

Full Committee MINUTES 28 April 2025

MINUTES (Subject to agreement at the next Committee meeting) of the meeting of the Full Committee of the Parish Council held on 28 April 2025 at 7.30pm in Ann Townend Hall, Churchend

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

Attendees: Clerk, Borough Councillor Mike Sztymiak, Philip Workman, GCC Cllr Cody 12 members of the public

MINUTES

- 25.04.28.01 To receive and approve apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate
Cllr Draper
- 25.04.28.02 To receive declarations of interest. **Item 25.04.28.19 Cllr Davies & O'Dell**
- 25.04.28.03 **To confirm and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 March 2025.**
The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 March 2025 which had previously been circulated to all members were **AGREED BY COUNCIL** and signed by the Chairman.
- 25.04.28.04 To receive the Clerk's Report – **No report**
- 25.04.28.05 **To receive the County Councillor's and District Councillors Report**

Borough Report for Twynning Parish Council 28th April 2025.

The solar canopy which was installed over the Borough car park in summer 2022 has produced over 500,000 kilo watt hours. 60% is used to power the leisure centre and 40% the public services centre.

Fifty householders are benefiting for the council awarded share of the Governments levelling up fund. This was achieved via a partnership with Severn Wye Energy Agency. Information is still available from this company on energy saving and efficiency.

NHS Gloucestershire are parking a bus in Spring Gardens Car Park to highlight dementia awareness on the 21st May.

The Borough has introduced a licence from 6th April for keeping primates. From this date it will be illegal to keep a primate without a licence with a maximum 51 week prison sentence and unlimited fine or both.

The Borough Mayor Making will take place on the 13th May 2025 at Bishops Cleeve Tithe Barn and the new Borough Mayor will be Cllr Pervaiz from Bishops Cleeve and the new deputy Cllr Porter from Shurdington.

Cllrs Mike Sztymiak and Philip Workman

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

Dear residents of Twyning Parish, this is my forty-first and last report as your County Councillor for the 2021 – 2025 term.

Firstly, thank you to everyone who trusted me and took the step to elect your first Green County Councillor. It has been a real honour; I have and will continue to appreciate our area, to keep learning and to help out wherever I can. Some of the role has been a real joy, such as visits to schools, groups and of course your **annual village fete**; I loved judging scarecrows and vegetables at the fete and working on the tombola (gosh that was non stop for hours!) - Well done to all who make it happen, especially Lorna Herold.

Other things have been rather more frustrating, especially with the length of time some things can take and too often having to chase people for decisions and updates; a good example of this is the **Community Speed Watch** scheme, but we are very nearly there and the village will have some VAS signs soon!

This report is mostly a reflection of my four years, apologies if there is anything or anyone that I have missed out.

The Jewel in Crown has to be **Nut Orchard** – saving the trees and the peaceful area from development. A habitat which means so much to residents and wildlife. Stories of its importance during lockdown were vivid and so many in the community got involved.

After being alerted by residents who live close by, I urgently contacted the Borough tree officer who made the magnificent effort of getting a quick and timely site wide TPO (tree preservation order). We were not at this stage aware if it was even possible to get the whole site protected, but thankfully, it became a first! Next I called the site in; requesting a planning committee site visit – I thought it was really important for the committee and officers to see the importance of the site, and residents of all ages arrived en- masse and fully equipped with banners and signs. The Beavers, other organisations and individuals had decorated the site with posters, ribbons and testaments and I was pleased to tie a ribbon amongst hundreds of others. The planning committee refused the application, but the developers went to appeal, but luckily the village kept up its passion. We took photos and videos and I gave a BBC radio interview which was recorded as a video. Later on I spent three days at the appeal (along with Dave Luckett) where we listened to the lawyers arguing and I was able to give evidence and a speech to the judge. What a relief it was when the positive judgement came to uphold the original planning decision and save the woods, especially given the Borough's lack of a five year land supply.

The Robin bus. Before election, I promised to do all I could to get some decent public transport for Twyning, Stratford Bridge, Shuthonger and the Mythe none of which were served by buses any more. At first this came in the form of liaising with Martin Allen, the County Councillor in Upton and putting in some Build Back Better Councillor funding to get the Worcestershire on-demand minibus to pick up Gloucestershire residents on its way to and from Tewkesbury. In the meantime, I begged for the next Robin to come to Twyning, had meetings, set out the case etc and was so pleased when this happened. It is very annoying that the Labour Government put the £2 fare cap up to £3! I know the Robin has been a lifeline for many elderly and younger residents. The service is free for those with valid bus passes. Other areas are crying out for the service, so I urge residents to use the Robin to make sure it stays. It runs from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Saturday. You can book between a week and one hour before your journey. You can do this via the phone, an app or by using the website. There is provision for a wheelchair on the bus too.

