

# DRAFT

## Great Comberton Parish Council

### Parish Council Meeting - Minutes Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 7.00pm Village Hall

**Parish Councillors Present:** K Collingwood (Chair), S Hickey, G Hodgson & M Lolley  
District Cllr B Hardman & County Cllr A Hardman.

**Clerk/RFO:** Nicola Harding

**In attendance:** 7 parishioners

**1. Apologies:** Received from Cllr Hamilton & Cllr Lavelle.

**2. Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations.

**3. Parishioner's Comments:** Seven parishioners were in attendance to discuss concerns relating to agenda items 5c & 8 - W/25/00444/FUL: Bredon View Holiday Park Estate. The Chairman moved these items forward on the agenda for discussion. It was confirmed that the current planning application pending for an additional 145 units, had been deferred by the planning committee at their meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January, given that the description of the development was unclear and the site boundary was not aligned with the site proposal. Members therefore requested that ahead of the application being reconsidered by the committee, accurate information be provided, in addition to updates to the Highways authority regarding the current number of units on site and timings of the completion of future traffic surveys.

Particular concerns were shared with the Parish Council regarding ongoing sewage issues in the village, with severe odours now regularly detected where the holiday park's sewer joins the main village gravity sewer. A recommendation was suggested at the planning committee meeting for sewage concerns to be raised directly with Severn Trent, recording evidence of individual villager reports & a potential environmental assessment undertaken to establish the health impacts. The committee had acknowledged that Severn Trent had not objected to the new scheme or requested a Grampian Condition, however it was noted that an issue had been raised regarding the current capacity of the local treatment works, which was confirmed can only accommodate up to 50 units. Only when scheduled upgrade works are completed, which are anticipated in the period 2030+, do Severn Trent expect the treatment works to be able to accommodate the full Bredon View development.

Following discussion of the short term and longer term issues, the following actions were proposed in an attempt to find solutions:

- District Cllr Hardman to initiate a meeting with the Planning Development Manager at Wychavon District Council, in attendance with the Chair of the Parish Council, to engage in concerns regarding sewage management, scale of the development/visual impact & landscaping.  
*Action: Cllr Hardman/WDC Planning/Cllr Collingwood.*
- Parish Council to engage with a senior operational Severn Trent representative to summarise the current main issues and concerns regarding the impact of potential further development upon the local network & environmental health concerns. Establish responsible parties and responses.  
*Action: Parishioner to connect the Council with a Severn Trent representative for a primary meeting with the council only at this stage.*
- Continue to maintain the village log of incidences and photographic evidence, in order to build up data in conjunction with the odour logger information obtained.  
*Action: Villagers/Clerk.*
- Parish Council to apply for information from the Environmental Information Regulator for local data reports for Great Comberton Parish, in addition to Bricklehampton/Elmley Castle, who share the same sewage system.  
*Action: Cllr Collingwood.*
- Parish Council to make contact with neighbouring Elmey Castle & Bricklehampton Parish Council to establish if issues are being experienced there.  
*Action: Cllr Collingwood.*
- Parish Council to request if reports collated to date by Severn Trent's case worker may be shared.  
*Action: Cllr Collingwood.*
- Focus existing water testing in the locality of the pumping station in the Spring, once occupancy resumes.  
*Action: GC water tester volunteers.*
- Once sufficient data is available, consider publicity surrounding local environmental health concerns.

#### **4. Minutes of meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Proposed Cllr Lolley, seconded Cllr Hickey, all in favour to approve the minutes as a true record.

#### **5. Progress reports from Parish Activities - brief updates:**

a. Lengthsman: The lengthsman has continued to monitor and attend to drainage within the parish, dealing with gully grates and verge grips throughout December.

- b. WCC Highways/PRoW: Cllrs were reminded of January road closures advised by WCC Highways, for utility work by Openreach and a new customer connection by Wales & West utilities. Further attention was drawn to Eckington bridge closures which particularly have an adverse effect when there are planned road closures in the parish. A discussion also ensued about the importance of the accuracy of road signage at times of closures.
- c. Sewage smells: As reported under item 3, parishioner’s comments.
- d. Data & Digital compliance: Cllr Hamilton has liaised on the Council’s behalf, in conjunction with the Clerk & a Little Comberton Parish Cllr, in order to produce a summary of costs and recommendations for the council’s consideration, following quotes obtained from providers of email and websites aimed at the council sector. This was shared and discussed. It was agreed to initiate the council email process in the first instance, (as reported under item 9, Finance,) and approve option 2 of the proposed council owned domain name. The website set up will then be completed in early Spring during the next financial year, in order to be compliant ahead of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026.  
*Actions: Clerk to make contact with selected provider and update Cllr Hamilton. Cllrs to be provided with further updates as received via email.*
- e. Quay Lane: Cllr Lolley confirmed that bench repairs are scheduled for completion at the beginning of February.  
*Action: Cllr Lolley.*

**6. Brailles Orchard pedestrian access**

Cllrs discussed and considered a suggestion received from a parishioner for a secondary pedestrian access point at Brailles Orchard. It was agreed that this would improve safety, notably at times of bridge closures, as a means of pedestrians avoiding the road with no footway by the main gate. It was agreed that the current gap in the hedge by the church would be a useful access point in terms of accessibility to Church events. Design suggestions were considered and Cllr Collingwood & Cllr Lolley agreed to explore options further on behalf of the Council.  
*Action: Cllr Collingwood and Cllr Lolley to provide further updates.*

**7. District and County Councillor’s reports:**

**District Cllr Hardman:**

In addition to updates provided under progress reports relating to planning and sewage issues:

- Local Government Reforms: Ahead of the government’s consideration and approval of a one or two tiered unitary model for Worcestershire, Wychavon District Council is currently considering special legacy projects in the district.
- Water testing: It was suggested that the GC village testing volunteers might consider linking with representatives from Little Comberton, Beckford & Bredon parishes to share information and compare wider data obtained.  
*Action: Cllr Hodgson.*

**County Cllr Hardman:**

- County Council 2026/27 budget: Exceptional financial support will be required to cover the overspend in SEND. It was confirmed that Worcestershire has the third lowest Council Tax rates nationally, however next financial year the Council Tax charge will incur a 10% rise.
- Gritting: A concern had been reported regarding the lack of gritting along Back Lane – Cllrs confirmed this had been dangerous and difficult to navigate during recent weather, therefore Cllr Hardman agreed to raise with Highway’s Senior Engineer for attention.
- Bio-Diversity Group: Thanks were extended to Cllr Hardman for his recent divisional funding awarded to the Bio-Diversity Group. The Chairman confirmed that bulb planting was already underway at the churchyard & the Clerk confirmed that £419.00 of funding remains available for future projects.

**8. Planning**

**W/25/00444/FUL: Bredon View Holiday Park Estate at, Great Comberton Golf Club:** Following the planning committee meeting held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January, updates were shared and discussed under item 3, Parishioner’s comments, as recorded.

**W/25/01918/HP: Church House:** demolition of detached garage and erection of single storey accommodation ancillary to main house: the application has been refused and an appeal lodged with the Planning Inspectorate.

**W/25/02061/HP:** 2 Bredon View, Russell Street - Single storey rear extension and 2 storey side extension: the application has been approved.

**9. Finance**

a) Current Balances at 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Business Account:	£414.88
Community Account	£8,477.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£8,891.95</b>

b) Payments to report:

Royal British Legion: Remembrance wreath	£20.00
Salary: December 2025	£366,17

