Interest

		5026.87	Balance at meeting
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- Annual Return 2025/26 to external auditor: Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status,
- Budget to be prepared in consultation with a councillor.

42/26 Policy Update

A revised Planning Policy to be prepared for consideration at the next meeting.

43/26 Highways/Parish Drainage/Lengthsman

- **Watery Lane:** To date a site visit has been unsuccessful with WCC
- **The drainage wall at Coombe Green/Birts Street** to be investigated.
- **B4208 Speed reduction project** Ref Minutes 28/26, 11/26 A further meeting has taken place with local representatives, WCC highways and County Councillor Tom Wells. A Birtsmorton rep unfortunately unable to attend.

After due consideration it was **agreed** the following would be the first response to WCC on this project.

Birtsmorton Parish Council supports the proposed review and public consultation and welcomes the opportunity for local views to be considered.

The Parish Council is not opposed to speed reductions in principle but would wish any proposals to be considered on the basis of the evidence and the particular characteristics of the road and its different sections.

44/26 Planning

M/26/00994/HP	Elmleigh Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	First floor rear extension.	Application Approved
M/26/00985/NMA	Foxdale Coombe Green Malvern WR13 6AD	Non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission M/25/00804/HP to include changes to windows and an intention not to remove some internal walls	Application Approved
M/26/00772/CLE	Land at OS 7752 3695 Golden Valley Castlemorton	Certificate of lawfulness of Existing "Sui Generis" Use comprising a workshop including tools for personal use, general storage purposes for the associated agricultural land and including some charitable purposes elsewhere	Decision - Other
M/26/00070/FUL	The Merries Rye Street Birtsmorton Malvern WR13 6AS	Erection of agricultural building	Pending Decision
M/25/00046/FUL	Land At (Os 7911 3631) Birts Street Birtsmorton	Erection of a log cabin for holiday use	Approved

45/26. Website /Email Changes

The new Parish Online (Local Authority Technology CIC) website for Birtsmorton.

Website: <https://birtsmortonparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Email: clerk@birtsmortonparishcouncil.gov.uk – There is a notification on the old email to advise of this change of address

46/26 Correspondence

Particular mention of:

- CALC Updates & Health and Wellbeing.
- Fund request from Malvern Hills CAB to be deferred to next meeting.
- Planning - as at end of October 2026 there will be a delegation scheme in operation with planning applications determined by officers. Only if an application indicates significant material issues will it be presented to committee for consideration. Process yet to be determined by MHDC
- Local Government Review: Process paused. The Government has announced in a recent statement, the launch of a review into plans to streamline local government, to ensure it is robust and aligns with new government priorities, following updated and privileged legal advice. The government has also indicated that local elections scheduled for May 2027 will proceed on existing council boundaries while the review is undertaken.

47/26. Confirmation of date of next meeting

The next meeting date: **Monday 16 November 2026 at 7.00 pm** in Armitage Room

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed..... Date.....