



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



Draft Minutes

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Full Parish Council held on Monday 2nd February 2026 at 7.00pm at The Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach.

Signed – S D Grierson-Hill

02.26.0 INTRODUCTION:

- a) Meeting attendees: *Cllrs. Reading (CR), Bevan (JB), Ellis (TE), White (SW) and Webb (JW).*
- b) Apologies for absence: *Cllr. Inns, Smith.*
- c) Absentees: *None.*

02.26.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: *None.*

02.26.2 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- a) Approval of full Parish Council minutes for January 2026: *Approved and signed by Cllr. Reading.*

02.26.3 PUBLIC FORUM – members of the public have a cumulative 15 minutes to address the Parish Council. No resolutions other than those on the agenda can be resolved from items raised in the public forum.

One member of public present – spectating only.

Cllr. Reading requested item 02.26.7a be brought forward – it was agreed.

02.26.4 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a) CBC Councillor Mark Versallion report: *Cllr. Versallion did not attend, no report received.*
- b) Clerks report: *Emailed to PC prior to meeting.*

02.26.5 MATTERS ARISING (for info only):

- a) Speed watch update:
No response to Facebook or PC information sheet for new volunteers. Four sessions carried out during January. 16th Jan; Leighton Road (near clocktower) 360 vehicles, 3 exceeding 35mph, 38mph highest recorded. 20th Jan; Woburn Road (opposite Heath Inn) 243 cars, 5 exceeding 35mph, 40mph highest recorded. 26th Jan; Woburn Road, by Grange Gardens, 267 vehicles, 3 exceeding 35mph, 37mph highest recorded. 28th Jan; Leighton Road (by clocktower) 294 vehicles, 5 exceeding 35mph, 39mph highest recorded. PCSO Hemmings attended this session. Speed watch co-ordinator asked due to the lack of volunteers, if any PC members were able to help, unfortunately, no one came forward. SW Co-ordinator happy to come along to future meeting to inform Public on the value of Speed watch and what it can achieve. This was considered a good idea, and Clerk will liaise with Co-ordinator to arrange. Clerk advised that she is still waiting to hear from CBC for permission to mount new community speed watch signs on their posts at the four entrances to the village.

b) Extension of lease agreement on Bryants Lane car park & pavilion:

AWE have asked for a clause to be inserted into the agreements restricting the PC from objecting to future planning applications from AWE or their agents. This is a clause that they attempted to include in early discussions that the PC did not agree to and was therefore excluded from the draft lease agreement. The position of the PC remains the same in relation to this clause; therefore, it stays in the hands of the solicitors.



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- c) **Update on traffic calming information leaflet:**
Leaflet has been distributed to all properties within the village. So far, 18 responses have been received. Clerk will collate the information ready for the meeting in March.
- d) **AWE public presentation – Eastern Way development:** *AWE have organised a public meeting to be held at The British Legion on Thursday 12th February between 12 and 8pm with a second one at Astral Park Sports & Community Centre on Friday 13th February between 4.30 and 8.30pm. Members of the public can see the masterplan and provide feedback on the proposal for the Eastern Way Development either at the exhibition or at www.easternwayquarries.org.uk (after the event).*
- e) **Police Priority Setting Meeting:** *TE attended the recent PPSM. He spoke about the concern regarding vehicle break ins within the village. PCSO referred to emails received from PC regarding the issue. Updated contact details given for the new PCSO lisa.pollard@beds.police.uk who will hopefully be in touch with some ideas to help prevent future crime. It was reported on Facebook that the Police have been out, door knocking in Abbey Walk area, this is a positive sign.*
- f) **Co-op store, community asset update:** *PC have received the response from their application to register the store as a community asset. This has been accepted and is now registered on the list with Central Bedfordshire Council.*

02.26.6 Planning & Environment:

- a) **CB/26/0005/FULL - 4 Reach Lane. Garage conversion to garden room:** IT WAS AGREED.

02.26.7 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION & RESOLUTION (where possible)

- a) **Church parking:** David Stephenson (Church Warden) to attend to report on possible car parking plans for the Church.
The Church have approached the Diocese about lack of parking, prompting a site visit. There is a suggestion of the church utilising the grass area to the left and right of the church driveway. PC have previously noted, after following advice from the ICCM (Institute for Cemetery and Cremation Management) they would not support this. However, in light of existing parking concerns, PC would be open to seeing possible proposals. Church to explore potential solutions which would be subject to the relevant Planning permissions. It is noted that the PC is not responsible for the area suggested.
- f) **Public forum in March:** It is considered that the public forum may be busy in March due to the results of the traffic calming leaflet response and the AWE public presentation for Eastern Way Quarries.
Motion – to vote on the necessity to increase the public forum to 30 minutes for March:
IT WAS AGREED.
- g) **Internal audit:**
Motion – to consider cost (£165.00) for internal audit to be submitted from April 2026 for year 2025/26 and agree.
IT WAS AGREED.



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02.26.8

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- a) Community: £7,001.93 Savings: £383.95
32 day notice account: £67,840.59 Unity Bank: £48,241.51

b) Payments:

Markland Gardens	£ 400.00
Reynold Landscapes (Monthly grass cutting)	£ 345.60
Sue Grierson-Hill	£1,078.53
Sue Grierson-Hill (leaflet printing)	£ 155.00
RGH Services (part payment toddler group trolley and replacement ball valve Bryants Lane)	£ 215.00

c) Direct debits/Standing orders:

Bri Gas (Bryants Lane)	£ 110.56
Bri Gas (Clock tower)	£ 80.01
Litter picker (Bryants Lane)	£ 67.20
Anglian Water	£ 133.00
NEST Pension	£ 17.90
Waste Managed	£ 117.75
One Group	£ 72.00

02.26.9

AOB/ Items to go on next agenda:

*Eastern Way Quarries (AWE) presentation.
Millenium Gardens – plants.*

02.26.10

Date of next meeting: 2nd March 2026

Meeting closed at: 7.41pm

In accordance with The Data Protection Act 2018 all attendees of the meeting are hereby notified that the meeting will be recorded as an aide memoire for the clerk when compiling the minutes. The recordings are held securely and are deleted after the resolution that the minutes are a true and correct record.