

NEWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN NEWLAND VILLAGE ROOM ON 27TH JANUARY 2026 AT 19:00

[These minutes remain in draft form until approved at a subsequent meeting of the Council]

Abbreviations used

CAP Coleford Area Partnership. **CRG** Clearwell Recreation Ground Management Committee. **CMH** Clearwell Memorial Hall
CWVC Consortium of Wye Valley Councils. **FOIA** Freedom of Information Act. **FODDC** Forest of Dean District Council. **GAPTC**
Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils **GCC (RoW)** Gloucestershire County Council (Rights of Way). **GH**
Gloucestershire Highways. **GRCC** Gloucestershire Rural Community Council **ICO** Information Commissioners Office **NALC**
National Association of Local Council Clerks. **NWWTW** Newland Waste Water Treatment Works **SLCC** Society of Local Council
Clerks **WVNL** Wye Valley National Landscape **WW** Welsh Water

PRESENT

Cllr Davies (Chair), Evans, Henson, Pennington, Wheeler, Purvis, Norris, Powell and Ms C Owens, Clerk.
6 members of the public.

6770 APOLOGIES

None received

6771 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

6771.1 Cllr Evans and Henson declared an "other" interest in 6778.3 as they are both members of the
Clearwell Recreation Ground Management and Clearwell Memorial Hall committees

6771.2 Cllr Wheeler declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Planning applications P1060/25/FUL due to
being a neighbour to the property (Item 6781.1.1)

6772 DISPENSATION REQUESTS

6772.1 The standing dispensation was renewed for Cllr.Wheeler to remain in the meeting but not vote on
planning matters impacted by his other interest as Chair FODCC Management Development Committee

6773 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 13 JANUARY 2026

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting. They were signed by the Chair

6774 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF 25 NOVEMBER AND 13 JANUARY

6774.1 Matters arising from meeting held on 25th November

6774.1.1 Re Minute 6737 – The Youth Meeting was held at Redbrook Village Hall on 9th December 2025 and
no one attended. The process and costs of obtaining a DBS for the Clerk and Councillors was discussed

6774.1.2 Re Minute 6741 – Cllr Purvis reported that a request for a site visit to quarries has been made , Visit
to be scheduled for Summer 2026

6774.2 Matters arising from meeting held on 13th January

6774.2.1 Correspondence from Coleford Heritage Partnership - PLEASE SEE 6789.2

6774.2.2 Re Minute 6747.2 - Update on floodsaxs and emergency planning/risk assessment. It was noted that 100 has been received free of charge and have been distributed accordingly

6775 TO RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT

6775.1 It was reported that the plans for the New Unitary Structure were submitted in November 2025 with a decision expected before April 2026

6775.2 It was suggested that councillors should advise the Clerk of any suitable GAPTC courses that they would like to attend

6776 TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

6776.1 The proposed revenue budget for GCC for 2026/27 was reported

6776.2 It was reported that the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue is asking residents to share views on its new draft Community Management Plan

6777 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

It was reported by Cllr. Wheeler that the Revised Local Plan was approved for progress to the Consultation stage at the Council Meeting of 22nd January 2026. Protests from residents where new settlements are proposed were reported. A consultation will run from 4th Feb to 18th March.

The NPC consultation response to be agreed at NPC's February meeting

6778 TO RECEIVE PARISH COUNCILLORS' & COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

6778.1 It was reported that Halls Charity has distributed £250 to various schools and letters of thanks had been received

6778.2 The Bells Charity representative was Cllr Wright who has now resigned so there was nothing to report. Please see 6779.2 for new representative detail

6778.3 It was reported from Cllr Henson that the Enover Grant bid status for CRGMC would be published in the next few weeks. Members noted that the Clerk, as proper officer, is authorised to review and process any related correspondence linked to the grant application in the meantime

6778.4 It was reported that no further quarrying meetings have been held

6778.5 It was reported by Cllr. Wheeler that there were changes to the organisations' officers at Coleford Area Partnership. The AGM held in November 2025 reported that the format and theme of Heritage Open Days 2026 is currently under review

6779 NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

6779.1 It was noted that The Notice of Casual Vacancy expired on 27th January 2026 and the Clerk is awaiting the documentation from FODCC

6779.2 It was proposed and voted on, that the new representative for Bells Charity will be Cllr Powell

6779.3 It was proposed and voted on, that the new representative for Clearwell, Stowe Hill Quarry Liaison will be Cllr Purvis

6780 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

6780.1 Question – A member of the public asked if the Parish Council could raise any awareness for issues that residents were experiencing relating to cross border communication between NHS England and NHS Wales

Answer – The longstanding issues were acknowledged and discussed. The Chair confirmed that the matter can be further discussed with other town and parish councils at the Wye Valley Consortium of Councils meeting and can be raised with MP's and the Health authorities

6780.2 Question – A member of the public asked if the Parish Council could provide support for the Lambsquay road cave structure integrity issue in Clearwell as GCC Highways have declined further involvement. They will also be raising a public question, challenging this at the next County Council meeting

Answer – NPC can seek further clarification on the decisions taken by Highways Officers and can request a written response after the matter has been raised at the next County Council Meeting.

