

**MINUTES OF BROOKTHORPE-WITH-WHADDON
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BROOKTHORPE VILLAGE HALL ON
TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER 2025 AT 7.45PM**

Present: Cllr Paul Gaze (Chair)
Cllr Eric Hibbert
Cllr Kirk Walton
Cllr John Hendry

In attendance: Tina Balgobin (Clerk) Reporting
Cllr John Patient (County Councillor) Items 1 to 5
6 Members of the Public

PARISHONER QUESTIONS:

The Chair opened the meeting and invited the Parishioners to ask questions with regards to the planning application submitted by Newland Homes that would be discussed by the Parish Council at item 8 on the agenda.

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Cllr John Hendry.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:

There were no declarations.

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2025:

The minutes were duly signed by the Chair as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION REQUESTS:

None had been received at this time.

5. REPORTS:

(a) **To receive a report from the County Councillor.** County Councillor John Patient did not circulate a report and gave a brief update on County Council matters.

(b) **To receive a report from the District Councillor.** District Councillor Demelza Turner-Wilkes tendered her apologies for this meeting and circulated her report as follows:-

“Leaders Blog 1st December 2025 taken from <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news/leaders-blog-wc-1-december-2025/>”

Leader's blog w/c 1 December 2025

Published 01.12.2025

*This week brings important updates on both climate action and community safety.

First, [Climate Leadership Gloucestershire](#), of which Stroud District Council is a member, has published a report which identifies the most significant risks our county faces from climate change, including increased flooding (with sea-level rise), more frequent and hotter heatwaves affecting transport, energy and digital infrastructure, and a greater risk of prolonged drought. Stroud will use this assessment as one of the tools to support our adaptation plans within our own climate and nature strategy.

We're also marking the UN global campaign '16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence'. Sadly, this remains a real issue locally. This year's focus is on online digital violence against women and girls - one of the fastest-growing forms of abuse. The statistics are shocking: deepfake content has increased by 550% between 2019 and 2023; 38% of women have personally experienced online violence, 85% have witnessed it happening to others, and up to 95% of victims experience image-based abuse.

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) accounts for nearly 20% of all recorded crime in England and Wales and cannot be ignored. [Stroud District Community Safety Partnership](#), chaired by SDC's Ange Gillingham, has made tackling this a priority. We are committed to:

- Educating staff to identify coercive and controlling behaviour
- Signposting local support services in Gloucestershire
- Promoting safeguarding and domestic abuse policies

If you witness or experience such abuse, please report it to the relevant authorities - you may be helping others by doing so.

Finally, [the council has agreed its preference for a single unitary council](#). Other councils in the county expressed different preferences, so all three models will now go to government for a decision. This does not mean our work stops, members and officers will continue to champion the interests of Stroud district residents in shaping how any future unitary arrangements will operate."

[Cllr Martin Pearce](#), Chair of Environment Committee

Local Government Reorganisation <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/news/local-government-reorganisation-gloucestershire-proposals-submitted-to-government/>

Gloucestershire councils today (28 November) made a joint submission to government on proposals for the future of local government in the county supported by a letter reflecting the level of collaboration and joint working in the county.

The submission comes following meetings throughout November where councillors of each of the seven councils have debated the pros and cons of the different proposals for LGR.

A summary of the decision of each council is below.

Council	Recommendation to government
Cheltenham Borough Council	Two unitary – East/West
Cotswold District Council	One unitary
Forest of Dean District Council	None (not supportive of LGR)
Gloucester City Council	Two unitary – Greater Gloucester / Gloucestershire Unitary
Gloucestershire County Council	One unitary
Stroud District Council	One unitary
Tewkesbury Borough Council	One unitary

The full proposals are available on the button below.

Government will consult early next year on all submitted proposals that meet its criteria and is expected to make a final decision in summer 2026. Elections for the shadow authority or authorities is likely to take place in May 2027 with the new unitary structure in place on 1 April 2028.

All seven councils are already working together to develop plans on how to deliver all the work needed between now and the new council or councils being established.

The Brimscombe Port Development is moving forward with Stroud District Council looking for a new development partner.

Active Council Activities

The enforcement is on hold the Land Adjacent to Rose Cottage (EN25/0167). I will update as I am provided with more information.

The enforcement on Kolisko Farm (Brookthorpe Springs Farm) remains open under number EN25/0099."

Cllr John Hendry joined the meeting at this point:

6. TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE PROPOSED WHADDON FIELDS DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL PLAN:

The Parish Council received an update on the above including that the District Council have replied to the Planning Inspectors and the results will be advised in due course.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ST SWITHUNS CHURCH:

A working party has been arranged to clean up on Thursday @ 10.30am. The Carol Service will be held on Wednesday 10 December @ 7pm and all are welcome to attend.

8. PLANNING:

To consider the following planning applications:

S.25/2101/OUT: Land South of Grange Road, Gloucester

Outline planning application for the erection of up to 49 dwellings (including 30% affordable), including vehicular access from Grange Road with associated landscaping, drainage and all other associated works (all matters reserved except for access). This application was discussed in detail, it was agreed that the Parish Council would submit an objection and if the officers are minded to approve the Parish Council will ask the District Council to call the application to the DCC. **OBJECTION**

S.25/2157/FUL: Brentlands Farm, Upton Lane, Brookthorpe, Gloucester.

Full Planning Application - Formation of a new access. Erection of fencing. This application was discussed. **SUPPORTED.**

9. FINANCE:

- (a) To approve the Accounts for payment as per the list circulated prior to the meeting. The following accounts were presented for payment:

Accounts for payment December 2025			
Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
T Balgobin	1325	£ 619.89	Salary / Expenses (November 25)
HMRC	1326	£ 155.88	Tax / Employer NI (November 25)
Mr E Hibbert	1327	£ 1,500.00	Bus Shelter Refurbishment
Total		£ 2,275.77	

As there is no meeting in January the following payments were also presented for payment

Accounts for payment January 2026			
Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
T Balgobin	1328	£ 534.90	Salary / Expenses (December 25)
HMRC	1329	£ 155.88	Tax / Employer NI (December 25)
Total		£ 690.78	

The Council unanimously agreed that the above payments be made.

- (b) To note the Internal Controller Checklist (Cllr Hibbert). Cllr Hibbert confirmed he had reviewed the accounts and signed off the last quarter, this was noted.
- (c) To approve the purchase of new Christmas lights for the Christmas tree. This was approved.

10. COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

- The enforcement action on Rose Cottage was discussed.
- Recent burglaries from the back of the Pub and cars parked on drives was discussed.
- The Xmas Fayre would take place at the Village Hall on the 13 December, there will be a raffle and a snowboard simulator.

11. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 3 February 2026 at 7.45pm in the Brookthorpe Village Hall**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:35PM**

Signed: Dated: