

BICKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Regular meeting held on 13th October 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Bickington.

Present; Cllrs Briddock (Chair), Bruckner, Cox, Humphreys, Meek and Warren
Clerk - Carol Retallick, Dist./County Cllr Rogers, Cllr Nutley and Cllr Major

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

2025/10/01 To receive and approve apologies for absence

None received

2025/10/02. Declarations of Interest / dispensations

None declared

The Council will adjourn for the following business

2025/10/03. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - A period of 10 Minutes will be allowed for members of the Public to ask questions or make any comment regarding the work of the Council or items on the agenda

Nothing to report

2025/10/04 To receive County and District Councillor reports

Cllr Nutley reported that he had visited Chipley Mill school as there is currently an enforcement order for them to leave the site. He was impressed with the setting and site and has called the planning application into the development committee for decision. Cllr Meek noted that there had been objections from DCC Highways, and a few residents, However the closest neighbour has no objection. The site is in a flood zone 3 area. Bickington PC has already supported this application, but another letter of support may be helpful.

Cllr Major – reported on the trails and update for recycling new items ie, soft plastics and tetra packs these will be brought in from November more instructions will be issued to households.

Old Forde House is being sold – there are no council offices are in that building.

Police Report In the period 1st of September 2025 to 30th September 2025 there were 2 criminal offences recorded for this area.

1 – Harassment without violence

1- Fear or provocation of violence

Concerns have been raised of Lemonford which will be addressed through multi – agency working.

Police also responded to 27 non-crime incidents across this area. These involved missing persons, Firearms Management, Domestic, Safeguarding and traffic related incidents.

If you want to report a crime if it is urgent ring 999 Non urgent crimes or incidents can be reported online @ [https://www.devon-](https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/partners/partner-services/ocr/report-a-crime-or-incident)

[cornwall.police.uk/partners/partner-services/ocr/report-a-crime-or-incident](https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/partners/partner-services/ocr/report-a-crime-or-incident)

The Council will convene to conduct the following business

2025/10/05. To consider, amend as agreed by the Council (if required) & approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 8th September 2025
Signed as a true record

2025/10/06. Parish Council admin and clerks report

To note information from Highways and neighbouring parishes related to the A382 divisions through Bickington – The road signage is now in place and the county councillors have asked for a review of speed limits throughout the parish during the diversions. Other signage has been placed to discourage drivers from using the lanes as ‘rat runs’

To note the Draft Charter with DALC and TDC circulated to all councillors. Final draft is now out, and this will be present to TDC Executive in November

Grit bins – The need to check and refilled, if necessary, before winter.

Policies – Awareness that new policies are needed and adopted to meet the requirements of contract of Employment etc

The policies that are required are Grivance, disciplinary policy and rules, H&S policy, Data Protection and Employee Privacy Notice - **ACTION: Noted and add to next months agenda**

Cllr Stuart Rogers joined the meeting SO were suspended and he gave the following report – He enquired if there had been any complaints related to the A382 diversions The councillors noted a small increase of traffic; the bigger problem has been the traffic lights on the old A38 for utility repairs. Cllr Rogers informed the meeting that he has for a speed review and asked for speed awareness cameras. With regard to the locality budget grant, he is happy to approve for new laptop and website all working towards community engagement. Cllr Rogers extended an invitation to the Chairman and clerk to attend a meeting on 28th November 2pm at Buckfast Abbey to meet council leaders – he asked for Bickington to identify the top 3 issues which affect the parish.

The LGR will be submitted late November, there are 416 Town and Parish Council's in Devon and he is concerned how the new organisation is going to communicate with these councils. Cllr Meek asked if the expenses for social care will be published.

Finally he reported the audit has now been completed and the results will be issued in the Spring. SO resumed

2025/10/07. New Website including new domain name and email accounts –

Discussion and decision from information provided by the clerk.

Cllr Humphreys proposed to appoint Vision ICT and this was seconded by Cllr Bruckner with all in favour

ACTION: Clerk to appoint Vision ICT

2025/10/08. New Laptop – Decision based on information given via emails and discussion.

All Councillors in favour for clerk to purchase a new laptop from an outlet or company that is offering the best deal at the time.

ACTION : Clerk to purchase laptop.

2025/10/09. Bench – to discuss and decision to provide a bench in Bickington to commemorate Brian (Chisel) Causey

The meeting discussed the best location being by the village hall and agreed to purchase a recycled plastic bench to be delivered to the Chairmans house and Cllr Meek will add a memorial plaque.

ACTION: Purchase bench Cllr Meek fix plaque.

2025/10/10. Financial matters

- a) Appointment of PAYE Accountant – discussion and decision

The clerk has received a quote from a Newton Abbot accountant to run Pay roll for £45 per month.

TM will look into another accountancy company to set up the PAYE Roll

- b) Cheques for payment

Hawthorns Accounting Services – Payroll April – Sept	£ 75.00
Clerk's expenses September – October	£ 36.78
Mrs K Gilbert's Employers NI	£ 19.62
SO - Mrs K Gilbert Final Salary	£ 549.00
Bickington VH Rent	£ 247.00

Noted that the new clerk has not been paid this month but will receive back pay once new PAYE accountant has been appointed.

- c) To consider any information leading to expenditure against CIL monies

Councillors have agreed to buy a memorial bench - New notice board. They will discuss purchasing CCTV and a new bus stop for between the Old Post Office and Toby Jug development.

ACTION: Clerk will investigate grant funding towards a bus stop from DCC with help of Cllr Bruckner

2025/10/11. Planning matters - to consider applications

- a) To include applications received since publication of agenda see TDC /DNPA
None received

- b) General Enforcement matters

2025/10/12. To receive reports on

- a) Bickington Village Hall inc CIL - discussed how the money could be used to for the village hall.

- b) Highway matters - already covered

- c) DNPA matters inc Ramshorn - Cllr Bruckner reported the fly tipping is still there in amongst the weeds. She has not reported the latest tipping.

ACTION: CLERK TO EMAIL Cllr Steemson.

- d) Footpaths – Nothing to report

2025/10/13. Correspondence

Email regarding churchyard grass cutting grant

2025/10/14. Matters for future agenda - CIL, wildlife cameras, PAYE, Policies
Clerk asked to work with a Cllr Bruckner to prepare the budget for next year.

2025/10/15. To note date of next meeting. 10th November 2025

Part II - Exclusion of Press and Public

The Council is invited to RESOLVE that in accordance with Paragraph 1 (2) of The Public Bodies. (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the agenda item 16 owing to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

1. Staffing matters

Contract of employment signed

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 21.08

Signed Dated

THE PARISH COUNCIL MUST EMPHASIE THAT THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT
MINUTES AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE PRIOR TO APPROVAL