

Chair's report for Bishop Wilton Annual Parish Meeting 2025-26

The following is a summary of the annual working cost of running the BW parish council after removing one-off project costs, additional defibrillator and bus shelter. It does present an alternative view of the working costs of the Parish Council to the published accounts. VAT transactions carried over the year end and reduce the clarity of true end of year figure, especially with larger projects.

Recent budget setting has been planned with a (small) annual deficit to reduce the Reserves.

Total Regular income (precept)	£12,500 (2026 Precept set at £13,500)
additional income Defib & Bus Shelter	£10,500

Breakdown of key costs = 71% of total budget as follows

Payroll + Costs	40%
Groundworks	12%
Streetlights	10%
Subscriptions	5%
Insurance	3.5%

Working balance of £4,000

Reserves of £7,600

Reflection of key points and issues over the last months

April

- Considered the refurbishment of Bus shelter last April, identified external funding to allow its replacement at nil cost to local residents due for completion by March 31st.
- Community Benefit Trust paid for personal trainer to encourage use of outdoor gym
- Agreed funding for installation of second defibrillator at The Fleece, a more central location in the village.
- Decided against an application to Land Registry to register Beck area, agreed entry on Commons Register as sufficient
- Made a request to adopt the Red telephone kiosk, not permitted as Kiosk installed on BT's own land and therefore responsible for its continued maintenance in a Conservation Area.
- First discussion of Fibre Broadband installation by Quickline in July with a presentation of the proposed project in September. Completion of the work is likely Midsummer to Autumn 2026.
- Decided not to support a resident's request for PC to have a face book page due to cost and management of posts with structure of decision making based on monthly meeting
- PC to support the Community shop proposal on traffic speed (20 is plenty) and explore options with ERYC.

- PC is looking to replace the defibrillator unit at the Village Hall, which is no longer under warranty, PC willing to fund 50% of cost, seeking additional funding from other local groups.
- The PC has been reported to the ICO by a councillor for failing to respond to an email.
- Agreed installation of cycle rack on village green outside the shop.
- Reviewed many of the policies and procedures to comply assertion 10, this includes new email addresses (with a .gov suffix) for all councillors hosted on secure servers.
- Agreed to join and subscribe to Vale Watch for reporting of incidents in the local area.
- Support the Community Shop proposal to hold a community BBQ on May 24th
- Supported a letter of objection to an application for exploratory drilling for gas/oil in Foxholes parish.
- BWPC relies heavily on the excellent services provided by our colleagues in ERYC, especially for issues with highway maintenance, dealing with fly tipping

October

Fly tipping at Full Sutton Ind Est cleared by ERYC

Agreed to locate second defibrillator at The Fleece.

November

34 responses to bus shelter survey mainly in favour, progress application for external funding

Reviewed many of the policies and procedures to comply assertion 10

December

Agreed a precept value of £13500

January 2026

Bus shelter funding agreed secured contractors for installation of base

February

Accepted the external funding for the bus shelter and appointed the two contractors to install the new bus shelter.

Planning Applications

Three business developments

Four additional Residential properties

Livestock building at Kirklands Lane, Gowthorpe

Additional Storage building on Full Sutton Ind Est.

Replacement workshop, heritage centre and site office for stone masons on Hatkill Lane

Application for two dwellings on land between Main Street and Park Lane

Revised application for dwelling on land east of Joiners shop on Worsendale

Application for conversion of former RAF Site to domestic dwelling on ex-military land of
Gowthorpe Lane

Two separate alterations at Garowby Hall

Various tree pruning's and removals

Lawfulness of outbuildings at property on South Lane