

BICKLEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

The Council Offices, The Woolwell Centre, Darklake Lane, Woolwell, PL6 7TR

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Minutes of a meeting of Bickleigh Parish Council held on Thursday 27th November 2025 at 7.30pm at the Woolwell Centre

Present: Cllr Larry Taylor (in the Chair), Cllr Andrew Clarke, , Cllr Paul Blight, Cllr Geoff Pithouse, Cllr Nicky Hopwood, Cllr Jackie Taylor, Mrs Helen Broughton (Clerk)

In attendance: Cllr Brian Hill (who attended remotely) 1 member of the public

Minute number: 251127:

Open Forum

The applicant for planning application 3096/25/FUL, relating to the proposed development of a single dwelling at Coombe Park Farm, spoke in support of the proposal. She noted that this is a second, amended pre-application and confirmed that neighbours had been notified and raised no objections.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllr Brian Hill (who was unable to attend in person, however was joining remotely).
2. Cllr Paul Blight declared an interest in item 8ii and planning application 3287/25/FUL, the nature of his interest being that he was an employee of The Dodd Group.
3. There were no **dispensations requests** received.
4. **Minutes**
It was resolved to approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23rd October 2025 and that these be signed by the acting Chair.
5. **Reports and updates**
 - i. The County Councillor had circulated a written report (appendix A)
 - ii. Cllr Hopwood reported that the District Council had voted on the local government review (LGR) and would be sending proposals in to the government. A document on the full LGR proposal was available if anyone wished to receive a copy.
 - iii. There were no further updates on local government re-organisation.
6. **Clerks Report**
The action list had been circulated and it was noted that SW Security Ltd and Chubb had been advised that the key holding and security contracts were being terminated from 12th January 2026.

7. **Finance and Administration**

- i. Receipts and payments against budget as at 31st October 2025 were noted. The Clerk was asked to check the grass cutting contract and payments.
- ii. The bank reconciliations to the 31st October 2025 had been reviewed and it was agreed that these be signed by the Chair.
- iii. It was agreed that a grant application from Roborough Village Hall would remain on the agenda until further information was available.
- iv. The 2026/27 budget was considered and approved. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to request a precept of £116,037 for the 26/27 financial year.
- v. The following payments were approved and it was noted that invoices had been sent electronically to Councillors and had been 'examined and verified' by the RFO'.

Pre-paid

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
Cutec	MS 365 and hosting fee	71.16	11.86	59.30
Unity Bank	Service Charge	7.20	0	7.20
Arborcure	Monthly grass cutting	1004.30	167.38	836.92

For approval

SUPPLIER	DETAILS	TOTAL	VAT	NET
Cleanwise	Bus shelter cleaning	38	0	38
ADF Plastics	Retention	1332.20	0	1332.20
Arborcure	Monthly grass cutting	1004.30	167.38	836.92
H Broughton	Salary November	707.35	0	707.35
Nest	Pension October	67.46	0	67.46
Chubb	Fire alarm service	454.79	75.80	378.99

8. **Woolwell Centre**

- i. Notes of the Woolwell Centre Working Group had been circulated.
- ii. The Woolwell Centre Working Group proposed approving a HVAC maintenance proposal and schedule received from the Dodd Group at a cost of £3209.64 This was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed.

9. **Planning**

The following responses to planning applications were agreed:

3096/25/FUL - Coombe Park Farm, Roborough Down, Plymouth PL6AS. Proposed development of a single dwelling (in lieu of Class Q permission 3115/24/PDM).

No objection

3287/25/FUL - Land at SX 523 619. Bickleigh Barracks Royal Marine Camp. Demolition of existing single living accommodation & mess building, tennis court & hard landscaped areas; & construction of new single living accommodation & mess building & associated development.

Comment:

Planning Statement

Reading the planning statement section 6 paragraph 6.5 is incorrect as there is currently a neighbourhood plan in force and therefore should be considered.

Construction Management Plan.

Operational times need to be scrutinised as the church has weddings during the weekends so Saturdays need to be curtailed for construction and deliveries - as the road is frequently filled with parked cars for those attending the church.

This document provides no details with regards to the number of vehicle movements (LGV & HGV), during the course of the build. The access route along New Road is already very narrow and pedestrians frequently traverse the highway via the road due to excessive growth of the adjacent hedgerows. PC would like a more detailed report stating how many vehicle movements per day and also the maximum weight of vehicle that will be permitted during the construction and demolition phases.

Speed restrictions need to be addressed by the Highway Authority for vehicles passing through the village, as there are children and animals that play on the village green and associated areas.

Noise levels need to be monitored beyond the boundary of the works as the neighbourhood contains a significant number of elderly residents for which a continues noise would cause both stress and anxiety.

Community Liaison.

As Parish Councillors live in the village the engagement from the CSRP has not been very active - as this is the first time that the development has been noted. The PC therefore suggests that a meeting of residents takes place of an evening to discuss, what is after all, a significant construction and demolition project that will have a direct impact on the neighbourhood for an extended period of time. It is suggested that SHDC planning are also in attendance.

10.

Environment

i. Update on the appointment of a contractor for weed clearing

The appointed contractor would be undertaking Chapter 8 training in January. Cllr Hopwood had arranged for the Neighbourhood Highway Officer, Nick Colton, to attend on the first day of works, to provide guidance and ensure work was carried out as expected.

ii. Roborough Green hedge

The contractor had cut the hedge last week, with the roadside section still to be

completed shortly. Queries had been raised by residents regarding several section of the hedges that remained uncut. Cllr Hopwood explained that the hedge outside numbers 21 and 23 Blackeven Close is in poor condition due to lack of sunlight, and overhanging trees prevent the contractor from cutting it. The dividing hedge between numbers 19 and 21 Blackeven Close is approximately 10 feet high, meaning that cutting the section bordering Roborough Green would have little impact for residents. Regarding the hedge outside number 17 Blackeven Close, it was believed that this is not the responsibility of the Parish Council, as it is not a beech hedge. It was also noted that the trees in this area are subject to TPOs. It was therefore proposed that the hedges in these locations should not be cut, and this was unanimously agreed.

12. **Roborough Village Hall:** Cllr Pithouse gave an update on Roborough Village Hall. One Trustee had resigned. One of the Trustees had thanked Cllrs Blight and Larry Taylor for providing advice and information.
13. The **date of the next meeting** was agreed as 22nd January 2026

The meeting closed at 8.20pm