Severn Trent Water Behind the scenes, I took an opportune moment in a meeting to push for some long overdue action regarding the stalwart work that Dave Luckett had been doing to get the disgusting sewage issue resolved. I would also like to thank Dave in his role as a Tree Warden - I

was delighted to secure a lovely oak to plant as a **commemorative tree** following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. I hope it will continue to thrive and be magnificent on the village Green for several hundreds of years with Dave (and others!) looking after it.

Less of a success was **Bow Farm**, although we did get the original application refused. Again, a huge amount of work went into this, especially by Bob Else. Along with others, I spoke at the first County Planning committee and the application was refused on economic and environmental grounds, however, this decision was later sadly overturned, despite another long hearing with various speeches, evidence and objections.

On a more positive note, as part of my **Build Back Better Councillor funding**, I was able to support several projects in Twyning, including the **Book Share Box** which was requested by Katerina Draper. After some to-ing and fro-ing over location, a grande team effort went into the project – made by Tewkesbury’s PPNP Shed’s project team and installed by the Twyning Shed’s group who will also maintain it. Gratitude goes to Katerina for her persistence! Please drop off a book you have finished with and collect another – both children’s and adult’s books are accepted. Other projects I funded include covering some maintenance and repair for **TRAC** and funds towards securing and protecting an important SSSI water meadow, to be managed by **Kemerton Conservation Trust**. Right on the edge of the parish, this is important habitat for amongst other species, the endangered Curlew who nest here.

For younger residents, I have also funded some **children’s bikes** which the **primary schools** in my division, (including Twyning) will be able to share. These are vital for any children who do not own a bike, in order for them to complete their cycling bikeability training. Some schools may also choose to create bike lending schemes during the holidays, (similar to using libraries for books!). Additionally, I am very pleased to have been able to fund kayak and canoe equipment for the **Scouts**.

Accessible footpath gates I have put in a significant portion of my Highways local funding into making the gates along the river between Twyning and Tewkesbury more accessible, (the gates do need consent from the land owners). Bob Beetham is working with the GCC officer to continue this project.

Each parish needs to have a **Biodiversity Action Plan** and it was great to meet with some of the parish councillors to help get this started. I am very much hoping that in time, residents will get involved too. I am very happy to support the PC in this in my role as the lead member for Climate and Ecology at the Borough. Biodiversity week is 22nd to 31st May, so look out for information and local events.

Greenpeace are signing people up to take a short, pollinator protector email course here <https://shorturl.at/mQ0Zq> The Woodland Trust have some information on what we can all do in our own gardens to help too. <https://shorturl.at/LSjJK>

Don’t forget that GCC offer **free trees, hedges and bulbs** to residents and businesses and I am very happy to have put several people in touch with this scheme.

Tewkesbury Goes Wild Look out for daily events throughout July – all the nature based events are held within the parish of Tewkesbury and are free (places booked via Eventbrite). Come and enjoy what we have in our area, learn from experts and have fun outdoors! Perhaps Twyning could run their own “Twyning Goes Wild” next year, even if it’s just a handful of events – find the experts in your area and ask them to talk about nature – a tree walk, a bug hunt, or a guided tour along the river – there are lots of things that you could do and of course if requested, I’ll be happy to share what we have done in Tewkesbury (now in our third year).

25.04.28.06 To receive notice of Temporary Road Closures – **No report**

25.04.28.07 To receive Tree Warden report –

TREE WARDEN REPORT APRIL 2025

All trees were inspected and are in good condition.

I was remiss in not asking the PC to apply for planning permission to work on the TPO'd trees on the green. This situation was rectified in conjunction with the Clerk, when we submitted the application. As a result, I prevented the tree surgeon from working on the Oriental Plane and instead he commenced work on the TRAC site. This has yet to be completed.

We have subsequently been allocated Planning Number 25/00294/TPO which I expect to be approved quickly.

