



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



Draft Minutes

Draft minutes of the meeting of the Full Parish Council held on Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.10pm (following Annual Parish Council Meeting) at The Village Barn, Eastern Way, Heath & Reach

Signed – S D Grierson-Hill

05.25.0 INTRODUCTION:

- a) Meeting attendees: *Cllrs. Fitzpatrick, Reading, Inns & Bevan.*
- b) Apologies for absence: *Cllrs. Boyden & Smith.*
- c) Absentees: *None.*

05.25.1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: *None.*

05.25.2 APPROVAL OF PARISH COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MINUTES:

- a) Approval of full Parish Council minutes for April 2025: *Approved and signed by Cllr. Reading.*
Approval of draft minutes for Annual Parish Meeting April 2025: *Approved and signed by Cllr. Reading.*

05.25.3 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 – no comment to make.

05.25.4 PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a) CBC Councillor Mark Versallion report: *Cllr. Versallion attended.*
There is no further progression with traffic calming through Village and Thrift Road, mainly due to lack of money at CBC. Although Central Government allocated additional funds to Highways, CBC redirected these funds for other uses, resulting in no increase to the Highways budget.
The Ranch, Miletree Road has a current planning application to formalise some of the pitches that were not properly established.

MV continues to express concerns about the appointment system at the Tidy Tip, questioning its cost-effectiveness. The system is scheduled for a review in 6 months.

The planning application for development of Leighton Buzzard Garden Centre has gone to appeal. CBC will not defend their decision to refuse the application.

Cllr. Reading asked MV to forward email regarding possible options regarding traffic calming as apparently discussed in meetings with CBC or alternatively to give Kyle Stewart (CBC) authority to forward list to PC. MV confirmed that he will do this however stated that there is nothing new on the table.

- b) Clerks report: *Forwarded to all members of PC prior to meeting.*



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



- 05.25.5 MATTERS ARISING (for info only):**
- a) **Extension of lease agreement on Bryants Lane car park & pavilion:** Clerk confirmed outstanding enquiry regarding an outdated planning application number registered on new lease agreement is still being investigated. Due to it seeming irrelevant Clerk has asked for this to be removed from lease agreement and is awaiting a response.
 - b) **VE Day Celebrations:** The Clerk reported that the celebrations were successful and she has received several expressions of gratitude from attendees. Councillor Inns expressed her appreciation to the Clerk for organizing the event. Budget set £500, budget spent £ 303.27.
 - c) **Collision into Millennium Gardens:** On 30th April 2025, a car entered Millennium Gardens. The vehicle was promptly removed from the site. The clerk has obtained a collision report number and is in communication with the insurance company.

- 05.25.6 Planning & Environment:**
Any applications received between published agenda and meeting, wherever possible, will be considered.
- a) **CB/25/01109/LB – 1 south Lodge, Old Linslade Road. Listed building:**
Replace section of 1.8m feather edged front fence with 1.8m x 3.6m brick wall.
Provided it complies with the listed building consent, the Parish Council has no comment to make.

- 05.25.7 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION & RESOLUTION (where possible)**
- a) **Speed watch & traffic calming:**
Cllr. Reading reported that a fixed unit by The Axe & Compass for 10 days showed no significant speeding issue; few drivers would have received tickets.
Cllr. Inns noted the unit's position was not ideal due to existing traffic calming measures such as SID's close by, Church parking and deliveries to the Pub. Councillor Reading will contact Peter Wood regarding the placement of a unit on Woburn Road.
 - b) **Community Governance Review 2025:**
CGR to be carried out by CBC starting 30th June 2025.
Review to consider:
 - The creation, merger, alteration or abolition of parishes;
 - The naming of Parishes and the style of any new or revised parish;
 - Electoral arrangements for existing parishes, including council size, the number of Councillors to be elected to the Council, parish warding;
 - Grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas.Motion: PC to consider any proposals that need to be put forward prior to the 30.06.2025.
PC have no proposals to put forward but stated that they wish Heath and Reach to stay as a Village and not be grouped with other Parish's – IT WAS AGREED.

- c) **Dog off lead area: quarterly review:**
Cllr. Bevan noted that the area has shown improvement after repair works on holes conducted in the last 3 months.



HEATH & REACH PARISH COUNCIL



d) Approval of 2024/25 Annual Accounts:

The annual accounts to be presented to the Council by the Clerk.

Motion: The Council to accept the Annual Parish Council Accounts as a true record of the year's financial proceedings for submission to the External Auditor.

Accounts accepted and signed by Cllr. Reading.

05.25.8 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION:

- a) Community: £18,577.44 Instant Access : £ 382.00
32 day notice account: £ 76,782.06 Unity Bank: £37,517.14

b) Payments:

Markland Gardens	£ 445.00
Reynold Landscapes (Monthly grass cutting March & April)	£1,624.80
Reynolds Landscapes (removal of conifer trees, Cemetery)	£ 192.00
Sue Grierson-Hill	£1,035.82
Sue Grierson-Hill expenses (VE Day cost & newsletter)	£ 359.27
Julie Betts (Internal Audit)	£ 160.00
Easy PC Accounts annual charge	£ 108.00
Goodfellers Tree Surgeons	£1,188.00
Simplink	£ 36.00

c) Direct debits/Standing orders:

Bri Gas (Bryants Lane)	£ 61.81
Bri Gas (Clock tower)	£ 30.90
Litter picker (Bryants Lane)	£ 61.20
Anglian Water	£ 45.00
NEST Pension	£ 16.87
Waste Managed	£ 117.75

05.25.9 AOB (for information only)/Items to go on next agenda:

None.

05.25.10 Date of next meeting: 2nd June 2025

Meeting closed at: 7.36pm

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.