Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council

[www.bedstoneandbucknell.org](http://www.bedstoneandbucknell.org)

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7th May 2025**

**In Bucknell Memorial Hall following the Annual Parish Assembly of Parishioners.**

**PRESENT**

Cllr C Davies (Chairman), Cllr S Walmsley (Vice Chairman), Cllr N Hartin, Cllr V Dodd, Cllr R Hulstrom.

Mr C Savery, Mr P Burke.

2 members of the public.

Ms N Adams (Parish Clerk)

**1 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

1. **Chairman.** Cllr C Davies was proposed by Cllr Hartin, seconded by Cllr Hulstrom and re-elected unanimously on a show of hands.
2. **Vice Chairman.** Cllr Walmsley was proposed by Cllr Hartin, seconded by Cllr Hulstrom and re-elected unanimously on a show of hands.
3. **Co-option of Messrs Savery and Burke.** Proposed by Cllr Hartin, seconded by Chairman and co-opted unanimously on a show of hands. The two other vacancies would be advertised on notice boards. Chairman suggested a letter of thanks be sent to the retiring Parish Councillors.

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None.

**3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

As and when required.

**4 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2.4.25**

Approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

**5 APPOINTMENT OF CHEQUE SIGNATORIES**

Currently Cllr C Davies, Cllr S Walmsley, Mr I Owen and the Clerk. Mr Owen to be removed. The three remaining signatories were re-appointed unanimously. Any two to sign.

**6 ROADS/STREETSCENE:**

1. **Street light report.** Light opposite the Tyndings was now working, but the light at the end of Dog Kennel Lane was out again.
2. **Radar speed sign report.** Now sited opposite the Baron.
3. **“No footpath” signs by the woodyard.** Email received from Contractor who was changing the speed limits from 50mph to 40mph. Two options were suggested and after discussion Councillors decided to opt for a replacement like for like with a red mat and the existing 30mph roundel and a new 40mph roundel. Clerk to enquire whether the “No footpath” signs could be installed at the same time.
4. **Trees report.** Trees reported by Shropshire Council had still not been dealt with. Clerk to chase.
5. **Salt bins:** **Mynd and Chapel Lawn Road.** Cllr Walmsley said that 120 litre bins would be suitable. The bin on Weston Road was only cracked and did not need replacing at this time, Chairman to check the salt bin on The Mynd.
6. **White lines at the railway crossing.** Nothing to report at present. Cllr Walmsley to follow up.

**7 ONGOING PARISH MATTERS:**

1. **Written report from Bucknell Memorial Hall Committee.** Nothing to report at present.
2. **Written report regarding new village hall.** Copy attached to these Minutes.
3. **Plaque for Ray Davies.** Chairman to speak to Julie Parker.
4. **Mole problems.** Being dealt with.
5. **Mountain bike woodland trails.** Chairman and Clerk to investigate.
6. **Churchyard wall.** Work to start soon.

**8 PARISH COUNCIL MANAGEMENT:**

1. **Parish Councillors’ responsibilities.** Clerk to circulate form to all Councillors.
2. **Management of website.** Cllr Burke said the website was getting up to date.

**9 COUNCIL FINANCE:**

1. **Account balance was reported as:**

Lloyds Bank account £71,922.84

(Includes 2025/26 Precept of £32,416.00)

1. **It was agreed to pay the following:**

SALC (subs) £471.38

S Bailey (first half of annual cost mowing of land opposite The Baron) £640.00

Adrian Lewis (April invoice for mowing of churchyard/Causeway) £420.00

Ms N Adams (salaries March & April) £974.50

HMRC (PAYE March & April) £243.60.

1. **Forward budget plan.** Nothing to add at present.
2. **Online management of bank accounts.** Chairman and Vice Chairman were registering for this. It was also decided that the Clerk should have online access to parish council bank accounts. Clerk had asked Lloyds to provide monthly statements, to no avail. Cllr Walmsley to try to arrange this online.

**10 PLANNING:**

1. **There were no applications received.**
2. **The following applications had been granted:**

**No. 25/01098/FUL.** Realignment of retaining walls, etc at 11 Bedstone.

**No.** **25/00660/FUL.** Side extension at Railway Cottage, Weston Road, Bucknell.

**11 CORRESPONDENCE:**

Email from Connexus notifying the parish council that a 2 bed house would be available from 2nd June for an occupier with a strong local connection.

Laminated notices re: contact details for local MP. To notice boards.

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**
2. **Road surface down The Tyndings.** The rear access at the Tyndings was in poor condition. Cllr Hartin advised that the upkeep of the road was jointly the responsibility of Connexus, who own some of the properties, and private owners. Some years ago Connexus agreed to tarmac the road surface once agreement on shared costs had been obtained from the private owners. Unfortunately Connexus were unable to obtain agreement from all the private property owners to enable the scheme to proceed. Since then Connexus have occasionally infilled the largest potholes but the road has deteriorated again. There was some discussion on whether anything could be done to find funding to enable a resurfacing scheme to proceed but it was felt this would present difficulties due to the nature of the joint responsibility for the road’s upkeep.

**13 DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 4th June 2025 in Bucknell Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Declarations of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest forms to be sorted by then.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

CAD/NEA

19.5.25

C A Davies

4.6.25