

BRADFORD & COOKBURY PARISH COUNCIL

www.bradfordandcookburyparishcouncil.uk

Parish Clerk: - Miss Sandra Holland, Heslden Barn, Lashbrook, Bradford, Devon EX22 7AH.

E-mail: bandcparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk Tel: 01409 281128

MINUTES

Bradford & Cookbury Parish Council held in the Village Hall on WEDNESDAY 28th January 2026 at 7.00 pm

- 1) **Welcome by Chair Cllr M. Smale, in attendance: Cllrs A. Richmond, N. Langley, D. Bowman, R. Allen, T. Higgins, D. Higgins, P. Austen, N. Why, O. Dawson, S. Holland clerk/RFO & 3 members of public.**
Cllr A. Oke from 7.30pm.
apologies of absence: Absent K. Osborne – clerk will now inform TDC of non attendance, to commence process to fill place.
- 2) **Public Open Session: None.**
Two representatives from Stop Beacon Solar informed us of the planning application and their requirements for funding to oppose this 2700acre plan involving land from 14 landowners and affecting many local parishes. If it is built by 2030, it would not be connected until 2037, but would accrue interim payments from government. TDC will be consultees to the application, but it will not go to TDC planners, as this comes under “National significant infrastructure” rules and will be decided from London. Beacon Power is a “shell company” for major electricity suppliers and the investors are currently from NZ & Australia. Funds are needed for technical reports & legal costs to fight the plan. G. Cox MP, is giving assistance to SBS. More details at [www. Stopbeaconsolar.com](http://www.Stopbeaconsolar.com), and there is a Just Giving Page for ad-hoc donations. A fund raising barn dance at the Village Hall will be hosted by Beacon Solar, and PC agreed to pay Hall costs. Cllr D. Higgins thanked the Boultons for attending & information. (Boultons then left the meeting.)
- 3) **Declarations of Interest and dispensations:**
 - a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda: - *none*
 - b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).- *none*
 - c) To grant any dispensations as appropriate. - *none*
- 4) **To resolve that the draft minutes of the meetings of the Council held on the 10th November 2025 (circulated to members) - signed as a correct record.**
Any Matters Arising – not dealt with elsewhere: *none*
- 5) **Items for discussion:**
 - a) Grant Requests:
 - i) S Griffiths all agreed to grant £500.00 to help with travel costs for this young shooter, who represents GB.
 - ii) FOBS all agreed to grant £291.75 to cover Year 6 Pupil residential trip to Bath & London.
 - b) New Compliant website – 3 quotes were looked at to provide this: some needed a lot of work to be done by ourselves for an ongoing monthly charge. It was agreed to accept the quote from a local company, We Raise Digital, who would create the website for a fixed cost. Charges for new website domain & initial support will apply but this will provide us with a safety net and a professional website. (72.00 new domain registration + 1400.00 for website, + 360.00 for annual maintenance & support, + 175.00 website & e-mail hosting, total £2007.00)
 - c) Review of Digital compliance rules for Parish Councils 2025-2026: GDPR, Data Protection, IT policy, e-mail management, websites, to be circulated for review at next meeting.
 - d) Review 5-year Plan Neighbourhood – This needs updating: A group of Cllrs will take this away, review & present findings at next meeting.
- 6) **Finance:**
 - a) Review Finances to Date: current bank statements agreed against spread sheets by all.
 - c) Confirmation of earlier payments by BACS reviewed.
 - d) Invoices passed for payment:
 - i) Fuse annual driver support for car charger : 90.00

- ii) Andy Robinson domain name for current website: 8.99
- e) Confirmed 5% increase to precept requested against increasing costs: it should be noted that we may not receive this full amount. Clerk had trouble accessing the document from TDC, (possibly part of Windows 11 upgrades) so TDC had to fill the form in by telephone on our behalf.

7) Planning Notices & Updates:

- 1) 1/0918/2025/FUL Stadson Grange Farm extensions & alterations & garage/store. No objections.
- 2) 1/1192/2023/FUL Demolition of barn and erection of 1no. dwelling, in lieu of planning approval : Dunsland Cross – no objections.

2. Planning enforcement - none

8) Correspondence

- a) DALC – training available via Zoom or E-learning for councillors – update.
- b) temp traffic notice January 25 2026 up to 5 days: Bason Cross to Lana Cross – 1 day
- c) e-mail of thanks received from D. Lucas re travel grant.
- d) e-mails re grants to FOBS from Village Hall treasurer.
- e) G. Cox MP: invitation to meeting on 30 January 2026 in Holsworthy: Chair & Clerk to attend.
- f) Village Hall treasurer had queried our method of paying for grant to FOBS for Hall: PC stands by original decision.

9) Councillors Reports/Concerns including *(for discussion only no decisions can be made on these items until the next meeting):*

- a) Holsworthy Beacon Solar Farm : 2700 acres see earlier in open session.
- b) Meeting with representative from Devon Highways, claims from damaged vehicles increasing – date to be agreed – any further problems to be addressed?, please inform clerk.
- c) Grant Application received from Ruby Girls, informally discussed: this will be formally decided at March meeting.

9) Close of meeting: 8.50pm Date of next meeting: March 11th 2026, 7.30pm