D J Lockett
Tree Warden

25.04.28.08 To discuss The Amenities Working Group – (Cllrs. Ellis, Hadley, Holden, Westwood)
No report

25.04.28.09 To discuss Biodiversity Action Plan Working Group – (Cllrs. Cox, Holden, O'Dell, Draper) **No report**

25.04.28.10 To receive Village Hall Rep comment – (Cllr. Clayson) **No report**

25.04.28.11 To receive Councillor Advocacy Scheme comment – **Cllr. Cox reported meeting in May arranged**

25.04.28.12 To receive Council auditor comment – **Cllr Clayson, payments reviewed**

25.04.28.13 To discuss 20 is plenty – **Stuart Bullen GCC site plan received 27/04 for 3 poles, install date TBC. Cllr Cox & Draper to investigate Facebook pole**

25.04.28.14 To discuss Page's Lane – **Cllr Davies raised discussion, no decision to make GCC**

25.04.28.15 To discuss CIL – Meeting held 14 April for discussions - **To be raised within Amenities Working Group**

25.04.28.16 Cattle grid sign – Cotswold Grange - **Borough Cllr Sztymiak chased on Parish behalf last week. No reply to date**

25.04.28.17 To discuss Website – ParishOnline quote £385. Less £100 grant if gov.uk domain for 1st year. Mapping available at £96 – **All agreed to proceed with ParishOnline, Cllr's Woodward & O'Dell to manage the changeover**

25.04.28.18 To consider VE celebration grant – Church End
Total requested £250 – **All agreed**

25.04.28.19 To approve - Repairs to 2 benches at Hill End and entrance to ACE field.
Quote from Men's Shed - refurbish benches Totalling £195. – **All agreed**

25.04.28.20 **Finance & Governance**

To receive – Internal Auditor Report and review Action Plan – **Reviewed by Council**

To approve - AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 – **Received, signed by Chair**

To approve – AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 – **Received, Signed by Chair**

To approve - Defib install at Fleet Inn, car park.

Contribution of £665 from Fleet Inn. Balance to be funded = £285 – **Proposed Cllr O’Dell, 2nd Cllr Westwood. Site of install to be confirmed as Car park side of building. Men’s Shed Quote £75 for installation**

To approve – Clerk additional hours, total 14 hours Mar-Apr 25 – **Approved Chair & Cllr O’Dell**

To approve – Scribe Accounts Direct Debit £37 plus VAT – **All agreed**

To receive – Budget/Spend account to Mar 31st 2025 – **Received by Council**

To receive – Primary User to Clerk/RFO at HSBC – **Received by Council**

To approve – Model Standing Orders 2025 update - **Approved & signed by Chair**

25.04.28.21 Review of Risk Assessment – **Cllr’s Clayson, Davies, O’Dell & Clerk to meet on 15th May to review**

25.04.28.22 **To approve the April payment** list/those paid between meetings and to note receipts. – **Payments approved and balances noted**

Payments made since last meeting 17.03.25, under delegated authority

Administration		£1010.63	
PATA	INV 24/0885/PPS	£37.35	
HMRC	PAYE/NI	£294.73	
Scribe Accounts	Inv 9940	£448.00	£89.60 VAT

Payments listed for authorisation on 28.04.25

D Lockett	2 x bags of Mulch	£17.50	
Travel Expenses	Staff	£27.00	
GAPTC	Inv 863 Clerk Part 3	£45.00	
One.com	Inv 40967006	£136.35	£27.27 VAT
J Brookes Football	Inv 2394	£300.00	
J Brookes Village	Inv 2393	£700.00	
Village Hall (Meeting)	Inv 2237	£24.00	

Receipts	Jigsaw	Inv 59-24	£140.00	
	New Docs Ltd	Inv 58-25	£35.00	
	HMRC VAT reclaim (V126)		£5643.39	

Advice 4U Financial (Ruby) Inv 49-24 £70.00

Account Balances at 16/04/2025

CIL Account 2438.12

Current Account 7698.76

Revenue Reserves 9673.75

Nationwide Account 31918.62

- 25.04.28.23 **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.
- 25.04.28.24 **To discuss contact from Members of public –**
Interest expressed in becoming a Councillor – **No decision as no vacancy**
- 25.04.28.25 **To consider matters for the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting**
MOP suggestion of two outdoor table tennis tables at the TRAC site (CIL spend)
- 25.04.28.26 **To discuss Confidential Matters –**
Showborough Common Land – **Discussed**
- 25.04.28.27 To discuss Common Land and Twyning Green. Our client: Twyning Pasture Holders - Ref MFG Solicitors:MA:TWY01231.0001 - **Responses sent 29/04**
- 25.04.28.28 **To resolve the Date of Next Council Meeting (Annual Council Meeting) as Monday 19 May 2025 at Village Hall, Fleet Road**
- 25.04.28.29 Meeting closed at TIME. **8.30pm**