

Brookland Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7.15 pm in Brookland Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Kennedy (in the Chair), Rhys Jones & Yeo-Toft

In attendance : Mr. Eaton, Clerk to the Council

Action by

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bicknell and FHDC Cllr Martin

2 Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests regarding items on the Agenda

3 Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st January 2026 were unanimously approved and signed

4 Questions from members of the public / public participation

There was a discussion about the fire alarm at the School sounding without good reason which was causing disturbance to residents living nearby. Cllr Rhys Jones kindly offered to discuss this with local residents to establish the extent of the problem

Cllr Rhys Jones

5 Planning

There were no new planning applications to consider

6 Reports from outside bodies

There were no FHDC or KCC reports to note

7 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment –	£
HMRC, Clerk's tax (2 months)	130.40
Brookland Village Hall, hall hire	48.00

The finance report for the period 1st April – 31st Dec 2025 was discussed and the large balance in hand noted. There was also a discussion about the CIL monies held by the Council and it was noted that various items of expenditure would be allocated to CIL at year end. The report was approved

There was a discussion about increasing the Clerk's hourly rate of pay from £15 to £15.75 effective 1st April 2026. The increase was approved, whilst acknowledging that a review would have taken place on 1st July 2026. The Clerk thanked the Cllrs for the increase

8 Correspondence and other Council business

Parish Noticeboard – Cllr Kennedy to confirm the current position

Cemetery & War Memorial Garden – It was agreed that the rose beds were very overgrown and needed to be cleared before planting. Clerk to contact M Coleman and ask him to do this

Clerk

Bus stop – There was nil of note to report

Life Vac unit – The Life Vac unit had been installed on the wall in the kitchen in the Village Hall

The vacancy on the Council - It was agreed that informal approaches be made to possible suitable candidates to establish if they would be interested in applying

Village Hall lease – There was a full and detailed discussion regarding the proposed lease. It was agreed that, as it had recently been established that the Parish Council owned the Village Hall, there was no need to grant a lease to the Village Hall Committee. The Committee are responsible for the day-to-day running and management of the Hall, reporting periodically to the Parish Council as owners and insurers of the Hall. Cllr Kennedy to liaise with the Village Hall Committee

Cllr Kennedy

Village Hall maintenance – The Village Hall Committee to obtain quotes for making one of the fire doors suitable for wheelchair users. It was agreed that the Council would then pay for the work to be undertaken

Phone box – There was nil of note to report

Highways Improvement Plan – There was nil of note to report

Village road signs – It was agreed that several road signs needed to be repaired or replaced. Cllrs to email the Clerk with details to collate and forward to Highways

Cllrs

Church doors – It was agreed that the repairs to the doors were the Church's responsibility

Facebook / Instagram – there were no developments of note - to be considered further at the May 2026 Meeting

9 Any future Agenda items

No items were suggested

10 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on 13th May 2026 at 7.15 pm in Brookland Village Hall (and thereafter on the second Wednesday of every other month)

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.00 pm