

**Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**In the Ray Shill Room, Northway Community Hub, Northway, commencing at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: Cllr M Barnes (Chair) Cllr J Roberts (Vice Chair) (until/from C/78/26)  
Cllr J Beadle Cllr G Fancourt  
Cllr P Godwin Cllr J Llewellyn  
Cllr K Poole Cllr G Shelton  
Cllr S Terry Cllr S Ward

In Attendance: Cllr G Bocking, Tewkesbury Borough Councillor for Northway Ward  
Mrs C Woodward, Clerk of the Council  
Mrs L Stewart, Clerk's Assistant

**C/64/26 Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs R Godwin and Phennah had tendered their apologies. The Clerk explained that both councillors had expressed a need for a break from Council matters due to separate personal circumstances. Cllr Ward PROPOSED that this was agreed. Cllr Llewellyn SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

No further apologies were received.

**C/65/26 Public Participation**

No issues were raised.

**C/66/26 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made, as required by the Code of Conduct adopted by the Parish Council on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (Minute Ref C/85/23).

**C/67/26 Minutes of Previous Council Meetings**

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting that took place on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 should be approved as a true and accurate record. Cllr P Godwin SECONDED.

FOR: Cllr Ward Cllr P Godwin  
Cllr Barnes Cllr Beadle  
Cllr Fancourt Cllr Shelton  
Cllr Terry

ABSTENTIONS: Cllr Llewellyn Cllr Poole  
Cllr Roberts

**C/68/26 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report**

**C/37/27 Correspondence for Action > Gloucestershire Volunteer Awards** –  
*A nomination for Cathy Blackmore had been submitted; unfortunately, this had not been successful.*

**C/59/26 Connect to Work** – *The Employment and Skills Hub did not believe they had sufficient resources to offer this service in Northway.*

## **NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **C/68/26 Matters Arising from Council Minutes/Clerks Report (continued)**

**C/13/26 Precept** – The Clerk informed members of a letter received from a resident in relation to the precept. A response to their queries had been provided, and no further correspondence had been received.

### **C/69/26 Roads & Road Safety**

- a. **Issues of Concern** – No issues of concern were raised.
- b. **Northway Roads** – The Clerk informed that Max Kelly, Local Highways Manager at Gloucestershire County Council, hoped to secure the Roadmender for Northway during the summer. He had asked for a list of five locations within Northway to be prioritised so that he could incorporate them into a programme of work.

The Clerk mentioned that Cllr Usmar had highlighted The Park, Northway Lane and Hardwick Bank Road, but Mr Kelly had explained that The Park required a 'full reconstruction'.

Cllr Fancourt listed several areas that he considered to be in bad condition, and shared these with members, including –

Northway Lane/Hardwick Bank Road junction to Apple Tree Court.  
Kingston Road, near Westfield Avenue junction.  
The Park/Hardwick Bank Road junction.  
Grange Road.

Cllr Barnes suggested that the above were forwarded to Mr Kelly, however, it was agreed that Northway Lane should take priority.

Cllr Llewellyn mentioned that he had spoken to the Head of Carrant Brook School about re-painting of the lines (Min Ref: C/33/26). The Clerk confirmed that this was due to be done soon.

Cllr Roberts acknowledged that drainage repairs had been undertaken by Apple Tree Court.

Cllr Terry reported that residents had relayed concerns to her about cars parking on the verge along Hardwick Bank Road which left the ground a mess and restricted access for buses.

Cllr Poole highlighted the need to keep reporting issues on FixMyStreet in order for things to be addressed.

### **C/70/26 County Councillor's Report**

None available.

### **C/71/26 General Purposes Committee**

Members received the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026. It was noted that the date on the Minutes was incorrect.

### **C/72/26 Planning Committee**

Members received the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

### **C/73/26 Events Working Party**

Members received the Notes of the Events Working Party Meeting that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/74/26 Warm Space Working Party

- a. **Notes** – Members received the Notes of the Warm Space Working Party meeting that took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026.
- b. **Tea Party** – Volunteers from the Warm Space had been booked in for tea with the Borough Mayor.
- c. **Grant Feedback** – The feedback form relating to the Warm Space grant had been submitted to the Borough Council.
- d. **Updates** – Cllrs Fancourt, Godwin and Shelton were willing to assist with running Warm Space sessions if the scheme was extended. Cllrs Barnes and Terry offered availability to support on a minimal basis.

