

# Bayton Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of Bayton Parish Council held in Clows Top Victory Hall at 7.30 pm on 13 January 2026

Present: Cllrs D Burns, R Adams, T George

In attendance – Clerk District Councillor D Godwin, 1 parishioner & PCSO L Durrant

1. **Apologies** – CC Bowen
2. **Co-option of a Cllr** – no Applications have been received.
3. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. Register of Interests – Cllrs are reminded to keep their registers updated if changes occur.
  - b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - none declared
  - c. Other Disclosable Interests – none declared
  - d. Cllrs own Computers/Tablets/Phones – Cllrs confirmed own devices are password protected, have antivirus software installed and automatic updates set for their systems as per agreed policies. - All Agreed
4. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the localism Act 2011)
  - a. Dispensations requested – none

### ***Meeting adjourned for***

### **Public Question Time**

notes at end of minutes for information

### ***Meeting resumed***

5. **County Councillor Report** – received report at end of the minutes
- District Councillor Report** – Report notes at end of the minutes
6. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on 11 Nov 2025 were agreed by all and signed by the Chair
7. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting** – payments as detailed in 8i. finances and Annual Tree Survey request
8. **Grants for consideration** – CTVH – discussed grant of £600 and all agreed, resolved.
9. **Finances:**
  - a. **Payments**
    - i. **Regular payments and payments since last meeting**
    - ii **To consider payments to be made**

Item ai & aii - All Agreed -resolved.

### Payments

Monthly Bank Charge Nov 25	4.25	Reg Payment
Clerk Salary nov 25	360.29	Reg Payment
Clerk Salary Dec 25	360.29	Reg Payment
LM C Bunn November	208.25	Reg Payment
Monthly Bank Charge Dec 25	4.25	Reg Payment
<b>Payments since last meeting</b>	<b>£ 937.33</b>	
LM C Bunn December	178.50	Reg Payment
Clerks Salary Jan 25	360.29	Reg Payment
Clerks Expenses Oct to Dec	108.09	Reg Payment
A Hope	144.00	Reg Payment
Grant CTVH	600.00	
Payments at meeting	£1,390.88	
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£ 2,328.21</b>	

- c. **Receipts** – received receipts are in total £ 391.00 from WCC LM Scheme
- d. **Bank Reconciliation** – Current Account as at 31 December 2025 reconciled Balance £ 25,65.77
- e. **Budget Review and Report** – reviewed and agreed by all

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10. **Planning**
  - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting - none**
  - b. **Decisions received since last meeting – none**
  - c. **Plans for Consideration – none**
  - d. **Enforcements as notified**
11. **Road Report** – No issues have been received
12. **Lengthsman**
  - a. **New LM contractor appointment agreed**
  - b. **Report - none**
13. **Tree Annual Check** – The annual general health and condition inspection for tree at Coronation Corner carried out by A Hope Tree Services as agreed was carried out and report received. No works indicated on report
14. **Reports on Meetings attended by Clerks/ Councillors - none**
15. **Items for discussion**
  - a. **Flower Boxes at Church Lyche Gate** - removal to be arranged
  - b. Defib BT Box at Bayton Common – costs at next meeting
  - c. Bayton Parish Council Newsletter – is there is Parish Newsletter or use Cleobury Clarion
16. **Correspondence for information as circulated** – CALC newsletter, Wellbeing Nesletter, Survey BT Digital Switch over, LGR Newsletter, AGM; MHDC Town & Parish Plan, SWDP, RSN weekly and monthly bulletin;WMP Fraud Bulletin, contract priorities.
17. **Correspondence for discussion**
  - a. **WMP contract renewal** – agreed by all, points 1. Speeding A456 Clows Top; 2. Speeding B4202
18. **Councillors’ reports and items for next agenda** any items noted above for next agenda
19. **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 10 March 2026 at Clows Top Victory Hall
20. **Meeting closed** at 8:20 pm

Signed

Date:

Chair

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### **Public Question Time**

PCSO L Durrant said that patrols are increasing across the area and the Quarterly contract for priorities assists in deploying resources.

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### **Report for Tenbury Division Parish Councils January 2026**

#### **Worcestershire County Council Matters**

Worcestershire County Council finances

As reported previously, Worcestershire County Council is more than £600 million in debt, with emergency funding (Exceptional Financial Support) being required from the government for this year of £33 million, alongside reserves of £15 million being used to balance the budget. Additionally, the government has now announced its funding formula for local authorities for the next 3 years. Unfortunately, this has resulted in Worcestershire County Council being allocated £7.1 million less per year by the government than anticipated, equating to £21 million over the next 3 years. This has increased the already acute financial pressures on the Council and ensures that 2026 will be even more challenging than previous years. It is therefore inevitable that Worcestershire County Council will again need to request Exceptional Financial Support from the government in order to balance the budget for 26/27. Additionally, with no further reserves available to draw on, the Council has applied to the government for permission to increase Council Tax by up to 10%. The government is likely to decide on whether to grant these requests in February, ahead of a full Council meeting on 26 th February. Although 10% is the maximum

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option that is being asked for, it is hoped that through various measures being taken by the Reform administration that any Council Tax increase will be below that. Any increase will only be at the level necessary to balance the budget and prevent a S.114 notice being issued. With the government also due to make a decision on Local Government Reorganisation, the coming months are perhaps the most important faced by Worcestershire for many years.

### Tenbury Division Matters

#### Flood Defence Funding

The next Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) meeting is due to take place on Wednesday 14 th January. I will again be deputising for the Cabinet Member for the Environment and attending as the Worcestershire County Council representative. With funding having been agreed, I'll be asking the RFCC to press for the Environment Agency to act with the urgency needed to progress the Tenbury Property Flood Resilience Scheme. I will also reiterate that the ambition should remain to build a large scale Flood Defence Scheme for Tenbury. Additionally, we need to continue building on the excellent Natural Flood Management work being undertaken in the area.

#### Blocked drains and gulleys

Before Christmas, good progress was made in our area on having blocked drains and gulleys cleared thanks to local residents making efforts to report any that were blocked. I've had confirmation both from Highways and residents themselves that in Tenbury and surrounding villages work has been carried out. However, it is important that we collectively keep the pressure on, so please continue to report any blocked drains directly here:

**<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/travel-and-highways/report-road-or-path-issue/report-drainage-and-flooding-highway>**

If there is no response, or the response is slow, then please let me know so that I can chase it up by emailing [jbowen4@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:jbowen4@worcestershire.gov.uk) This approach is working, so please keep going!

#### Traffic

I have been informed that the Highways Department has completed a review of its traffic management policy and has decided to make no changes at this time. I believe that this is the wrong decision and that the policy fails to take into account the needs of our rural community, particularly with the criteria for reducing speed limits failing to take into account the impact on quality of life. I will therefore continue to pursue this in 2026 as it remains one of the main issues in our villages.

Justin Bowen 2 January 2026

Worcestershire County Councillor for Tenbury Division

Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children and Families.

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### District Councillor Report

Planning applications are quiet for this area at the moment, any enforcement are defined by the planning authority

SWDP the consult deadline is the 7 February should be published around June 2026

DC for Lindridge Ward has a small fund available for work within Parishes, by application. These are for benefit of community.

Yellow Grit Bins if these become empty report to County Council.

<https://capublic.worcestershire.gov.uk/HighwaysFaultsPublic/GritBin.aspx?>

**District Councillor D Godwin**