

Full Committee MINUTES 17 March 2025

MINUTES (Subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of the meeting of the Full Committee of the Parish Council held on 17 March 2025 at 7.30pm in Twynning Village Hall, Fleet Road.

Members Present: Cllr Cox, Clayson, Davies (Chair), Draper, Ellis, Hadley, Holden, O'Dell, Westwood

Attendees: Clerk, Borough Councillor Mike Sztymiak, 16 members of the public

25.03.17.01 **To receive and approve apologies** for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate.
Cllr Workman, GCC Cllr Cody

25.03.17.02 **To receive declarations of interest.** None

25.03.17.03 **To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 February 2025.**
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 February 2025 which had previously been circulated to all members were **AGREED BY COUNCIL** and signed by the Chairman.

25.03.17.04 **To receive the Clerk's Report**
Clerk's Report was received and noted.

25.03.17.05 **To receive the County Councillor's and District Councillors Report**

District Borough Report. Cllrs Sztymiak and Workman:

At the full Council meeting held on the 25th February Councillors set a balanced budget for 25/26 at £13,450.226. This means an increase in Council Tax for band D property £5.00 per year, from £144.36 to £149.35.

At the same meeting and as a result of the Government requiring all planning authorities to publish an updated LDS by 6th March 2025 the Borough agreed an updated Local Development Plan be adopted to take effect immediately.

The move to a Unitary Authority is, of course, what the government wants and the affected existing Councils have until the autumn to make suggestions as to the form that may take, some wanting the whole of Gloucestershire some an east/west split etc. The likelihood is that the new Unitary Authority will have elections in May 2027.

We are trying to get the number of cuts to Gloucestershire County Council land that was previously cut about 9 times a year by the Borough Council on their behalf to continue being cut on that basis. The County Council had only been paying for two cuts a year and the Borough were subsidising the rest of the cuts (as they have been for many years). The Borough wanted the County to increase their contribution but it seems rather than do that then they terminated the contract with the Borough Council and would get their own contractors to cut the grass albeit for only two cuts a year. We believe this affects just a couple of small areas in Twynning but many large areas across the whole area particularly in Tewkesbury Parish. Overall the County won't save any money but the Borough Council will save about £35,000. We feel that this is cut back in public service and will have an impact on many areas and are trying to avoid this.

The Spring Gardens EV charging points have been delayed while waiting for the connection to the national grid. This should now happen first week in April and then they will be available for use.

The Borough is now web casting all main committee meetings and the link can be found on the Borough web page.

The Borough has been successful in a prosecution regarding dog breeding without a licence.

LED lights have now been fitted at the Council offices which will help towards it's carbon-neutral goals.

Cllrs Mike Sztymiak & Philip Workman

Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Report - Cate Cody – March 2025

Last month, GCC approved its £665 million budget for 2025/26. The budget includes significant investment into the council's priority areas of Highways, SEND, Adult Services, Infrastructure and the Environment. Further information here: <https://tinyurl.com/yp929un8>

Additionally, there were nine successful budget amendments:

£100,000 to support the expansion of the successful waterscapes natural flood management project, through a grant to Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (Green)

£60,000 as funding to the eight Community Libraries (£7,500 per library) towards repair, maintenance and energy efficiency upgrades in their buildings e.g. LED lighting (Green)

£50,000 to increase the council's budgeted contribution to the Greener Gloucestershire Climate Action Fund, which has just opened to applications from community climate projects that promote behaviour change (Green)

£50,000 to set up one or two extra Libraries of Things within Gloucestershire, following the successful example of Charlton Kings Library (Green)

£50,000 to extend the term of the popular free bus pass initiative for veterans (Green) £60,000 to engage a part-time coordinator to manage the master composter volunteers and promote community composting initiatives (Green)

£50,000 to support a feasibility study considering the implementation of community car clubs in the county, following the successful rollout across Oxfordshire (Green)

£500,000 towards a flood alleviation fund (Conservative)

£430,000 towards targeted youth services (Conservative)

The council is currently made up of 26 Conservatives, 16 Lib Dems, 4 Greens, 4 Labour and 2 Independent Councillors.