### C/75/26 Emergency Plan

Members received the Notes of the Emergency Plan Working Party Meeting that took place on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

### C/76/26 Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Bocking had forwarded a report in advance of the meeting, which had been circulated to Members. He also advised that he had received concerns from residents regarding HGVs and construction vehicles travelling through Northway and had directed them to the police in order to log these issues. He encouraged residents to take photographs where possible and report incidents to the police, as this would help to build a case

### C/77/26 Council Accounts

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the accounts for payment, totalling £25,696.28 should be approved. Cllr Roberts SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/78/26 Parish Assembly

- a. **Feedback** – Cllr Terry felt that the Parish Assembly had gone well. However, she found the Youth Club's report and attitude towards the Council offensive. She felt that any concerns should have been raised directly with the Council rather than at the Parish Assembly. Cllr Roberts agreed with Cllr Terry's comments. He also added that the meeting had worked well in its new format, with a good attendance of approximately 40 people. It had finished at an acceptable time, and the food had been very nice. He felt that an earlier start time would have been preferable.

Cllr Poole commented that it would have been nice to have had photographs from the skatepark opening event on display. She suggested that videos could perhaps be taken at the upcoming event in May for use at the next Parish Assembly.

Cllr Terry PROPOSED that newer councillors should be brought up to speed on the history between Northway Youth Club and the Parish Council, so that they would be better informed ahead of the Youth Club's planned visit to address the Council and request further support, as mentioned at the Parish Assembly. Cllr Ward SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

Cllr Fancourt wondered whether offering the Youth Club an extra night's use of the Village Hall might help to overcome some of the difficulties. Cllr Ward PROPOSED that an item be included on the next agenda to consider this, and other matters. Cllr Roberts SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

C/78/26 **Parish Assembly** (continued)

- b. **Sunflowers Suicide Support** – Following the interesting report provided by Sunflowers Suicide Support, the Clerk asked whether the Council wanted to take advantage of any of the training sessions that they offered including safeTALK, ASIST, Suicide First Aid Lite, or shorter bespoke sessions.

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that the Council arranged for a 90-minute bespoke session for councillors and residents to attend, taking place on a suitable evening. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- c. **Northway Infant and Carrant Brook Junior Schools** – The Head of the local primary schools in Northway had expressed, at the Parish Assembly, an interest in having greater involvement with the Council in community projects. Members discussed possible opportunities for collaboration.

Cllr Terry reported that she had recently attended meetings with the schools and had already begun exploring ideas. Discussions had included the possibility of school visits to groups held at the Hub, such as the Warm Space, Book Club, and Veterans Coffee Morning. She had also encouraged the schools to include learning about how a Parish Council works and advised that the Council could support this if required.

The Clerk reminded Members that the Council would soon have its own fruit press and suggested this may be another activity the schools could become involved with.

7:38 – Cllr Roberts left the meeting.

Cllr Poole asked whether Tewkesbury Academy had a Youth Council or Youth Parliament, although this was not known. She felt it would be beneficial to encourage young people from Northway to engage more with the Council.

7:40 – Cllr Roberts rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Ward PROPOSED that this was left in the hands of Cllr Terry who was already in contact with the schools. Cllr Beadle SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

C/79/26 **This Is Tewkesbury Event**

The Clerk confirmed that the Council had secured a place at this event on 13<sup>th</sup> June and it was now being asked to provide a copy of its Public Liability Insurance Certificate, a group logo and photograph as well as a short introduction of 'your group' to include in the programme.

Members AGREED to forward this information, including a photograph of the Community Hub.

Cllrs Barnes, Poole, Shelton and P Godwin confirmed that they were able to help man the Council's table. Cllrs Beadle and Roberts would be at the event but manning several stalls.

It was AGREED that the Council should hold a meeting in mid-May to discuss what it would bring to the event.

C/80/26 **Devolution**

It was confirmed that Cllr Roberts, were booked to attend GALC training in Toddington relating to Devolution on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Cllrs Fancourt and Barnes expressed that they might be able to attend this also.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/81/26 Garden Communities/Stewardship

- a. **Garden Communities** – Cllr Barnes confirmed that there had been no meetings, therefore, he had no updates to provide.
- b. **Stewardship** – Provided an update on correspondence relating to Stewardship within the borough.
- c. **Ashchurch Traffic Survey Report** – The final copy of this report had been received and so was forwarded to County Cllr Usmar and Borough Cllr Bocking. The Clerk was also asked to re-send this to councillors.

