



**Full Council Meeting of
Birchingdon Parish Council
Tuesday 25th November 2025 at 18.30 hrs
at the Library, Birchingdon**

Present:

Cllr Nick Blankley - Chairman
Cllr Colin Brown
Cllr. Phil Fellows
Cllr. Neville Hudson

Jane Bevan Clerk to the Council

KCC Cllr Luke Evans
TDC Cllr Emma Dawson
TDC Cllr George Kup
2 x Members of the public

FC/2025/80: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Houghton, Cllr Prebble, Cllr Tiley and Deputy Parish Clerk, Bill Anderson.

Absent: Cllr Wright

FC/2025/81: Declarations of Interest

None.

FC/2025/82: Minutes

It was noted that a version of the minutes circulated before the meeting were incorrectly titled as 8th July 2025 and that a number of typological errors were to be corrected.

The Clerk would address the matter arising regarding Speedwatch (Min S2025/58) under Item 12 Clerk's Correspondence.

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th September 2025 were presented and were **Agreed** as a true record.

FC/2025/83: Chairman's Report and Public Participation

Public Participation - A member of the public expressed concerns about speeding and other traffic issues in Birchingdon and welcomed the Speedwatch initiative.

Chairman's Report - The Chairman reported on events and meetings attended since the last Full Council. He highlighted the Birchingdon Remembrance commemorations and at the French twinning village of La Chapelle and thanked all those involved.

Cllr Hudson reported on the KALC AGM and Cllr Fellows reported on the most recent TAC meeting.

The Chairman's report was **Noted**.

FC/2025/84 Committee Reports.

Clerk

Report from the Chairman of Finance Committee. The Clerk reported in Cllr Prebble's absence that the 2026/27 budget planning process was in progress and that a meeting of budget holders would be scheduled before the Christmas break. Report from the Chairman of Environment Committee The Clerk reported in Cllr Tiley's absence that improvement works were continuing at the Memorial Recreation Ground and that tarmacing of the compound area had been completed. Report from the Chairman of Planning & Highways Committee Cllr Hudson reported in Cllr Prebble's absence that the last committee meeting had been well attended by members of the public with interests in some of the agenda items. Cllr Moore reported on highways matters and the outcome of recent liaison meetings with KCC officers. Report from the Chairman of General Purposes Committee Cllr Fellows reported that the committee had not met since the last full council meeting, he expected that at the meeting scheduled for Monday 8th December there would be discussion about the BPC website and IT.	Clerk
Report from the Chairman of Staffing Committee Cllr Hudson reported that an independent review of administrative workload and arrangements had been completed and that the committee would be convened in the next two weeks to discuss the findings. The committee reports were Noted The Chairman noted the agreed minutes of the following standing committee meetings: : Planning 23rd September and 21st October 2025.	Clerk
FC/2025/85 OL/TH/20/1755 - 1,600 New Homes in Birchington (Chairman). The Chairman reported that since the last full council meeting there had been multiple correspondence with TDC officers and others regarding process matters and the status of trust land held by St John's, responses had been unsatisfactory, and several significant issues were outstanding. The Planning Committee contemplated a proposal that BPC might join action seeking an injunction to delay the Notice and allow outstanding matters to be resolved, however there was a lack of time and uncertainty re cost and benefits. It was reported that the anniversary of TDC decision regarding this application was 25 November 2025 and that as far as BPC was aware a Decision Notice had not been issued by TDC. This being so, the Application would have to be reconsidered by the TDC Planning Committee. As matters stand there appeared to be strong grounds for seeking a judicial review, if that was considered necessary any proposal would be the subject of an extraordinary meeting. Action being taken was Supported and current status of the application was Noted	Clerk
FC/2025/86 Local Government Review (Chairman). The Chairman provide a background explanation of the proposed reorganisation. Outside London, some local government areas in England are organised as unitary authorities where one council manages all services, others operate as two tiers with county and district councils, where responsibilities for managing services are split between the two levels. Town and parish councils sit at the local level, serving individual communities. The government was seeking to abolish current county and district councils and impose a standardised unitary model across all counties and districts, based on certain criteria such	Chairman

(Clerk)

The monthly bank reconciliations for September 2025 were presented, approved and signed.

FC/2025/93 Date and time of next meeting.

Tuesday, 20th January 2026 at 6.30pm in the library.

Signed by the Parish Clerk

Jane Bevan

Dated: 2nd December 2025