

Bunbury Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting held at The Jubilee Pavilion, Bunbury, on

Wednesday 17th June 2026 at 7.20pm

Present: Councillors: Tracy Cosgrave, Maya Fowler, Peter Gorman, Mike Thomas, Richard Slater, Andrew Thomson (Chair).

In attendance: The Clerk and two members of the public.

Jun26-1. Apologies

Cllrs Randall and Parker had submitted apologies and the reasons were approved.

Jun26-2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Considerations

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation considerations.

Jun26-3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th May 2026 were a true record and that the Chair be authorised to sign them as such.

Jun26-4. Unitary Authority Councillor Report

Borough Cllr Posnett reported that:

- ◆ There had been no major meetings over the past month.
- ◆ The chief executive had resigned, due to ill health.
- ◆ The Go-To Bus service hours have been extended.
- ◆ The new Leighton Hospital building has now had the go ahead.
- ◆ There is a new children's charity centre in Crewe which is a welcome addition but rural services are still needed.

Jun26-5. Public Forum

A resident spoke to say that she had been pleased to see the recent refusals of planning permission on the basis of Open Countryside matters.

Another resident thanked all those involved in Village Day which he thought had been extremely successful.

Jun26-6. Members' Reports & Items for Future Agendas

- ◆ Cllr Gorman:
 - The Newsletter had been distributed without any hitches.
 - The next edition will be brought before the Spetember meeting and distribution will take place the following week.
 - Village Day had gone to plan and had been a great success.
 - Mr Peter McCleave had been awarded the OBE in the King's honours. The Council extended its congratulations to him.
- ◆ Cllr Thomas reported that the wooden hand rail on the bridge over the stream on School Lane has become dangerous due to exposure of nails due to wood rot. This will be the responsibility of CEC.
- ◆ Cllr Fowler reported tha the builder's A frame was still attached to the dog bin post in School Lane and that parking of cars near the gate of the church forces cars to travel on the wrong side of the road on the sharp bend and is highly likely to cause an accident.
- ◆ Cllr Slater reported that the safety bark for the play area had been delivered and distributed by volunteers over two separate days and material for repair of the soft-pour had also been delivered.
- ◆ Councillor Thomson reported that one of the Bunbury Journals from 30 years ago, that had

been on display on at the Council's Village Day stall, had carried a report to the effect that traffic and speeding were problems; he noted that these two problems that the Council is currently working on, are not new ones.

Jun26-7. Planning

a. Responses to Application Consultations

There were no applications to consider.

b. Updates on Application Consultations considered previously or other planning matters.

- ◆ There were no new decisions to report about outstanding applications but consideration of the Parkside application had again been deferred by CEC.
- ◆ The application at Heath Villa had been refused largely on the grounds that the proposed development would have been in Open Countryside.
- ◆ There were several applications that have not been resolved by the Planning Authority despite being months old.
- ◆ Cllr Thomson reported that CEC had announced that it is starting work on a new Local Plan which had surprised him as they had previously announced work on the Plan.

Jun26-8. Village Day Stall

Thanks were noted to Cllrs Cosgrave and Gorman and the Clerk for setting up the gazebo and stall and to Cllr Cosgrave for keeping it staffed. Cllr Cosgrave reported that very few people had visited: five adults and two groups of children. Comments made by the public will be added to comments that the questionnaire will glean in September.

Cllr Fowler asked that the date of next year's Village Day be circulated as soon as possible so that all Councillors can keep the date free.

It was agreed that the site was very poor and the prevailing wind had made it necessary to mount the gazebo away from the wind. The Gazebo itself had been generously provided by Cllr Parker, It was noted that the addition of eyelets along the bottom of 'walls' would help to make it more resilient in the face of high winds. The banner had had to be placed inside the gazebo.

The display material was felt to be a little bland and thin and had been contributed by only two Councillors and the Clerk - more and earlier material (to enable collaborative development of the material) would be needed if the stall were to be repeated in the future. It was agreed to start discussing plans for the 2027 village day in January.

Jun26-9. Play Area Annual Safety Report

It was noted that there was a considerable number of issues raised although many of those had been addressed by the addition of new bark. Timberplay would be visiting soon to carry out maintenance of the zip wire and inspect the other pieces of equipment but in the meantime it was resolved to disable the swings on the hexagonal frame and install notices on the equipment because there seems to be too much movement in the frame.

The stone equipment, while being rated as low risk, could benefit from the addition of split tyres and this will be taken forward with the other matters highlighted in the report which were of lower risk and were not immediately urgent, especially given the forthcoming further inspection. The matter will be carried forward for ongoing discussion, including the possibility of a monthly inspection rota.

Jun26-10. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that:

- ◆ A further letter was received from the family which had previously expressed concern about the Council's post on WhatsApp about vandalism in Sadlers Wells. He had responded explaining plainly that there was no foundation to their complaints and no further correspondence had been received.
- ◆ Planning Enforcement had written, finally, to say that they had ruled that the red clothes bank receptacle at the village hall had been judged to be unacceptable. It was noted that the report to enforcement had been made six months ago and that the receptacle had been removed several months ago.
- ◆ The Clerk reminded members that they were due to have submitted a wish list and ideas to

kickstart the discussion about strategic planning, So far he had heard from only two Members.

Jun26-11. Finance & Governance

a. Receipts and Payments - Members received the schedule of receipts and payments and it was resolved to approve the payments.

Jun26-12. Items for the WhatsApp Bulletin

It was resolved that the Tree of the month and the closure of the hexagonal tyre swing would be posted. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the WhatsApp group is for announcements only and so members were requested not to respond to posts (because as group 'administrators' Councillors' responses do appear and give the wrong impression of the nature of the group).

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed as a true record, by authority of the Council

Chair:

Date: 17th June 2026