6780.3 A member of the public commented to give thanks to Cllr Purvis for suggesting the Parish Council continues to pay for the cost of grass cutting in Clearwell Recreation Ground

6781 PLANNING

6781.1 FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL – APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

	Ref	Location	Details	Decision
6781.1.1	P1060/25/FUL	Old.Crow Cottage Redbrook	Erection of a two -storey rear extension with single -story side extension	Specialist reports were satisfied No Objection

6781.2 FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL- DECISIONS NOTIFIED to note the following

	Ref	Location	Details	Decision
6781.2.1	P1430/25/FUL	TanHouse Laundry Lane Newland Coleford Gloucestershire	Erection of a bridge platform (retrospective)	Consent
6781.2.2	P1428/25/LBC	Tan House Laundry Lane Newland Coleford Gloucestershire	Retrospective Listed Building Consent to regularise unauthorised works to a Grade II listed Building	Consent

6782 FINANCE

6782.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was resolved to authorise the following payments. Authority Localism Act 2011, s.1(1).
Cllrs Davies & Henson to authorise at the bank

Ref	To	For	Amount	VAT	Payment
26/06	C Owens	Salary Jan	CONFIDENTIAL		
26/06		Travel	£32.40		
26/06		Allowance	£94.91		CONFIDENTIAL
26/07	HMRC	PAYE	CONFIDENTIAL		CONFIDENTIAL
26/08	Stocksigns	VAS repair	£375.83	£75.17	£451.00

6782.2 INCOME RECEIVED: noted

Reported at last meeting	32557.45
Changes (interest)	0.00
Current figure	32557.45

6782.3 IN-HOUSE FINANCIAL CHECKS

Undertaken at 18.30 before the meeting by Cllr Henson and Cllr Davies.

6782.4 UNITY TRUST BANK

It was noted that final checks have been completed to allow new Councillors to login and authorise payments

6783 GOVERNANCE POLICIES

6783.1 It was reported that Cllr Norris and Pennington are to send the Clerk their specialist recommendations for variations to the draft IT Policy content two weeks before the February meeting at the latest

6783.2 It was reported that the Staffing Committee members' final recommendations for variations to the Staffing/Employment Policies be provided to the Clerk two weeks before the February meeting at latest

6783.3 It was agreed that the Clerk should begin the process of appointing GAPTC to conduct the Internal Audit

6784 HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY

6784.1 The road works closures log was noted

6784.2 The Highways and Rights of Way Actions Log was discussed and the Clerk asked Councillors to inform of any changes or additions that need to be included

6785 PARISH COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS

6785.1 It was noted that the Community Led Plan meeting will be held on Saturday 21st February at Clearwell Memorial Hall between 10.00am and 14.00pm

6785.2 It was reported by Cllr Henson that further meetings for the Climate Action Working Group were being planned

It was reported the “Great Collaboration” community questionnaire is in its draft stage with sample leaflets being delivered to a small sample of residents in the next few weeks

6785.3 It was noted that the inaugural meeting of the Biodiversity and Heritage Working Group will be held on Thursday 5th February at Redbrook Village Hall, 2pm

6785.4 It was reported by Cllr Henson that he has been liaising with the Clearwell Recreation Ground Committee regarding the constitution which defines the relationship between them and Newland Parish Council. It was suggested that a further meeting would take place in February 2026

6786 WYE RESTORATION & CONSORTIUM OF WYE VALLEY COUNCILS (CWVC)

It was noted that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th February at 19.00 Chepstow Town Council Chambers

6787 STAFFING COMMITTEE

It was noted the next meeting would be on 17th March at 15.30. Venue to be confirmed

6788 CLEARWELL CHAPEL RESTORATION

It was reported that over 50 people attended the meeting on 26th January 2026 at Clearwell Memorial Hall .It was noted that it will be a long term project with further meetings required, along with a need for regular communication with Forest of Dean Building Preservation Trust

6789 CORRESPONDENCE

6789.1 It was agreed that a reply will be sent by the Clerk ref an email received from a member of the public regarding Grants awarded. They will be directed to the grants awarded, that are displayed on the website

6789.2 It was agreed that a reply will be sent by the Clerk regarding correspondence received from Coleford Heritage Partnership on 20th November 2025. They will be asked to refer to our Finance awarding policy and advised to make a grant application for consideration

6789.3 It was reported that an email was received regarding the Civic Event which is being held on 17th April. Councillors were advised to book a place if they are interested in attending

6790 MINOR MATTERS

6790.1 It was suggested by Cllr Norris that Wifi should be available in Redbrook Village Hall and Clearwell Memorial Hall. He agreed to contact the representatives to ask if this is possible

6790.2 It was reported that the Rev. Sarah Bick who is the Vicar at Redbrook and her husband Mark Bick were moving out of the area. The Clerk to send a letter of appreciation for their service to the community

6791 PUBLIC COMMENT

6791.1 A member of the public advised that DBS checks for Councillors and Clerks were not needed and referred to the NALC guidelines

6791.2 A member of the public advised that a draft for the IT Policy could be found on the ICO website

6791.3 A member of the public asked if the Defibrillators were being checked regularly and it was confirmed that they are

6791.4 Re 6790.1 -A member of the public advised that they had asked Gigaclear to provide a quote for broadband for Clearwell Memorial Hall but the cost was too excessive.

6792 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS to note

Feb 2026 – re visit FODDC Housing & Employment survey

Feb 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting – Planning

March 2026 - Newsletter

6793 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND ASSOCIATED TIMETABLE

Date	Time	Meeting	Venue
2026			
24 Feb	1900	Council Meeting	Clearwell
31 Mar	1900	Council Meeting	Newland
14 Apr	1900	Annual Parish Meeting	tbc
28 Apr	1900	Council Meeting	Redbrook
26 May	1900	Council Meeting	Clearwell
30 June	1900	Council Meeting	Newland
28 July	1900	Council Meeting	Redbrook
29 Sept	1900	Council Meeting	Clearwell
27 Oct	1900	Council Meeting	Newland
24 Nov	1900	Council Meeting	Redbrook

The meeting was closed at 21.30