

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BARFORD ST MARTIN PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE CHURCH ON TUESDAY 14th JANUARY 2026 - subject to later
approval by Councillors.**

PRESENT: Cllr. J. Holloway - Chairman, Cllr. G. Wills – Vice Chair, Cllr. J. Avery,
Cllr. Mrs M. Walker, Cllr. Mrs. N. Noel

In attendance, Mrs. J. Childs, Clerk, 1 resident was present

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Najjar, WC, had sent apologies

65.26 MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on 11th November 2025, previously
circulated, were agreed and signed.

66.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: The Chairman noted that Cllr. Mrs Walker was
Chair of the Barford Community Group.

VILLAGE MATTERS: PARKING AT TOP OF DAIRY ROAD: Councillors
recognised that this was an important parking area for walkers and asked that drivers
use the space wisely to allow the greatest number of cars to park.

PARKING BY THE CROSS AND CORNER OF DUCK STREET: Following
expressions of concern Councillors asked that care be taken if larger vehicles needed to
park in the area. It was important that residents and emergency vehicles be able to pass
without obstruction.

67.26 FINANCE:

i Payment of accounts: The Clerk requested 1 online payment totalling £25.00. 3 further
payments were requested by Councillors.

ii Expenditure for the financial year 2025 – 2026 was in line with budget provision

iii Work was still needed to add 2 Councillors to the online account and to open a savings
account for Parish Council funds.

iv The precept of £11200.00 for the financial year 2026 – 2027 was confirmed.

68.26 REPORTS:

i **Wiltshire Councillor: No report.** Councillors noted with gratitude Cllr. Najjar's
request for repairs to the B3089 between Ugford and Barford

ii **Representatives on Outside Bodies:** The Nicholson Trust had not met.

iii **The Planning Committee:** No objections were raised to an application for the felling of
a tree at Glebe House.

69.26 AREA BOARD/LHFIG (Local Highways and Footpaths Improvement Group):

There had been no attendance from Barford at the Area Board Meeting held in December.

Improvement of the grass verge outside The Haven had remained an agenda item at the November meeting of LHFIG. Councillors agreed the Parish Council would not be able to bear the cost of the installation of an appropriate recommended surface. **Action**

70.26 RIGHTS OF WAY and AONB: Cllr. Avery stated no problems had been presented. It was believed that the Wilton Estate would look at the hedge on the path at the top of Dairy Road. **Action**

71.26 THE CEMETERY: It had been noted that an amount of chalk had been dumped close to the hedge in the Cemetery in West Street. Cllr. Holloway stated he would be in touch with the funeral director responsible for the latest burial.

The Clerk was asked to check whether there was any legal requirement for Parish Councils to provide an area for the spoils generated by the gravedigger. **Action**

72.26 THE VILLAGE FIELD: The Chairman reported that the work required by the ROSPA report and which was the responsibility of the Parish Council had been completed. Cllr. Mrs Walker added that she had been in touch with both firms which had installed play equipment and looked forward to early completion.

Cllr. Avery agreed to look at the wall adjacent to the track by the recycling centre in Duck Street following Cllr. Mrs Walker's concern about its soundness. **Action**

73.26 ALLOTMENTS: No problems were reported. It was noted that some rentals were owing. Reminders would be sent. **Action**

74.26 BUS SHELTER, WEST STREET: Work had been completed.

75.26 COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH: Wet weather and sickness had prevented some volunteers from manning the speed gun.

Cllr. Mrs Walker feared the speed cameras may not be registering the correct speed. Cllr. Wills agreed to check. **Action**

76.26 THE COMMUNITY ORCHARD: Mrs. Claire Kelly, member of the Barford St Martin Community Group, explained that the main focus was to clear the ground. A variety of fruit trees had been sourced and plans were being made for planting trees well.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Kelly adding that this was an exciting project for the village and that it was solely the responsibility of the Community Group.

77.26 VILLAGE PLAN: The Chairman asked Councillors to think about what the Plan might contain. It would be discussed at the Annual Meeting. **Action**

78.26 CORRESPONDENCE: No further correspondence.

79.26 AOB: WEBSITE: Nothing discussed. **Action**

HURDCOTT MILESTONE: Was now in storage on the Hurdcott Estate and it was hoped that it would be placed correctly in February. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Avery for his efforts to restore the return of this heritage stone.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: The Clerk was asked to write to WC to request considerable pruning of the 3 yew trees. **Action**

COOPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS: The Chairman noted that 2 vacancies remained for Councillors. These would be advertised and interested residents should contact the Chairman or Councillors for a chat or additional information.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING: Cllr. Mrs Walker stated that this would take place on February 9th at the Alabare Centre.

80.26 DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: The Annual Parish Meeting would take place on Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7pm in the Church and a short meeting of the Parish Council would follow.

81.26 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING: The meeting was closed at 9.30 pm.

COUNCILLORS WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF CARE COULD BE TAKEN IN THE MANY PARTS OF THE VILLAGE WHERE PARKING SPACE IS LIMITED

THANK YOU