

**MINUTES OF BROOKTHORPE-WITH-WHADDON
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT BROOKTHORPE VILLAGE HALL ON
TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2026 AT 7.45PM**

Present: Cllr John Hendry (Chair)
Cllr Paul Gaze
Cllr Kirk Walton
Cllr Andrew Miller

In attendance: Tina Balgobin (Clerk) Reporting
Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes (District Councillor) (Items 5 and 9)
2 Members of the Public

PARISHONER QUESTIONS:

A member of the public reported that parcels being delivered by Evri were going missing or being mis-delivered. He also advised that he had reported an abandoned vehicle in the layby opposite Fagins to SDC, it was taxed until the 1 June, and they would look at it after the tax had expired.

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Eric Hibbert.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:

There were no declarations.

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 MAY 2026:

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

4. TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION REQUESTS:

There was none

5. REPORTS:

(a) To receive a report from the County Councillor. County Councillor John Patient tendered his apologies and submitted the following report:-

“County council’s new supported lodgings service receives Ofsted registration. Gloucestershire County Council is looking for hosts for its new supported lodgings service after receiving Ofsted registration. Similarly, this month, Green councilors also visited the Gloucester Night stop centre, a UK-wide network of same-night emergency accommodation services that support young people at risk of homelessness. Night stop is continually looking for new hosts, so please share with your networks. Also if you know of any empty houses or flats in your area which are not being lived that could be used to house young people on a temporary basis, please let me know. Three county council children’s homes rated ‘Good’ by Ofsted. Three children’s homes run by Gloucestershire County Council have been rated as ‘Good’ by Ofsted following recent inspections. New A435 Cheltenham to Bishop’s Cleeve Cycleway to officially open. Gloucestershire County Council is inviting residents to celebrate the official opening of the new A435 Cheltenham to Bishop’s Cleeve Cycleway at a free, drop-in event. Improved road safety as new traffic

enforcement measures set to go live. Residents across Gloucestershire will benefit from improved road safety and reduced congestion as new powers to enforce moving traffic offences are introduced at 15 locations across the county. New report highlights how housing shapes health in Gloucestershire. A new report from Gloucestershire County Council shows that the quality, cost and security of our homes have a major impact on people's health and wellbeing across the county. Consultations: Have your say on the future of SEND in Gloucestershire. Gloucestershire County Council wants to hear your views on the future of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision for children and young people. Have your say on the future of transport in Gloucestershire. People in Gloucestershire are being invited to help shape the future of transport across the county. Views sought plans to make Cheltenham's roads safer. Gloucestershire County Council is asking people to have their say on proposals to improve road safety and support healthier communities in Cheltenham. GCC Meetings: Full Council: During this month's Full Council meeting, a new Chair of the Council for 2026/27 was elected. Cllr Steve Robinson (Labour), who was Chair for 2025/26, was replaced by Cllr Sarah Hands (Lib Dem), with Cllr Robinson elected as Vice Chair. Cllr Joe Harris (Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Communications) informed Council that he was resigning his seat and that this was his last Council meeting. Members from across political groups paid tribute to Cllr Harris for his long years of service and wished him well in his new role. He will be replaced in his Cabinet position by his father, Cllr Mark Harris (Lib Dem). Three motions were also debated. The first was brought by the Conservative group concerning house building numbers. The motion called for a reduction in overall house building targets, a cross-council, county-wide strategy and an infrastructure first approach. The Green group proposed an amendment to emphasise the need for truly affordable and social housing and to broaden the infrastructure-first approach to include physical (e.g. transport, health facilities) and social (e.g. community hubs) infrastructure. An additional amendment was also tabled by the Lib Dems. Both were accepted as friendly and the motion passed unanimously. The second motion concerned the disproportionately high suicide rates among men in Gloucestershire and called for greater support and preventative strategies. The third motion concerned fairer funding for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) education, following the Government's recently published White Paper. Both motions also passed unanimously. Links to the full motions can be found [here](#), with a full recording of the meeting can be found [here](#). Cabinet: Two key decisions were discussed during this month's GCC meeting of the Cabinet. A recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#). Tailored Learning and Adult Skills Programme for 2026/2027. Cabinet resolved to delegated authority to the Executive Director of Economy, Environment and Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, to enter into a funding agreement with the Department for Education (DfE) for the purpose of funding the delivery of Tailored Learning and the Adult Skills Programme during the 2026-2027 academic year and then to procure and award a number of contracts for the provision of adult learning services. Allocation of Substance Use Grant Funding (Public Health Grant) 2026: Cabinet approved the allocation of the ringfenced substance use element of the Public Health Grant (issued by the Office of Health Improvement and Disparities) for the period 2026–2029, enabling the continuation and enhancement of drug and alcohol treatment and recovery services in Gloucestershire in line with national grant conditions and local priorities. Committee Meetings: Also held this month were meetings of the Environment Scrutiny Committee, Planning Committee, Adult, Social Care and Communities Scrutiny Committee, Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Fire and Rescue Scrutiny Committee, Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee. Full recordings can be found [here](#). The Economic Strategy Scrutiny Committee meeting which I chaired did a deep drive on the Forest of Dean. The key challenges faced by residents there are the lack of good public transport and crossing the Severn to access the rest of Gloucestershire. Grassroots Neighborhood Fund: Money has started to be received by successful applicants to the County Council's Grassroots Neighborhood Fund scheme. The scheme is delivering funding to community initiatives which are making a positive impact on health and wellbeing, access to nature, digital inclusion, community cohesion, and reducing inequalities. I was allocated £20,000 to support projects in the Haresfield & Upton division of which £14,000 has already been requested. More information about the new scheme is available on this webpage. Library Challenge 2026: Gloucestershire Libraries Library Challenge 2026 is nearly here! The Library Challenge will be running in July and helps children stay connected to reading over the school holidays, when literacy levels can often dip. The challenge is simple, free and open to all children through their local library. Children sign up, borrow books, complete fun tasks and work towards bronze, silver and gold awards — all designed to keep reading enjoyable and help families visit libraries regularly. This year's theme is Tales Through Time, celebrating history, imagination and discovery. Each library will bring the theme to life in its own way, with eye-catching displays and activities throughout the summer holidays. Library staff will be taking the message into schools with around 100 assemblies planned before summer, alongside online resources and in-library promotion. But

