



A Meeting of Berrow Parish Council was held at Berrow Village Hall on
Wednesday 18th June 2025, at 7.15pm

PRESENT: Councillors C. Dyer (Chairman), K Green, R. Dyer, M Stannard,
R Welland

IN ATTENDANCE: Jim Murray (Clerk), Unitary Cllrs Grimes & Filmer

216/25 To receive apologies for absence - NONE

217/25 Declaration of Interests – NONE DECLARED

218/25 Approval of minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2025 – the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were agreed unanimously by the Cllrs and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr Stannard

219/25 Public Participation

This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to participate at a specified part of the meeting by asking questions, raising concerns or making comments on matters affecting Berrow.
(15 minutes)

220/25 Unitary Councillors reports and the police if present: Cllr Grimes informed the meeting that SC still must find savings of £101 million to balance their budgets. The third Financial Interim Officer has been appointed at a cost of £270K for nine months. There is to be pay and grading review to be carried out following the creation of the unitary authority. This will be at a cost of £3 million and take over to years to complete. Cllr Filmer stated that the proposed new boundaries consultation is still open until August 2025. Berrow is proposed to join up with Brean and Burnham North.

221/25 PLANNING – NONE

222/25 Chairmans report - NONE

223/25 Clerks report - NONE

224/25 Parish Council vacancies/co-option – it was agreed the Clerk to email BOS.com to advertise the vacancies. Posters to be placed in the Co-op, Village Hall and the Church notice boards

225/25 Keys for groups update – to date only one group had come forward with the named key holders. To that extent, the Clerk to contact locksmiths, to quote for changes all the Council's locks and then invoice the groups using the facilities.

226/25 Zip wire update – the Clerk had met up with the contractor to clarify the cost of repair. It was agreed to proceed with the repair, but initially the trees had to be cleared for the work to take place.

227/25 Defibrillator Training – as the Clerk has no knowledge of the maintenance of the defibrillator, it was agreed to arrange a training session to include the volunteers who act as responders as well. Costings were asked for a replacement cabinet. The Clerk to write to Brent Knoll Clerk to ask about their defibrillator which is rented, which includes all maintenance.

228/25 EDF application for funding – the Clerk now has the link to start making application for funding. It was agreed that a "wish list" be put together and a small working group set up to monitor any application.

229/25 Authorise transfer from current bank account to instant access account – the Clerk informed the Cllrs that the internet bank (Unity Trust) can now offer an account which will attract a small amount of interest. It was agreed unanimously for the Clerk to set this up as soon as possible

230/25 Finance Matters

a) To approve payments for the current month's expenditure

Nina Squibb – Cleaning + materials May	£408.85
Clerks Salary – May	£1366.75
Clerks PAYE - May	£341.80
Employers NIC - May	£193.73
Clerks expenses May	£67.95
PGC Contracts – parish maintenance 2 of 12 2025	£1803.60
L R Harvey – Handyman April	£600.00
Brian Read – white lining May	£600.00 (TBC)
Mark Fiddes – tree work at Village Green	£300.00 TO CHECK
Mark Fiddes – tree work at Village Green	£1800.00 TO CHECK
Village Hall – hire of room – inv 1508	£20.00
GB Sport & Leisure – playground inspection	£54.00
SALC – Cllr training	£25.00
Burnham Waste x 2 skips – inv 72689/73334	£630.00
Rialtus termination invoice	£191.93
Rangers invoice re repair to toilets	£65.55
Rangers Invoice for May+ float	£650.00

b) to minute payment to P Hawkins – agreed at the April meeting of £12000.00 re boiler work deposit

DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS

Electricity – 13.04.25 – 12.05.25	£293.43
Gas – 02.04.25 01.05.25	£61.29
BT – May (new contract price)	£57.54

The above will be paid by BACS with Unity Trust Bank (internet banking)

VAT where applicable

Discussions took place re the tree surgeon's invoices and was agreed that the Clerk to set up a meeting with him to ascertain his work to date. Berrow has a "lot" of tress which the PC is responsible for. In the meantime, the Clerk to ask Clerk's within the area who they use for all their tree work.

Concerns were raised with the increased cost of electricity. It was agreed that the Clerk do an analysis of costs over the past 2 years usage, and in the meantime obtain some quotes from other suppliers

The new Ranger was discussed, and in essence, it was working out very well indeed, with him being proactive with some small remedial works. A small list of jobs is to be collated and then passed onto the Ranger to carry out. The Clerk to ask him to repair the sign at the entrance to the children's play area on the Village Green. The new boilers have now been installed and should be operational with the next week. It will then be planned that Ranger and some Cllrs be given training of how to use them etc.

- c) **Bank reconciliation & budget update as at 30th May 2025** – this was presented to the Cllrs and it was agreed that this would be distributed every month, along with the bank reconciliation.

231/25 Cllrs Matters of Report

Following the recent football tournament, discussions took place of how to do it better if they return in 2026. Another organiser has contacted the Clerk for another tournament. The Clerk to investigate the possibilities of holding another tournament

The Clerk had received a letter from a resident, asking to place a picnic bench in the playpark, in memory of their son who sadly passed away in 2023. The Clerk to obtain some quotes of the bench, to include installation and report back

Agenda items for next meeting –

Date of the next Parish Council meeting
Tuesday JULY 8TH 2025 at 7.15pm

Signed by Chairman

Date