

**MINUTES OF BRIGHSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BRIGHSTONE
METHODIST CHURCH ON WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 7.30PM.**

PRESENT: Cllr J Cirrone (Chairman), Cllr D Alldred, Cllr J Frost, Cllr E Nicholson, Cllr T Prior and Cllr N Stuart (Ward Cllr)
Mrs Joy Walker (clerk)

Seven members of the public were present.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllr D Wavell, Cllr N Maclellan

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None

3. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the 8th October 2025 having been previously circulated and read were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Cemetery Committee Meeting of the 8th October 2025 having been previously circulated and read were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of the 28th October 2025 having been previously circulated and read were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, ON GENERAL MATTERS, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRMAN.

A resident raised the issue of a letter delivered to him asking for the removal of the plastic items from the bench in Upper Lane. The Chairman said he was sorry for any upset the letter sent to him may have caused and responded explaining the reasons for the letter and that the Parish Council is duty bound to respond to other parishioners concerns regarding the bench

5. CLERK'S REPORT AND UPDATES.

Library Card Machine

The card machine is up and working so no further details needed.

Tree Warden

There had been no response received to the request in the Newsletter and on Facebook for a volunteer Tree Warden.

Fencing at Mottistone Manor

The National Trust has been contacted regarding the use of metal fencing at Mottistone Manor and removal of hedges.

Their reply states that with the rising cost of all fencing material and the cost of contractor and staff time in replacing rotten posts, they are starting to use the metal clipex fencing more widely.

It is also more environmentally friendly and provides stronger livestock fencing. Clipex will soon dull as the surface weathers and vegetation will grow up it.

They are not replacing hedges with the fencing. There are areas which have had to be cut back and one stretch of bramble that had to be cleared to remove old collapsed fencing prior to reinstalling boundary fencing, this will soon grow back and shield the new fence.

Recreation Ground Lease

Following the correspondence received from the solicitor which was discussed at last month's PC meeting the solicitor has been instructed to apply to register the land and to contact the recommended surveyors regarding the Land Registry compliant plan.

He has also been informed that the Parish Council are happy to proceed with all other arrangements.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

25/01498 Downsvew, Moor Lane, Brighstone, Demolition of Conservatory; Proposed single storey rear extension, dormer and internal alterations. Councillors had No Objections.

25/01522/FUL Brixton Barn and Grove Cottage, Main Road, Brighstone. Alterations and conversion of self-contained annexe and workshop (known as Brixton Barn), to form single residential unit to include partial removal of existing boundary wall to create two additional parking spaces and boundary treatments to provide curtilage; dormer extension on north elevation; alterations to fenestration; alterations and extension to existing single storey store on east elevation; internal alterations to layout. Councillors had no objections to the broader scheme of the application, but concerns were raised regarding the use of upward facing skylights which contravenes the Dark Skies Policy. Councillors agreed to Object to the application.

25/01523/LBC Brixton Barn and Grove Cottage, Main Road, Brighstone. Listed Building Consent for alterations as per application 25/01522/FUL. For reasons stated above Councillors Object to the application.

7. TO RECEIVE PLANNING DECISIONS.

25/01187/FUL Dunsbury Farmhouse, Dunsbury Farm Lane, Brook. Proposed alterations and replacement of roof to barn including relocation of roof mounted solar panels. GRANTED

8. TO NOTE DATE OF POSSIBLE MID-MONTH PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING:

Tuesday 25th November, to start at 7.30pm.

9. TO DISCUSS THE BROOK HILL HOUSE (BHH) WOODLANDS PLAN.

Supported by the Forestry Commission a request to fell trees and tidy the woodland area at Brook Hill House had been submitted to the IoW Council. The felled trees would be replaced and the woodland area managed correctly Although no official objection had been given the IoW Council had not responded within the statutory one month response as defined in the Forestry Act. Further work at Brook Hill House had now been delayed until a response from the IoW Council had been received. The Parish Council, although not usually becoming involved in private issues, considered this a worthwhile scheme and would offer support by writing to the IoW Council. The Ward Cllr would also take the issue up with the IoW Council.

10. TO DISCUSS AND UPDATE THE POSTS ALONG BROOK GREEN.

The overall view of Brook residents was to retain the current posts and chain along the side of Brook Green. One estimate for replacing the posts had been received, two further estimates had been requested. To be an agenda item at the next PC meeting.

11. TO DISCUSS AND UPDATE THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW PICNIC BENCH.

Island Roads had insisted that a concrete base be put in beneath the picnic bench and the bench be fixed to the concrete base. Island Roads also pointed out there were two high power cables below that area to be considered if the base is installed. Following discussion councillors resolved to ask the Wilberforce Hall if the new picnic bench could be sited on the side bank in their grounds. If refused, then the picnic bench could be included in the Wilberforce Orchard plans.

Island Roads would be asked if a bike rack could be installed by the bus shelter and if the old posts from the map could be removed.

12. TO DISCUSS AND UPDATE THE PLANTING OF TREES ON LAND OWNED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL IN WILBERFORCE ROAD.

An assessment of the soil did not raise any issues with planting. A drain crossing the site could be avoided. It was suggested 8 – 10 fruit trees could be planted eg. apple, apricot, walnut, mulberry. It was agreed to put an article on Facebook asking villages for their preference of fruit tree. To be an agenda item at the next PC meeting.