A **new early years centre** dedicated to supporting under five's with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) has opened in Cheltenham. The new centre will be managed by Dingley's Promise, a national charity that provides nursery provision, holiday playschemes and family support for young children with SEND. Families who would like more information about Dingley's Promise early years SEND provision in Gloucestershire and the referral and admissions process should email:

admin.cheltenham@dingley.org.uk

6,800 children will be offered **secondary school places** for September, with 81% receiving a place at their first preference school. The admission criteria and more information about waiting lists for every school is also available at: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Following a successful **solar installation** pilot scheme which included Ashchurch, six more primary schools across the county are set to benefit from the installation of solar panels. It is anticipated that 85 out of 100 maintained schools will be suitable for solar panels.

On March 5th, the GCC Cabinet will be asked to approve **plans to build three new care homes** to help address capacity issues in Gloucestershire. Locations are in Cinderford and Stonehouse and the third could be located in Tewkesbury. The new care homes will allow more residents to receive care closer to where they have lived previously, or to their support networks.

A spray injection patching machine will be in action from the end of April 2025 to help with **pot holes and road repairs**. A Roadmender will also be deployed, which covers patches of damaged road with a watertight surface made using recycled tyres. Please report any issues using Fix My Street. <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>

Tewkesbury Repair Café Tewkesbury Baptist Church, next session Sat 19th April, 2-5 pm.

John Moore Museum – Free guided walk in Ripple. The Battle of Ripple on Thurs 17th April. Join us for a guided tour of the battlefield site which has changed little since the 17th century. We will also be visiting St. Mary’s Church in Ripple. The walk is approximately 90 minutes – mostly on the flat. Additional time afterwards if you wish to see the Church too. Starting Location: St Mary’s Church, Ripple. Booking essential: Limited numbers - please call 01684 297174 or email education@johnmooremuseum.org

Daytime Dance Our next session is **Tues 22nd April**, 1-4pm, (The Watson Hall, Barton Street). Book the Robin to get there and back.

Free, low waste, cookery classes The GCC adult education team are running a low waste cookery course looking at how we can reduce food waste and save money at the same time. It has been designed to provide inspiration on how to re-purpose the most frequently wasted ingredients to produce tasty food. You will learn: How to make delicious recipes using every day ingredients which often get wasted and how to minimise wasted food. Pick up tips on how to be more sustainable at home. Classes will be held every Wednesday from 7th May - 11th June 2025, from 10.30am – 1pm at Wheatpieces community centre, Columbine Road, Walton Cardiff, Tewkesbury, GL20 7SP Contact Karen.stiles@gloucestershire.gov.uk to book a place or ask any questions, or call 01452 583452 / 07748 93384910.

Councillor Funding. I'm really pleased to let you know that some of my last Build Back Better councillor funding will be going towards equipment for the Scouts.

25.03.17.06 **To receive notice of temporary road closures – None received**

25.03.17.07 **To receive Tree Warden report –**

Report: All trees were inspected and are in good condition. There were some falling branches from the two Plane trees during recent high winds, but nothing of any real significance.

Kyle Adams is prioritising the Oriental Plane for work which I expect this coming week.

- 25.03.17.08 **To discuss The Amenities Working Group** – (Cllrs. Ellis, Hadley, Holden, Westwood) Meeting to be held.
- 25.03.17.09 **To discuss Biodiversity Action Plan Working Group** – (Cllrs. Cox, Holden, O’Dell, Draper) Meeting to be held.
- 25.03.17.10 **To receive Village Hall Rep comment** – No comment.
Cllr Clayson will be stepping down from the Village Hall Rep position.
- 25.03.17.11 **To receive Councillor Advocacy Scheme comment** – No comment (Cllr. Cody apologies)
- 25.03.17.12 **To receive Council auditor comment** – Financial Regs June 24 have been reviewed and agreed by Council
- 25.03.17.13 **To discuss 20 is plenty** – Council has request update from Cllr. Cody
- 25.03.17.14 **To discuss TRAC** – Cllr Davies has applied for Solar panel grant, approval date being 28th March 25.
- 25.03.17.15 **To discuss CIL payments** – Council agreed to allow the APM on the 14th April to be a CIL suggestions meeting.
- 25.03.17.16 **To discuss Cattle Grid Sign** – Cllr O’Dell requested Borough Councillor Mike Sztymiak be briefed in order to followup.
- 25.03.17.17 **To consider Grant application Twyning Parochial Church Council** – Council Agreed to a grant of £1,500 for Maintenance of the Churchyard
- 25.03.17.18 **To discuss APM on 14 April** – Tea & biscuits to be provided, D Lockett kindly offer to help with this.
- 25.03.17.19 **Finance**
To approve – Clerk additional hours, total 12 Jan-Feb 25 – **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
To confirm GAPTC undertaking Internal Audit 24-25 – **NOTED BY COUNCIL**
To confirm – VAT refund claim raised 04/03/25 (11 months) Totalling £5643.39 - **NOTED BY COUNCIL**
To receive – Budget/Spend account to Feb 25 – Cllr Davies raised budget overspends. Council agreed that there were over and underspends and overall the budget is expected to balance
- 25.03.17.20 **Audit compliance 2024-25**
To review Financial Regulations due to New Clerk appointment (To March 25)– **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
To review Standing orders 18/01/2021(To March 25) – **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
To review Code of Conduct 18 April 2023(To March 25) – **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
To review Asset Register (To March 25)– **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
To review Risk assessment – **Deferred to next meeting 28th April**

