Beckbury Parish Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held on 30th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Beckbury Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr D Cummings (Chairman)

Cllr P Gibbins

Cllr N Kerr

Cllr P Hopkins

Cllr P Taylor

Also in attendance: E Callear (Clerk to the Parish Council)

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed those present.

FC/2026/027 Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

FC/2026/28 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr H Thomas and Cllr M Wild and were accepted by all present.

FC/2026/29 Declarations of Interests

None were declared.

FC/2026/030 Appointment of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer

The Council approved the appointment of the new Clerk (Proper Officer/RFO) and welcomed them to the council. All were in favour.

FC/2026/031 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The council confirmed that the Minutes of the meeting of the Full Council, which was held on 1st July 2026 were an accurate record. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

FC/2026/032 Finance

The invoice for the ROSPA safety inspection on the play equipment at the playground had been received. Banking signatories were being processed to ensure payments could be made in a timely manner. It was noted that there was the ability to pay by cheque should the need arise.

The Clerk advised that they would look at the Banking urgently to ensure that they were added to the authorised signatories, to ensure the Council can process any payments. All outstanding payments were to be paid as soon as possible.

FC/2026/033 Beckbury Playing Fields

The Council noted that the ROSPA Safety Inspection was carried out on the play equipment at the Beckbury Playing Fields on 8th September 2026. A few minor issues were noted, but no major issues had been found. There will possibly be a requirement for the chains on the swings to be replaced at some point in the future.

A councillor enquired about the gates being locked and secured with chains, but it was noted that this currently is not being done at this time. There were no issues currently.

The Council were updated on the grass cutting, with one cut remaining for this year. It was also noted that there had been a request for both sides of the gates to be tidied up.

It was noted that the old goal posts still need to be removed, and the Council were looking into the options – either for them to be donated to someone that could make use of them or for them to be disposed of.

FC/2026/034 Planning Applications

There were no planning applications to consider.

FC/2026/035 Village Maintenance

Members noted that the roads had recently been swept. Members raised the recent Environmental grant that had previously been discussed, which was to cover 50% of the cost of Road Sweeping and Gutter Clearing (A quotation had been sought from Cartwrights). It was agreed that the Clerk would follow up on this to find out if the bid had been successful.

It was noted that potholes are being reported and dealt with via the Fix My Steet App from Shropshire Council.

It was noted that hedges had been trimmed back, with hedges on Higford Lane still in need of being trimmed back. It was also noted that the trees at Higford Lane were overhanging the electrical wires.

The Chair highlighted that the Street Lighting electrical testing was due to be carried out, as this has to be completed every 5 years. The new supplier Highline had quoted £209 to carry this out. Members approved unanimously to instruct Highline to carry out the Electrical Safety Testing on Street Lights - to be done on a rolling programme. Members also considered instructing Highline to carry out trimming to the trees on Higford Lane which were tangled in the electrical wires at a cost of £95 – Members moved, seconded and approved for this to be done.

FC/2026/036 Beckbury Community Shop

Members noted that a stock take had been completed with no issues raised. It was noted that there is a shortage of volunteers for the shop, which sometimes leaves it at risk of having to close on some days. It was noted that the AGM for the Community Shop, which was held in September, was well attended. The Treasurer had reported on the Annual Accounts, and the Annual Grants had been awarded which totalled £6,000. Those awards included Beckbury Church, Beckbury School, the 'Welcome Place' project organised by the Vicar, Heather Thomas's Climate Action Group and the Playground – where a project is being developed to add further play equipment.

FC/2026/037 Beckbury Village Hall

Members noted that there will be a Tabletop Sale in October, which was to help generate funds for the running of the hall. There is a regular Yoga class being held weekly.

It was noted that further marketing of the hall may be required to bring in more bookings, so Members were encouraged to look at any options for promotion such as social media or websites that offer meeting spaces (including the Chamber of Commerce) and event hire.

Members were asked to note that there is an issue with a part of the floor at the Village Hall, which needs to be inspected and possibly repaired.

Members were asked to note that the Food Festival was to be held that weekend, which was supported by the Climate Action Group.

FC/2026/038 Police Matters

Members raised concerns about the increase in incidents of fly-tipping which were being raised with Shropshire Council. Members also noted that there had been an incident of Hare Coursing on 15th September 2026 – which had been reported.

No other Police matters were reported.

FC/2026/039 Beckbury School House

Members noted that there was a new tenant application subject to further discussions. Members were asked to note the response from the Diocese regarding the trust deed for the School House. Further updates were to follow once there were any developments.

FC/2026/040 AOB

Members were given a copy each of the latest Beckbury Parish Plan 2026, which were to be delivered to residents from 5th October. Members agreed to assist in the delivery of the plan to ensure it reached everyone.

Action: Item for the next meeting: To discuss the proposals from the Beckbury Parish Plan 2026 to develop a delivery strategy.

FC/2026/041 Date of the next meeting

Members noted the next meeting was to be held on Wednesday 4th November 2026 at 7.30pm at Beckbury Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signature of the Chairman: .....

Date: 4th Nov 2026