

# **Bengeo Rural Parish Council Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

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## **MINUTES**

<b><u>Present:</u></b>		<b><u>In Attendance:</u></b>
Cllr Tony Ellis (Chair)	Cllr Ron Brett	Victoria Preuss – Clerk
		Cllr Aubrey Holt

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25/26 – 049	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies was noted from Cllr Matthew Clutterbuck, Cllr Neil Blackaller and Cllr Jayne Abrey</p>
25/26 – 050	<p>Welcome of new Councillor</p> <p>The Chair welcomed Cllr Ron Brett to the Parish Council.</p>
25/26 - 051	<p>Declarations of Councillors’ interests pertaining to agenda items.</p> <p>None</p>
25/26– 052	<p>Minutes</p> <p>The minutes from the January 2026 meeting were reviewed, but due to not being quorate the approval of the minutes will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>
25/26 – 053	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>No public were present. Cllr Aubrey Holt provided an update concerning the move to a Unitary Authority. The final structure options are yet to be confirmed, but the move from the current structure to one of an Unitary Authority will be split into phases. Further details will be released when available.</p>
25/26 - 054	<p>Internal Audit</p> <p>a – This is a standing item on the agenda, and all open actions have been closed. This will be reviewed at the end of year meeting.</p>
25/26 - 055	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>a – Planning application 3/26/0132/FUL was received the day of the meeting. No concerns were raised.</p>
25/26 - 056	<p>Finance</p> <p>a – The Parish Clerk presented the latest finance sheet including invoice details, powers to spend and reconciliation to the cash book was presented to the Parish Council for review and their approval. The finance sheet was reviewed by those in attendance, but due to not being quorate approval will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p> <p>b - The spend to date against the budget was reviewed and noted by the Council.</p> <p>c – Uplift in payroll administration costs – due to not being quorate approval could not be given during the meeting.</p> <p>d – Asset register – the asset register was noted by the Council.</p> <p>e – Acceptance of quote - due to not being quorate approval could not be given during the meeting.</p>

25/26 - 048

Chapmore End

Cllr Ron Brett provided an update on the current issues with the pond at Chapmore End. Cllr Aubrey Holt offered to assist in finding the appropriate person within East Herts who maybe able to carry out an assessment of the pond and provide advice as to how to maintain it.

Cllr Ron Brett also update the Council in relation to the faded SLOW road marking that had been logged via the Highways fault portal. After reporting the issue, he was unable to check its status online as the fault was not showing. The Parish Clerk will follow this up with Cllr Ken Crofton as Highway issues are the responsibility of the District Council.

Tonwell

The Clerk was about to update the Council around the electricity supply to the phone box. This has now been out into the Parish Council name. There was also a discussion concerning potentially purchasing some large trees for the village and to replace one that blew down a few years ago. Cllr Aubrey Holt offered to find out if there was anyone at East Herts who maybe able to assist.

Crouchfields

Nothing to note.

Date of Next Meeting

18 May 2026