



BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Extraordinary Meeting Minutes Wednesday 20th August 2025 19:00pm at Brown Edge Village Hall

Cllr. Anthony Bedson (Vice-Chair)	Cllr. Joe Porter	Cllr. David Gerrard
Cllr. Jane Shufflebotham	Cllr. Margaret Hunt	John Bourne Cemetery Recorder
Members of the public - 0	Minutes – Denise Wheat (RFO)	

- 1) **Welcome:** Cllr. Bedson welcomed Parish Councillors and Mr Bourne.
- 2) **Apologies for Absence:** Cllr. Adrian Felton (Chairman), Cllr Phil Berrisford, Cllr. Kate Oberholster, Cllr. Marilyn Marathe, Cllr. Neil Hargreaves, Cllr. Phil Woodward and Clerk Hayley Harrison
- 3) **Parishioners Concerns:** None Present
- 4) **Declarations of Interests on the forthcoming Agenda:** No declarations
 - a) **a. Cemetery Fees:** Research of other Staffordshire Moorlands Cemeteries and also Carmountside in Stoke-on-Trent were assessed. Thanks were given to the Clerk for preparing the spreadsheet of comparisons. Mr Bourne explained the reason for a price rise every two years was to simplify changes for the undertakers. Mr Bourne confirmed that no one has ever taken up the fees for a no connection relationship with Brown Edge of x10. This does deter people from booking from out of the Parish.

Mr Bourne was asked to do a report on how many burials are currently in the Lawn Cemetery and approximately how many graves are left.

The Councillors agreed to put forward a proposal for the September meeting of a 10% increase and to increase non residents with a connection to x3 (from x2).

- b. **Bench Policy:** The Bench policy was discussed. It was decided that the Council will propose at the September meeting to uphold the current policy and not to accept any further plaques on new benches but to offer space on existing benches. The council will also to look at new ways to have memorial plaques.
- c. **Quotations for Playing Field Bins:** The Council discussed the quotations but decided that clarification is needed on bin asset ownership. The Parish Council can then consider replacements.
- d. **Playing equipment quotations and insurance offer:** The Council looked at the various quotations and Cllr Bedson offered to assist the RFO to negotiate with the insurance company. The recent RosPa inspection was received and the RFO summarised the repairs identified Inspections were discussed.
A detailed list of issues to be prepared for the September meeting.
Quotations to be gathered from Lengthsman services and Alliance Environmental for Playground repair work.

e. **Local Government Reorganisation:** It was discussed that an option that the Council supports needs to be chosen so that this can be sent to SMDC to inform their decision.

LGR options Document to be circulated and Councillors asked to read it prior to the September meeting.

5) Items for the next Agenda:

Playing Field Equipment: annual RosPa report

To source a person or company to repair play equipment

New Cemetery Field progress: A topographical survey from 2016 has been passed to the Council from previous councillor Linda Lea. The document to be passed on to the Architect.

Bollards: residents have blocked access to Woodside Avenue with bollards.

Speed of traffic on Sytch Road: at peak times excess speeds have been reported.

Council Communications: WhatsApp group

Meeting ended at 19.55pm.

Next meeting:

Ordinary Meeting: **Monday 1st September 2025 at 7pm, both at Brown Edge Village Hall.**

Chairmans Name	Signature	Approval Date

Parish Clerk: Mrs Hayley Harrison 07519 240598 clerk@browndedge-pc.gov.uk
Responsible Financial Officer: Mrs Denise Wheat 07812 056085
Cemetery Recorder: Mr John Bourne 01782 502940 cemrec@browndedge-pc.gov.uk
Brown Edge Parish Council: Postal address: c/o D Wheat, 3 The Island, Tean, Stoke-on-Trent, ST10 4JE