



**Minutes of Bow Brickhill Parish Council Meeting
held on 13 January 2026 at 7.00pm at the Pavilion, Rushmere Close,
Bow Brickhill, MK17 9JB**

PRESENT:	Cllrs:	Cllr P Ball (Chair) Cllr C Evans (Vice Chair) Cllr S Pangala Vacant
	Officer:	J Godden
	Members of Public (MoP):	10

71. APOLOGIES: Cllr M Ferguson-Ford - noted

72. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

- A member of the public raised concerns regarding fire safety arrangements in the woodland area near the Pavilion and Church Road. Concerns included:
 - Fire equipment and current response approach being unsuitable for serious woodland fires.
 - Emergency vehicles (including a proposed Mercedes van) potentially unable to access woodland terrain.
 - Fire crews lacking sufficient knowledge of the woodland layout.
 - It was suggested that:
 - A practical fire response exercise be undertaken, like those held at the Abbey.
 - Use of drone technology be explored to help locate fires.
 - Ward Cllr Bailey confirmed her role with the Fire Authority and agreed to take these concerns back for discussion.
- Thanks were given to Ward Cllrs Hopkins & Bailey for work on catch pits and road resurfacing, although concerns were raised about the quality of resurfacing works and waste.
- Ongoing concerns were raised regarding potholes, inaccurate reporting of repairs, graffiti across the city, and general environmental decline.

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ball declared a non-pecuniary interest as trustee of the board of Willen Hospice
Councillor Ball declared a non-pecuniary interest as Chair and Secretary of Friends of Bow Brickhill Station

74. MINUTES

To consider the approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 November 2025.
Resolved: all members confirmed the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11 November 2025.

75. UNITARY CLLR REPORTS

Cllr Hopkins report noted as attached, other items included:

- Sewage backing up through drains over Christmas was reported; investigation expected in the New Year.
- Section 19 consultation deadline extended to 16 February.
- Bin collection changes over the Christmas period noted.
- Universal Studios planning permission approved by the Secretary of State.
- Transport Strategy consultation commenced (12-week consultation period).
- H10 road extension works have started.
- Bus, Fire and Rescue consultation open until 28 January.
- Closure of Saxon Street near Tesco noted as causing significant traffic disruption.

76. FINANCE

- a. Bank Reconciliation, Income and expenditure reports for November and December - **noted and approved**
- b. Budget Report - **noted**
- c. The budget for 2026/27 (as attached) had been deliberated and set at a separate finance meeting. **Resolved:** The budget for 2026/27 (as attached) proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Ball, all other members agreed
- d. The Precept had been deliberated and set at a separate finance meeting and £58984.52 was agreed upon; this is a 4.56% increase which equates per band D household to a £7.82 per annum rise which equals £0.65 per month. Cllr Ball agreed to communicate the increase clearly to the public in weekly/monthly terms.
Resolved: The Precept of £58984.52 proposed by Councillor Evans, seconded by Councillor Ball, all other members agreed
- e. Direct debits and regular payments - reviewed and approved
- f. Passing on PAT testing costs were discussed, and it was agreed to continue the current arrangement of not re-charging the Community Hall and Church.

77. PLANNING NOTIFICATIONS

- a. PLN/2025/2221 Lawful development certificate (proposed) 74A STATION ROAD, BOW BRICKHILL, MILTON KEYNES, MK17 9JT Certificate of lawfulness for erection of a timber closed boarded fence
Decision Made Approved
- b. PLN/2025/2627 Lawful development certificate (proposed) Drakewell Manor, Drakewell Road, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes, MK17 9LF Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed erection of a single storey side extension, two storey rear extension, rear dormer extension, and detached outbuilding
Under Consultation
- c. PLN/2025/2649 Householder planning permission 7 RUSHMERE CLOSE, BOW BRICKHILL, MILTON KEYNES, MK17 9JB Erection of single storey front extension and alteration to fenestrations and new cladding to the rear elevation
Under Consultation – **No Objections**
- d. PLN/2025/2685 Householder planning permission 4 STATION ROAD, BOW BRICKHILL, MILTON KEYNES, MK17 9JW Erection of a ground floor side extension, first floor side and front extension and loft conversion with hip to gable extension and rear dormer and rooflights to front roof slope
Under Consultation - - **No Objections**

78. MARSTON VALE TRAIN SERVICE

Marston Vale train service reliability issues were noted.

79. EAST WEST RAIL CONSULTATION

Statutory consultation has been delayed due to changes in planning law. Future updates are expected following meetings with senior representatives.

