

MINUTES OF THE BROMPTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT BROMPTON REGIS VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1st April 2026

The meeting opened at 730 pm

676. PRESENT: Mr J Andrews, Mr D Cherry, Ms T Davies, Mr M Headley (Chairman), Ms L Luxton, Mr L Ringrose.

Also present: Clerk, Sarah Buchanan.

677. APOLOGIES: Mr S Coates, Cllrs Nicholson and Pugsley (Work and personal reasons).

678. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS AND MEETING MANAGEMENT

The Chairman noted that Standing Orders were invoked following the meeting on 4 March which was not quorate (minute 674), and these will be reported during this meeting.

679. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS BRPC MEETINGS HELD ON 4TH FEBRUARY AND 1ST MARCH 2026

Ms Luxton proposed and Mr Headley seconded approval of the minutes of the 1 March meeting.

Ms Davies proposed and Mr Cherry seconded approval of the minutes of the 4th February meeting.

The minutes were unanimously accepted and signed as such.

680. POINTS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

680.1 Emergency first aid session (minute 668.5): This has been booked and will be held on 21 April from 130-430. 18 people have expressed intentions to attend.

680.2 Somerset Council pre consultation document re control of dogs (minute 670):

The Chairman outlined the issue, reported on discussion at the Exmoor LCN and advised that the Clerk has submitted the parish council's concerns re working dogs, open access land, churchyards and rights of way. It was noted that further comment may be required when the public consultation opens.

681. GYMKHANA AND SHOW

The Chairman referred members to the news item in the Brendon Beacon regarding the search for an alternative site. After discussion the situation was noted and it was AGREED that a member of the committee be invited to update the parish council as appropriate in due course. It was AGREED that it is hoped that a solution will be found.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN

682. VILLAGE HALL CAR PARKING AREA

The car parking area is owned by the BRPC. Grass encroachment has affected use of the area. The Chairman outlined a draft proposal to scrape back and resurface the entire area. After discussion it was AGREED that more limited work may be appropriate and the Chairman was asked to look into this and bring a proposal and indicative budget to the next meeting. Mr Andrews offered to support works with the loan of equipment as required.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN

683. CORRESPONDENCE

683.1 Sportiva triathlon 30 August 2026: A resident had brought this to the attention of the parish council, A route runs through the village and joining roads.

The Clerk has requested information from Sportiva and the South West Lakes Trust with a view to information being published in the Brendon Beacon.

Concerns were expressed regarding facilities for litter collection and toilets. These will be raised with the organisers.

ACTION: CLERK

683.2 Upton PC emergency first aid session: The Clerk reported the Upton PC invitation to BRPC to join in their planning for this session. The meeting AGREED that as BRPC had invited Upton residents and PC to join in the session on 21 April (minute 680.1) no further action would be taken at this point.

683.3 Boundary Commission final recommendations to Somerset Council on ward boundaries: This document having been circulated prior to the meeting, disappointment and concerns were expressed that Brompton Regis parish will lie outside the Exmoor ward boundaries. Members anticipated problems regarding: understanding across the ward and by ward representatives of the upland qualities of the parish, the planning system within the national park vis a vis the wider area and the different issues facing the coast and hills.

Mr Headley proposed that the parish remain within the Exmoor LCN provided that the LCN continues and this was warmly AGREED.

684. FINANCE

684.1 Grant requests: Crimestoppers and Devon and Somerset Air Ambulance: these were refused.

684.2. Invoices paid under Chairman's actions: The following were paid to ensure the smooth running of the BRPC and in line with previous decisions and budget allocations.

684.2.1 Community Heartbeat Trust defibrillator annual costs: £271.20

684.2.2 ZEN annual support fee, £114

684.2.3 SALC/SC wellbeing grant payment £160

684.2.4 First aid session 21 April. Kernow training solutions

684.2.5 Stationery and supplies: £56.

684.2.6 Clerk's quarterly salary: £400

684.2.7 SALC/SC wellbeing grant payment: £108.

685. AUDIT

685.1 External auditors' instructions: These having been previously circulated were noted.

ACTION: CLERK to bring a timetable to the next meeting.

685.2 Internal auditor: It was **AGREED** that Mr Pollard continue fulfil this role and the meeting recorded thanks for his contribution to the working of the parish council.

686. PLANNING

686.1 Amended application: 6/3/25/009 Land south of Hownel Lane, Brompton Regis, Dulverton, TA22 9LQ (BRPC minute 646.1 refers). It was noted that the ENPA committee will consider this application.

686.2 Correspondence re Hiccombe. Residents' concerns about ongoing occupancy of caravans and sheds adjacent to the site of a former house had again been passed to ENPA and comment requested. The meeting noted that concerns have been raised regularly with the ENPA. The response most recently received stated that the ENPA is in regular contact with the owner of Hiccombe House and expects to receive an application to replace the dwelling that was destroyed by fire and that the ENPA is aware of the breach of planning control in relation to the caravans and the period they have been on site, particularly in relation to the period of time in which development can become lawful. It was advised that there is not a risk of them becoming lawful at this point. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk ask the ENPA for clarification as to influences, including council tax, on lawful development.

ACTION: CLERK

686.2 Application EXM/26/068 Full, Land adjoining B3224 Treborough Common.

Proposed temporary change of use of agricultural land for timber storage and associated wood chipping operations, including a defined operational area, maximum stack height of 3.5 metres, and associated temporary works (10 year permission).

After discussion it was **AGREED** that BRPC support the proposal with the proviso that rights of way in the area of the application are secured and maintained.

686.3 Application: EXM/26/034/HH. The Old School House Withiel Florey Minehead Somerset TA24 7DE. Proposed replacement of unstable lime plaster render on one south-west facing gable with natural cedar shiplap cladding: for consideration and comment

After discussion it was **AGREED** that BRPC support the proposal in the interests of weatherproofing the property.

ACTION CLERK submit comments.

686.4 Enforcement Case: ENF/26/006 Land to the west side of Sanctuary Lane Brompton Regis.

After a resident had reported concerns regarding a widened entrance the Clerk asked the ENPA for comment. The ENPA has proceeded to investigate the issue. It was noted that widening entrances in many locations may be essential to allow for increasingly large equipment to access land.

687. HIGHWAYS

Issues to report:

- Pothole on south side of beech Tree Cross junction
- RoW access Hurstcombe to Withiel Florey.

It was suggested that the new owners of Sunny Nook be advised that the parish council has in the past sought trimming of the roadside trees and it is hope that such work will continue.

ACTIONS: CLERK

688. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- BUDGET
- INSURANCE
- SALC AFFILIATION
- AUDIT TIMETABLE
- GRASS CUTTING ADJACENT TO HALL
- HALL CAR PARKING AREA.

689.DATE TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 6th May 2026 at Brompton Regis Village. The annual parish meeting and annual parish council meeting will precede the business meeting, with the first meeting starting at 730pm.

The meeting closed at 835pm.

Signed as a correct record:

Name: Date: