

BRADFORD ON TONE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Joy Norris

Email: hello@bradfordontone-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of a meeting of Bradford On Tone Parish Council held on 14th January 2025, commencing at 7.30pm in the Chant Room, Bradford on Tone Village Hall, Bradford On Tone.

Present

Chair: Councillor G Robarts

Councillors: Jim Leaney, David Smith (from 7.45pm), Dean Smith and Dennis Venn

In Attendance:

Miss J Norris (Clerk)

3 Members of the public attended the meeting.

1/2025 Chair's Announcements

The Chair told the meeting that village stalwart Colin Dinsdale had passed away the previous day.

The dog bin has been installed at the southern end of Back Lane.

2/2025 Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Councillor David Smith.

3/2025 Declarations of Interest/Dispensations

No declarations of interest were made at this stage of the meeting.

4/2025 Minutes

Unfortunately the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 November 2024 were not available for consideration.

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the minutes until the next Council meeting.

5/2025 Public Participation

This agenda item allows members of the public present at the meeting to raise matters which are relevant to Bradford on Tone and / or the work of the Council.

Speaker 1

- (i) The speaker asked if there is a possibility of putting signs on A38 that the road into the village is not suitable for lorries i.e. restricted access?
- (ii) The speaker then suggested that the bridge prohibition needs to be extended so that lorries don't get so far down the road and then get stuck and are unable to turn around

Speaker 2

- (i) The speaker said that they were disappointed that a postponement notice for the Council meeting wasn't put on the noticeboard and also requested that in the future copies of the draft minutes be put on the noticeboard along with a list of any planning applications that had been received.

Chair's initials

- (ii) The footpaths along the main road are in a poor state of repair and very overgrown.

6/2025 Reports from Somerset Council Councillors

Councillor Mansell had sent his apologies so there was no report from Somerset Councillors.

7/2025 Financial Matters

- (i) Bank Reconciliations – a bank statement had not been received sufficiently prior to the meeting to enable bank reconciliations to be completed.
- (ii) Consideration was given to approving items for payment (that the Clerk has checked for accuracy).

RESOLVED To approve the payments detailed in the table below

Payee	Items	Invoice Date	Invoice No	Net	VAT	Total
SALC	Councillor training 29.11.24	09.12.2025	1470	£25.00	0	£25.00
SALC	Councillor training 7.12.24	07.12.24	1414	£25.00	0	£25.00
Slashdotdash	Website updates	02.12.24	INV-0428	£50.70	0	£50.70
slashdotdash	Domain for 2 years	20.12.24	INV-0438	£130.00	0	£130.00
Somerset Council	Install dog bin	10.01.25	30096771	£100	20.00	£120.00
Earth Anchors	Dogbin	10.12.24	EA40651	£229.95	45.99	£275.94
Bradford on Tone Village Hall	Hall hire 12.11.24	10.12.24	34/2425	£19.00	0	£19.00
St Giles Parochial Church Council	Poppy Wreath			£20.00	0	£25.00

- (iii) 2024/2025 Budget Monitoring
The Clerk advised the meeting that approx £7,330 had been spent to 31 December which was 75% of the year.

8/2025 Reserves Policy

To review the Reserves Policy and agree any changes

RESOLVED

- (i) To convene an additional Council meeting on 28 January 2025
- (ii) to defer consideration of the reserves policy to the next meeting.

Chair's initials

9/2025 25/26 Budget

To consider and agree the Parish Council's budget and financial plans for 2025/26 and successive years.

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the 2025/2026 budget to the next meeting.

10/2025 25/26 Precept

To set the Parish Council's precept for 2025/26

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the 2025/2026 precept to the next meeting.

11/2025 Planning Applications

Consideration was given to the Parish Council's response to recent planning applications within the parish or impacting upon it

Discussion on this agenda item included:

- Application 7/24/0012 Stone House, Hele Rd. This is a listed building - nothing we can add to comments that have already been made
- Coach House – as with Stone House this is a listed building
- Ford Farm – this application has been refused by the planning authority
- Willow Cottage, Oak Rd Single extension – application registered 19.12.24; this building is located on a flood ; the Parish Council will not be submitting a response unless there are any neighbour comments
- Illuminated sign at Sheppys – the location of the sign was considered. The parish Council has no comment on the application

12/2025 Responses to Road Safety Survey

Consideration was given to the responses to the recent road safety survey.

Discussion included

- 109 individuals replied to the survey from at least 66 households. 90 forms were returned.
- There was 100% support for the Parish Council to research ways of reducing speed through the village
- 105 responses supported the introduction of a 20mph speed limit.
- Enforcement of any speed limit will be vital to its success in reduce speeding through the village

RESOLVED that the Parish Clerk should contact the highways authority (Somerset Council) setting out the concerns regarding road safety including the number of vehicle movements, the size of vehicles, the speed of vehicles and the lack of pavements in some places; the purpose of the contact being to start a dialogue regarding the options for improving road safety in the village in order to develop an action plan.

13/2025 Review of Standing Orders

The Parish Council's Standing Orders were reviewed.

RESOLVED that no changes are made to the Parish Council's Standing Orders.

Chair's initials

14/2025 Asset Register

The asset register was reviewed and it was noted that the new dog bin located at the southern end of Back Lane had been added.

RESOLVED that the existing dog bin located at the north end of Back Lane should be added to the asset list with the same value as the new bin - £250

15/2025 Review of Internal Controls

The internal controls that the Parish Council has put in place were reviewed.

RESOLVED to approve the internal controls that have been implemented as stated in the report presented to the meeting.

16/2025 Risk Register

To review the Risk Register

RESOLVED to defer consideration of the risk register to the next meeting.

17/2025 Schedule of Meetings

To consider the provisional meeting schedule for the 25/26 civic year.

The Parish Clerk was asked to move the meeting in January 2026 and March 2026 to a week later than the equivalent meeting date in 2025.

RESOLVED to defer approval of the meeting schedule to the next meeting

18/2025 Police Reports

The reports for November and December 2024 had been circulated previously.

The meeting closed at 21:20hrs

Chair's Signature & Date