13. TO DISCUSS THE WAY FORWARD WITH PLANNING MEETINGS.

Councillors agreed minor planning applications could be discussed using Teams. Major applications which involved more detailed discussion should be held in person. All planning applications would be advertised with a public link to the Teams meetings.

14. TO DISCUSS THE LENGTH OF TIME A PERSON MUST RESIDE IN THE PARISH BEFORE ALLOWING BURIAL IN THE CEMETERY.

A determined residence length of time was difficult to apply. Councillors agreed that anyone applying for a burial plot should be registered as having a primary residence in the Parish.

15. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE GRANT APPLICATIONS.

The following Grant applications had been received and discussed. Councillors agreed the following donations:

Brighstone Village Museum Trust : £150

Brighstone Community Library : £1000

Brighstone Recreation Ground Committee : £425

Brighstone Primary School : £1000

St Mary's Church Brighstone Lychgate Restoration : £500

Brighstone Youth Football Team : £186

Proposed: Cllr D Alldred

Seconded: Cllr T Prior

All Councillors agreed

16. TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE FIRST DRAFT BUDGET.

The first draft of the Budget had been prior circulated to councillors. Following discussion, it was recommended that an amount for the Housing Survey and the Tree Warden costs be included and an increase in the amount allocated for donations. Estimates were being requested for the renewal of the grass cutting contract which may result in a substantial increase in the cost for this. A second draft of the budget would be brought back to the next PC meeting.

17. TO DISCUSS AND UPDATE THE NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE.

No update due to Cllr Wavell absence. To be an agenda item at next PC meeting.

18. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM BRIGHSTONE READING ROOM AND SOCIAL CLUB.

Nothing to report.

19. TO RECEIVE I W COUNCILLOR'S REPORT.

Cllr N Stuart provided a written report circulated at the meeting.

- There are issues with certain areas not being able to connect to the Wightfibre network. An item would be put in the Newsletter asking for anyone in this situation to contact him.
- There would be IoW Council elections in May 2026.
- There were major issues with Planning Enforcement. To be an agenda item for the next PC meeting.

20. RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKS FOR NOVEMBER.

All other checks complete.

21. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

chq	To	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
bp	Island Cleaning Solutions	Toilet Cleaning October	301.17	0.00	301.17
bp	Mrs J Walker	Salary October 2025	975.75	0.00	975.75
bp	Groundsell Contracting Ltd	Grass Cutting October	767.86	153.57	921.43
bp	Business Stream	Water Cemetery	26.08	5.21	31.29
bp	Business Stream	Water Pavilion	62.57	0.00	62.57
bp	Mrs J Walker	Reinburse Printer Ink	65.89	0.00	65.89
bp	Tim Prior	Maintenance Works	44.65	0.00	44.65
bp	David Crewe	Fittings for Mosaic	43.01	0.00	43.01
bp	Tony Steadman	War Memorial Plants	15.96	0.00	15.96
dd	Octopus Energy	Electric Pavilion	19.68	0.98	20.66
dd	Octopus Energy	Electric Toilets	20.86	1.04	21.90
dd	Biffa	Waste Collection Play Area	4.19	0.84	5.03
dd	Pension payment	Mrs J Walker	53.76	0.00	53.76
TOTAL			2401.43	161.64	2563.07
Library A/C					
bp	Business Stream	Water Library	60.26	0.00	60.26
dd	Biffa	Green Waste Collection	18.75	3.75	22.50
TOTAL			2480.44	165.39	2645.83

Proposed: Cllr D Alldred

Seconded: Cllr J Frost

All Councillors agreed

22. TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO 31ST OCTOBER 2025.

The Financial Statement had been prepared and circulated to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. There were no issues arising.

23. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES.

- Brook stream was being cleared.
- Councillors agreed the Probation Service should cut down all the overgrown brambles and bamboo along the stream by Meadows Close.

24. CORRESPONDENCE:

- A residence had written complaining of the overgrown brambles etc on the steps and path from the Three Bishops pub car park and path alongside Warnes Lane. Island Roads would be contacted.
- A person has volunteered in response to the Tree Warden request. They would be contacted.
- The Ward Cllr request to discuss shared costs between local Parish Councils for Enforcement would be an agenda item at the next PC meeting.

25. OTHER MATTERS MEMBERS MAY WISH TO RAISE.

- Wildflower bank alongside Blanchards. To be an agenda item at next PC meeting.
- Planter at the corner of Wilberforce Road and Galley Lane was now going to be looked after.
- Dog poo bag dispenser was now in place at the Pavilion.
- Bench at Wilberforce Road and Galley Lane in bad state of repair.
- The Clerk asked for leave the last week of November and for an unused weeks leave to be carried forward to next year 2026. Councillors agreed.
- It was agreed to purchase the new 14th edition Arnold Baker on Local Council Administration cost £149.40. Councillors agreed. Payment would be ratified at the next PC meeting.

26. ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEWSLETTER. -

Dog poo dispenser
Draft Island Transport Consultation
Wightfibre
Tree Warden
Police contact details.

27. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Main Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm at Brighstone Methodist Church.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the Meeting at 9.32pm.