

**Minutes of the meeting of Birdingbury Parish Council
held on Monday 15th September 2025 in The Birdingbury Club, Birdingbury**

Present: Cllrs Kendell, de Nahlik, Preston, and Mrs J Chapman (clerk)

1 Welcome

Cllr Kendell opened the meeting at 19:31 hrs and welcomed those present.

2. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr Kent – apologies accepted.

3. Declarations of interest

None

4. Representations from the Public

One member of the public attended the meeting and raised their concerns over the safety of mobile phone masts.

5. Minutes of meetings

5.1 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st July 2025 were agreed as being a true and complete record of the meeting.

5.2 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th July 2025 were agreed as being a true and complete record of the meeting.

5.2 Action Plan

Noted

6. Reports from Borough/County Councillor

County Cllr/District Cllr Keeling attended the meeting. He will investigate if Rugby Borough Council has funding available for play equipment. Cllr Keeling will also check if there has been any advance with Sustrans and work to improve the footpath/cycle track. Cllr Keeling will establish who did the work on Grandborough War Memorial. Cllr Keeling may be able to help towards the cost of the war memorial refurbishment from his delegated budget.

7. Reports from Councillors

Cllr Preston asked about the destruction of the hedge along the Stockton Road. The clerk advised the police are now liaising with Long Itchington Parish Council as the hedge falls within their area.

Some of the fencing on the recreation ground joining onto the horse field has broken. Clerk to ask grass contractor to mend it.

8. Planning Applications

8.1 No planning applications have been received since the last meeting held on 21st July 2025.

8.2 Planning Decisions

No planning decision has been received since the last meeting held on 21st July 2025.

8.3 Appeals - none received.

9. Financial Issues

9.1 Standing Order/Direct Debit payments made since the last meeting held on 21st July 2025

Date	Payee	Amount
01.08.25	Clerk July 2025	
04.08.25	HMRC monthly salary deduction July 2025	

01.09.25	Clerk August salary 2025	
04.09.25	HMRC monthly salary deduction August 2025	

9.2 New Direct Debit set up

It was proposed by Cllr Preston, seconded by Cllr de Nahlik and **RESOLVED** to authorise a direct debit payment of £11.99 to Hugofox.

9.3 Payments made since meeting last held on 21st July 2025

Date	Payee	Amount
31.07.25	Unity Bank fee (see bank statement 31.07.25)	6.00
31.08.25	Unity Bank fee (see bank statement 31.07.25)	6.00
05.09.2025	Hugofox website	11.99

9.4 Payments for approval

Payee	Amount £
Michael Mann August 2025 mowing Invoice number 3458	488.40
Clerk backpay following annual pay increase (see wage slip dated 31.08.25). Plus, additional amount for August	
HMRC Additional amount following pay increase	

It was proposed by Cllr de Nahlik, seconded by Cllr Kendell and **RESOLVED** all the payments be authorised.

9.5 Payments received

£620.00 from GJ & LA French.

The Parish Council thank Mr & Mrs French for their kind donation, which will be used to purchase new goal posts for the recreation ground.

9.6 Bank Balance Reconciliation

Bank statement and reconciliation as at 31.08.25 was noted and Cllr Kendell signed the reconciliation as being correct.

9.7 Budget Reports as at 31.08.25

As at 31.08.25 – noted.

9.8 Lloyds Bank

Account remains open – awaiting closure.

9.9 Internal Audit Report

It was proposed by Cllr Preston, seconded by Cllr de Nahlik and **RESOLVED** the recommendations with the report be accepted.

9.10 Confirmation of AGAR received by Moore's (External Auditor)

The clerk confirmed she has received confirmation the AGAR has been received by the external auditors – Moore.

9.11 Clerk Pay Award 2025

The Cllrs noted the Pay Award for 2025.

9.12 Permission to increase Clerk Standing Order and HMRC Standing Order to reflect increase in pay.

It was proposed by Cllr Preston, seconded by Cllr de Nahlik and **RESOLVED** the standing orders for the clerk's salary and payment to HMRC be increased.

9.13 HMRC Rebate

No progress defer to next meeting.

10. Recreation Ground

10.1 Sovereign Compliance Quote

It was proposed by Cllr Kendell, seconded by Cllr Preston and **RESOLVED** to purchase the Compliance Quote from Sovereign £399 + VAT which will be in place for 5 years

10.2 Update from Michael Mann re the missing pole from the “Hut” climbing frame.

Clerk advised the work is due to be done shortly.

11. The Hovel

The Diocese have referred the PC’s query to Geoffrey Payton; they will be conducting an inspection of The Hovel. They noted the PC is required to give 6 months written notice to vacate the licence.

12. Goal Posts

It was proposed by Cllr Preston, seconded by Cllr de Nahlik and **RESOLVED** to purchase To determine which goal posts to buy following receipt of gift of money .

13. Emergency Plan Enclosure M

Deferred to next meeting.

14. First Responders request to include their information on BPC’s website.

It was proposed by Cllr de Nahlik, seconded by Cllr Preston and **RESOLVED** the First Responder information be included on the Parish Council’s website.

15. Sustrans

Cllr Keeling will enquire about the status of work on the railway track.

16. Digital Infrastructure – Proposal to improve mobile coverage in Birdingbury

Cllr Kent provided a report to the meeting which included:

CityFibre infrastructure now available. The Atlas Towers survey received a total of 76 responses. There was a clear demonstration of poor mobile based on responses. One outlier reported excellent coverage, but 58% reported poor and 28% no coverage. In terms of support for a new mast, 83% were supportive, 9% not supportive, 8% unsure. There were 44 text responses. Several very supportive comments, most were measured responses saying that mast should be sensibly sited. There is concern some people who have reasonable signal are objecting and in doing so impacting the majority with a poor signal. There is recognition of the importance for emergency use as house phones now fail if there is a power cut. There was a small number of very negative comments: Concern about children’s health. Mast would be an eyesore in a rural area; signal is fine if you are with the right network. Concern about detrimental eyesore in small village. Decision needs to be based on position. Residents would not want a mast if it was highly visible from village. Many residents would prefer the mast to be sites in a nearby field / on the approach to village / or on an industrial estate. Atlas Towers are now in the process of sending letters to two landowners and will let us know progress.

17. Severn Trent Drain Hole Cover Back Lane

Clerk advised this cover has been reported to Severn Trent.

18. Newcomers to the village

None

19 Items for the next Agenda

Emergency Plan, risk clean sheet, The Hovel, Budget and Precept. Policy review timetable

20. Date of next meeting - 17th November 2025

Signed

Date

DRAFT