80. SEMK/NEIGHBOURHOOD FUTURES GROUP

There has been limited progress due to:

- Delays in Section 106 agreements.
- Stalled housing market and infrastructure dependencies.
- Concerns raised regarding lack of S106 funding impacting community facilities.
- Strong concerns expressed about long-term funding, stalled development, and reduced developer contributions.

81. PAVILION

- a. Pavilion hire fees for 2026/27 were discussed

Resolved: all members agreed for the fees to remain unchanged for 2026/2027 period

- b. The hire terms and conditions were discussed

Resolved: All members agreed that Bank holidays are to be removed from the standard hire terms unless staffing is available

- c. Activities Road Art sessions – the Clerk reported that all sessions are fully booked; however, there are a few spaces remaining for the second week. The Clerk confirmed to support refreshments for all three events.

82. PAVILION 2025

Members noted that progress on Pavilion 2050 remains dependent on external funding, which is currently limited due to stalled development and reduced Section 106 contributions across Milton Keynes.

While the emerging Local Plan 2050 emphasises delivering infrastructure before major housing expansion, funding is not yet available to support significant community investment. In previous years, projects benefited from forward funding arrangements, but this is not currently an option. Concern was expressed that future new developments must complement — rather than compete with — the existing community, particularly in relation to schools, shops and community facilities. Members stressed the importance of building on established successful local provision.

It was agreed that:

- An interim, short-term maintenance approach may be required for the Pavilion while funding remains uncertain.
- If no clarity emerges following upcoming discussions with city representatives, modest improvement works may need to be considered.
- The matter will be brought to the forthcoming Community Engagement Meeting for wider discussion.

The Council remains committed to protecting and strengthening the existing community while planning responsibly for the future.

83. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Planning Enforcement Case 2400150ENF – closed

- b) Decision Notice PLN.2025.1048 – approved

- c) Library support request to BBPC 2026 for £100.00

Resolved: All Members agreed that the subsidy is valued by those who use the service and approved a donation of £100.00

- d) 13 d - New Premises Licence Application JD Com at Unit 1 "PLP Business Park", Brickhill Road, Bow Brickhill, Milton Keynes-not open to public – no objections

- e) Grand Union Canal Transfer scheme - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project - noted

- f) Emails from MoP re Drakewell Manor – noted under consultation

- g) Email from MoP re EWR - noted

- h) Three villages donation – The Council considered the request for financial support towards the community coach service, which allocates 8–10 seats per trip for local residents. A contribution enables residents to pay £17 per journey rather than £20.

Resolved: All Members agreed that the subsidy is valued by those who use the service and approved a donation of £450.00 for the coming year. This remains within the £600 budget allocation for community donations, alongside £100 previously agreed for the local library.

84. COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Efforts to fill the current councillor vacancy will continue, with further promotion at the Community Engagement Meeting in February.

85. ROAD SAFETY

Members discussed the potential use of planters and parking restrictions but noted that there are many practical and legal constraints.

The quotations for a replacement Speed Indicator Device (SiD) were reviewed as previous companies/quotes/SiD's were now unavailable and the project needs to be done in 2025/2026. The Clerk has approached MKCC and asked if they could supply and install a new SiD on our behalf and we would then pay the difference minus the funding of £2947.00 that we were successful in obtaining, unfortunately they have not yet got back to her.

Resolved: All members agreed that unless MKCC can offer their assistance, approval was given in principle of up to £6000.00 that is in the budget. Clerk to distribute the price confirmation, before proceeding with installation instructions.

86. ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLICY DOCUMENTS FOR NEXT MEETING

- a) HASAW
- b) Standing orders
- c) Financial Regulations
- d) Code of Conduct
- e) Disciplinary Policy
- f) Expenses Policy
- g) Grievance Policy
- h) Homeworking Policy
- i) Scheme of Delegation
- j) Complaints Procedure
- k) Sickness absence policy
- l) Equality and Diversity Policy
- m) CCTV Policy

Resolved: All members approved the above, as no changes have occurred since 2024/2025

The below need to be sent to Cllrs for review:

- n) BBPC risk management

The below need to be created and sent to Cllrs for review:

- o) IT Policy
- p) Data Protection & Information Security Policy
- q) Document Retention and Disposal Policy

87. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Cllr Ferguson-Ford had informed the Clerk she is reverting to her maiden name Kovak, upon checking the banking was done in the name of Kovak as had the register of Interest form therefore only the email has had to be changed.

88. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is a Community Engagement on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 7.00pm at Bow Brickhill Pavilion. The next full council meeting is Tuesday 17 March 2026 7.00pm at Bow Brickhill Pavilion.