Gloucestershire Libraries are also asking councillors (at all levels) to get behind the campaign: Please encourage schools in your area to take part, celebrate the value of libraries, and help us raise the profile of reading across Gloucestershire. Please do get involved on social media too: visit your local library, take a selfie, and share it alongside our campaign content to help spread the message further. A visible show of support from councillors will make a real difference! NEW Library of Things! Gloucestershire Libraries offer more than books! On Tuesday 5 May, The Library of Things launched at two new locations: Quedgeley Library and Up Hatherley Library. These two new locations are an addition to our first Library of Things in Charlton Kings Library. Last year, from this one location alone: 482 items were loaned. 16.74 tonnes of Co2e were avoided. £53,490 was saved by our service users. If you're looking for tools or equipment for a one-off project or event, why buy when you can borrow?? It's FREE to join! You need to be a library member to access the service. Community climate change funds have closed: There have been some fantastic projects undertaken with the grant money. Take a look at the case studies on the website to see what impact the grants have had on local communities and their carbon footprints. Applications for the next round of projects have now closed with the successful projects to be announced shortly.

Cllr Andrew Miller advised that he would like to discuss with the County Councillor the cycle track options / costs between Gloucester and Stroud when he next attends the meeting.

- (b) **To receive a report from the District Councillor.** District Councillor Demelza Turner-Wilkes submitted the following report:-

“Reduced Speed Limit on B4008 from M5 past the Tritax Park Development: You will no doubt be aware of the plans to introduce a 40mph speed limit adjacent to the Tritax Park development on the B4008. The consultation period ended on April 13th. I have emailed Cllr Patient for an update.

DCC Committees: The next DDC meeting will be held on 2nd June 2026. There are no items on the agenda from Brookthorpe or Whaddon.

Draft Local Plan: A report was presented to SDC Full Council in April to formally commence a new local plan, this was voted through by Councillors. This is a link to the meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GIUg6E0LR4k&t=12279s> We are awaiting further updates and the examination library link is here <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/planning-and-building-control/planning-strategy/stroud-district-local-plan-review/local-plan-examination> The Council has formerly commenced work on a new Local Plan with the first review expected in October.

Stroud Lido: Stroud Lido has a page on the SDC website please use this link <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/culture-leisure-sports-parks/lido/>”

The Chair asked the Council if they were happy to bring agenda 9 forward to this point and the Council agreed.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE COMPLAINT RAISED WITH SDC:

An email from SDC following the complaint had been circulated prior to the meeting, a response was expected for this meeting, SDC had requested further time to review the complaint. This was discussed in detail, further information will be provided to SDC in support of the complaint.

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

There was no update on this item at this time.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ST SWITHUNS CHURCH:

Nigel Bone advised that there would be an open day at the church on Sunday 14 June between 2pm and 4pm, there will be refreshments, everybody is welcome to come along and sign the visitors book, the plan going forward will be to repeat this event once a month.

8. 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 June 2026			
Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
Mrs T Balgobin	1344	£ 543.90	Salary / Expenses (May 26)
HMRC	1345	£ 155.88	Tax / Employer NI (May 26)
Harescombe PCC	1346	£ 750.00	Grant towards the upkeep of St Swithuns Churchyard
Bluetree Website Design Limited	1347	£ 30.00	Website Domain Renewal Fee
PATA UK	1348	£ 40.35	PATA Payroll Services
Zurich Municipal	1349	£ 660.93	Parish Council Insurance Renewal
	Total	£ 2,181.06	

The Council unanimously agreed that the above payments be made.

10. TO DISCUSS THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE BLEED KIT PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE:

This was discussed and it was agreed that they would be invited to the July meeting to give a presentation to the Council on the initiative.

11. COUNCILLORS REPORTS:

- Cllr John Hendry tendered his apologies for the July meeting.
- Cllr Paul Gaze advised that the revised date for the Village Hall AGM would be Thursday 2 July @ 7pm. He also confirmed that the Village Hall Committee had accepted a regular booking from a local playgroup for Monday / Tuesday / Thursday and Friday.

12. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 7 July 2026 at 7.45pm in the Brookthorpe Village Hall**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.32PM**

Signed: **Dated:**