

## BINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Assembly held in Binton Village Hall on  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor Flaxman (in the Chair)  
Councillors Richard Cox, Alex Finch, Tom Lloyd and Colin Taylor  
Clerk: Karen Parnell - One member of the public was present

1) **Apologies for acceptance**

SDC Cllr Cliff Brown

2) **Minutes** of the Parish Assembly held in 2024

The minutes were signed as an accurate record.

3) **Matters arising** from those minutes

None

4) **Chairman's report**

It's been yet another interesting, and at the same time fairly quiet year for the parish council with the end of the COVID pandemic bringing some normality for now. There has seemed no end to the continuation of the Ukraine hostilities and the Gaza war. Hopefully things have returned to a semblance of normal in the UK although events in April 2025 which have disrupted world economies may take a while to settle down.

We have local elections on May 1st 2025, for the County Council and for our SDC district councillor vacancy as Manuela Perteghella was elected as the Stratford upon Avon Member of Parliament. The Parish Council is very much under strength at 5 councillors from a total of 7.

Parish council meetings have continued in person. The Binton WhatsApp group and the Binton Life Facebook page are active and running well. Many events have continued to take place in the last year around the Village Hall. We have continued to maintain the Village Green as well as possible and the Council supports our local church with a small maintenance grant and the Village Hall with a contribution to the running costs.

The Village Hall Committee continues to run the hall successfully with a considerable number of initiatives. The accounts and the Committee's report on the Village Hall activities follows this report. I would wish to minute my thanks once again to Laura Hamilton and the committee. The committee, chaired by Cllr Finch, must be congratulated by the Parish Council on the continued village activities promoted at the hall. Daffodils are currently flowering as part of Binton in bloom funded by the Village Hall. In due course further plants will be obtained and nurtured.

### Parish Council activities

The council tried to identify the ownership of the track next to Village Green and adjacent footpath. Subsequent to procuring documents from the Land Registry and much communication it is unlikely there is anyone identifiable in ownership of the piece of track in question. There is no registered title and no known owner. WCC are unlikely to become involved with maintenance of this area. Binton PC will undertake no further work on this matter.

Regarding speeding and traffic volumes which continue to be a focus for residents, the parish council acquired a third speed warning sign. Councillor Piers Daniell was able to contribute £1,000 towards the cost from his WCC fund. Unfortunately, a traffic incident destroyed one of our warning sign posts and damaged the sign which had to be repaired. Insurance did not cover the while cost and the offending motorist has not been identified. We do now have speed and traffic volume data for the centre of the village but, as before, the police take no action to deter speeding motorists. I do not think we will see improvements until the S78 Shottery Western bypass is completed. This work may start in summer this year.

A meeting was convened in February 2025 by Manuela Perteghella with National Highways and others to discuss the S78 road. Binton Parish Council was represented by Cllrs Flaxman and Lloyd. The meeting is reported under the SDC councillor's report, and this is on the PC web site in detail along with all of the presentations and meeting actions. It was good to understand the position of Bloor Homes who are ready to carry out the work. It may be that road space will be given for the works to start on June or July 2025.

The parish council, in setting the precept for 2025/26 maintained the precept at £7,500 pa. We set aside a budget of £2,000 for unspecified village improvements.

With changes to our local representation and a very much reduced parish council going forward, the year may be interesting. My personal thanks to those residents who have attended our meetings, the Parish Clerk, my Parish Council colleagues, the Village Hall committee and thanks to our local County and District councillors who are both leaving us on 30th April 2025.

Mike Flaxman  
Chair - Binton Parish Council

### 5) **Village Hall Committee**

#### **Binton Village Hall Committee Annual Report 2024-2025**

Laura Hamilton (Chair) Alexander Finch (Vice Chair), Diana Scott, Susan Joyce and Lizzie Bentley

## **Introduction**

It has been another successful year for the Pop-up Cafe held on the second Saturday of each month, becoming a main fixture in the local area, with a fabulous turnout every time it is on. We serve cakes, coffees and teas with all the takings going towards the upkeep of the Hall. The pop-up shop is also a big hit selling local crafts, eggs, bread and honey, along with edible goods for our customers to enjoy at home. We take 10% of the takings from the shop sales, which also goes to the upkeep of the Hall.

We hold a seedling swap in the Spring and a Crop Swap in the Summer, which runs alongside the pop-up cafe and has been a great success with the residents. There are a number of local volunteers that like to help us organise and serve on the day, enjoying the camaraderie that the Pop-up Café brings.

The committee decided that our December pop-ups will be free to the Binton Residents to say thank you for all their support throughout the year. We will be organising a charity fund raising event also that month, so the residents can nominate a charity to receive the money raised. Binton in Bloom has been gratefully received in the village with us donating daffodil bulbs, which the residents have planted around the verges and requests for more to be donated for the following season. We have also supplied some plants and shrubs to the Village Green.

We now have a number of yoga classes running throughout the year and a tuition class that runs on a Tuesday evening, and they are now looking to do another class on Wednesday evenings. This takes place during term times.

There have been a some of children's birthday parties at the Hall.

Another project that we have helped out on is a "Welcome to Binton" Hamper, which the locals and the Hall donate to. It is filled with edible goodies, flowers, a list of useful numbers and local information.

We are in discussion with St Peter's church to hold another Strawberry Cream Tea event at the church and a Quiz night at the hall. There is an upcoming meeting about setting up wine tasting events at the hall. The hall has also been used as a polling station and a surgery for our local MP.

## **Regular bookings**

Monday Yoga (pm), Tuesday 11+ tuition (pm), 3rd Wednesday of the month Yoga (am), Thursday Yoga (am and pm), 2nd Saturday of the month pop up café

## **Summary of Accounts**

Income £8,193.22, Outgoings £3,981.67, Closing balance £11,244.22.

### **6) District and County Councillor's reports**

Not present

### **7) Open forum**

Not required

Meeting closed 7.15pm