### C/82/26 Annual Governance – Assertion 10

It was noted that some councillors had not yet completed their GDPR training and had still to set up their gov.uk email addresses.

The Clerk explained that the email addresses were to be used solely for Parish Council business, such as correspondence from the Parish Office or members of the public.

### C/83/26 Correspondence for Action

- a. **Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC)** – The Clerk listed upcoming GAPTC training sessions. It was felt that the Council should address the training required to be compliant with Assertion 10 before looking into further courses.
- b. **Gloucestershire County Council** – The Community Climate Change Fund – Members considered whether the Council should apply to this fund. Cllr Roberts PROPOSED that, due to the short deadline and office workload, the Council should not apply. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

The Clerk mentioned that the Village Hall was having problems with ventilation following installation of the new windows and door.

### C/84/26 Crime & Disorder

- a. **Crime Figures** – None available.
- b. **Other Information** - The Clerk informed Members that she had been busy providing the police with CCTV footage relating to antisocial behaviour, graffiti, and damage to wet concrete at the skatepark. They had the names of some of the youths who had also been causing problems in town.

Cllr Poole highlighted that there had also been encouraging posts on social media about children who had been helping others and showing kindness in various ways.

### C/85/26 Correspondence for Information

- a. **Tewkesbury Borough Council** – Press Releases:
  - ‘Amended waste and recycling collections for 2026-2027 including bank holidays, Christmas and New Year.’
  - ‘Council seeks local views through car parking community survey.’
- b. **South Worcestershire Development Plan** – This had now been adopted.
- c. **Gloucestershire Association of Local Councils** – Newsletter.

## NORTHWAY PARISH COUNCIL

### C/86/26 Lease Working Party

Members were given an update on the Lease Working Party meeting. The recommendation was that, if the lease was renewed, it should be for a term of six years, with a three-year break clause.

8:04pm – A member of the public joined the meeting to request assistance in finding somewhere to stay for the night. As no immediate help was available, the individual then left the meeting.

8.05 pm Cllr Bocking left the meeting

8.06pm Cllr Ward left the meeting

The cost to the Council for running the building was around £3,000 per year, so it was suggested that the rent be increased to £1,500 per year, although this would not be 'set in stone' until further communication had taken place with the Football Club.

8.08 Cllr Ward and Cllr Bocking rejoined the meeting.

Cllr Roberts PROPOSED the increase for the lease to £1,500 per year and that it was also recommended that legal representation be accepted from Thomson & Bancks. Cllr Poole SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

### C/87/26 Correspondence Available in the Clerk's Office

- a. **The Clerk Magazine** – March 2026

### C/88/26 Correspondence Received After 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026

- a. **Tewkesbury Town Council** – Invitation to Tewkesbury Town Council Mayor Making Ceremony on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026. Cllr Barnes expressed an interest in attending. Cllr Roberts PROPOSED. Cllr Terry SECONDED.

FOR: UNANIMOUS

- b. **SafeAvon** – Invitation to Tewkesbury Abbey River Blessing on 14<sup>th</sup> June starting at Tewkesbury Abbey.
- c. **Tewkesbury Borough Council – Press Releases:**
  - 'Easter adventures await so hop to it: Tewkesbury Borough sees a bumper spring schedule for 2026.'
  - 'Resident sentenced for £12,500 housing benefit and council tax fraud.'
  - 'Former Borough Mayor raises over £10,000 for local charities with special presentation in the Mayor's parlour.'
  - 'Gloucestershire councils set sights on future membership of the West of England Combined Authority.'
  - 'Charging up the borough – Tewkesbury and Winchcombe benefit from additional EV chargers.'
- d. **National Highways** – M5/M50 safety barrier repairs – Details of road closures.
- e. **Central Cladding Systems Ltd** – It was noted that, following inspections undertaken, concerns had been raised regarding deterioration of the membrane to the low-level roof of Northway Community Hub. As a result, the company would be undertaking a complete overlay of the low-level roof, to be covered by the Council's warranty, with no financial liability to the Council. This would be taking place in the near future over approximately two weeks.

As there was no further business the meeting concluded at 8:10 pm.