To review Gallagher Insurance renewal - 1 June 2025
Pre-renewal questionnaire – **COUNCIL REQUESTED 3 RENEWAL QUOTES**

To approve – DD & Standing Order payments:- **AGREED BY COUNCIL**
HMRC Tax/NI, Staff Expenses £46,
Microsoft software subscription £12.36 (monthly debit card)

25.03.17.21 **To approve the March payment** list/those paid between meetings and to note receipts.

Payments made since last meeting 17.02.25 – AGREED BY COUNCIL

Staff Expenses	£46.00
Administration	£1220.87

Payments listed for authorisation on 17.03.25 – AGREED BY COUNCIL

GAPTC	Annual subscription	£555.01
Robert Chescoe	Barrier installation	£1100.00
Typecraft	Inv 116778 Feb Bulletin print	£518.00
Sarah Don-Bramah	Inv 033 Editor – Bulletin Feb	£144.00
Twynning Vill Hall	Inv2227 Meeting 17/02	£24.00
Travel Expenses	Staff	£63.00
J Brookes	Inv 2388 Ditch clear-Football Grd	£1430.00

Receipts

3C Legal	Advertising Bulletin	£25
Firewood Store	Advertising Bulletin	£70
Halford Butchers	Advertising Bulletin	£60

25.03.17.22 **Account Balances:- Noted by COUNCIL**

CIL Account	2434.60
Current Account	9139.05
Revenue Reserves	9631.04
Nationwide Account	31633.31

25.03.17.23 **Public Session:** To provide members of the public/press with the opportunity to comment on items on the Agenda or raise items for future consideration.

Question raised regarding the recent installation of barriers on the Village Green. The look of them and whether the Council would remove and replace with wooden posts. Council would not be removing as the area was not and could not be parking as it had become.

Anti-social behaviour at the Quay was raised with incidences where the police were called last summer. Council discussed suggested contact with PCSO and to report all incidence to police.

VE day commemorations 1st – 4th May, Council was asked if there were any plans to mark VE day. Council have no plan to commemorate as a council but will consider small grant applications to help with Villagers who will be doing so.

25.03.17.24 **To discuss contact from Members of public –**

Email 30/03 D O'Hanlon

Today (03/03/25) is allocation day for secondary school places and it looks as if all Twynning children who selected Hanley Castle have got in.

I saw the survey recently shared and wondered if there was any update on a potential transport option?

Please could this be raised at the next Parish Council meeting?

Email 03/03 K Henstock

Is it possible or for the council to look at a solution for the ongoing issue with children attending Hanley Castle High School.

From September 2025 I will have 2 children attending the school. Both myself and my husband work so transport to and from school continues to be an issue.

I can't help but feel that from a traffic and environmental standpoint a centralised transport option has to be the way forward.

I would be happy to pay for this service.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this ongoing problem.

Cllr Holden highlighted years of issues regarding School transport to Hanley Castle due to the Gloucestershire / Worcestershire border. With both County Councils unwilling to provide transport.

The Council agreed to take email addresses via the Clerk in order for a meeting to be arranged for ongoing discussions.

25.03.17.25 To consider matters for the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting
(no decisions may take place at this item)

25.03.17.26 To discuss Confidential Matters – Showborough Common Land – **Not discussed**
Email received MOP 28/02/25

25.03.17.27 **To resolve the Date of Next Council Meeting (APM) as
Monday 14 April 2025**

25.03.17.28 Meeting closed at 9.39pm