

Supporting Paperwork for Brede Parish Council meeting 29th January 2026

Item 11 Tree Works

Three quotes have been received for the tree works. A specification of the works required was sent to all. Full details of the quotes will be brought to the meeting

Company A	Declined to quote for T184 as the amount of work needed needs a 2 man or more team	Has only quoted for Goo1 Goo2 T186 Total £945 No quote for the tree rings for new trees and mulching.
Company B		£1085
Company C		Awaiting quote, will be forwarded separately

Item 12 Recreation Ground Hedge Cutting

Two quotes have been requested for the annual Recreation Ground Hedge cut

Company A	£560
Company B	£800 (to include the tops of the hedge)

Recommendation:- To approve the Hedge Cutting.

Item 13 Benches

A) A replacement bench for the one on the Recreation Ground
JAKK are a local company (Hellingly) which have the following bench ranging from £350 to £470 depending on size and if you want them stained (recommended for longer life). A replacement brass plaque can also be supplied. It would need to be fitted/bolted to concrete blocks by us/someone



B) Remove the bench around the Village Green Tree and replace with a single straight bench..
The latest tree report has recommended the removal of the bench around the tree due to it rubbing the trunk, which may eventually cause weakness in the tree. The seat can be stored and reused at a later date.
A single straight bench could be purchased and sited in a suitable place instead, advice has been sought from the Arborologist as to where is best. He recommends as far away from the tree trunk as possible, The inner edge of the Village Green near the church would be suitable.

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C) Transfer ownership and maintenance of the bench at the Village Hall to the Village Hall committee. This bench is actually on their land anyway, and needs some attention. It is suggested that they would be better placed to look after it, so we could transfer the ownership and remove it from our asset list.

Item 14 Play equipment signage

The new preschool play area needs a sign to advise users what age range the equipment is suitable for. The gym equipment needs the same.

Safeplay have quoted £197 plus Vat for the preschool play area sign, with a proof suggested like this. I am querying the age range and have asked if there is space for the what3words reference.



A quote and proof for the gym equipment is awaited.

Recommendation:- To consider the quote and wording

Item 15 Christmas Trees

No external companies can supply battery operated Christmas lights. The Recreation Ground Committee have suggested that for 2026 two trees are placed on the Recreation Ground, with white lights only, better quality and that the lights from last year are all used on the Village Green Tree. A team of councillors and local support would be needed to erect the trees securely and dress them. The local school/scouts could be invited to make 'natural material' decorations for them. (no plastic or glitter to be used).

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Estimated costs would be

3 trees £150

New white lighting £400 (£200 per tree)

Tree base/ropes/fixings £200-£400

It is suggested that a budget of £1200 be requested.

Recommendation: To approve the decision to have Christmas trees in 2026 and to set a budget of £1200.

Item 16 Budget and Precept for 2026-27

An updated budget with suggested precept had been circulated separately

Recommendation:- To approve the precept and budget for 2026-27.

Item 17 Policies

The following policies need reviewing/adopting. All have been circulated

A) To review the following policies

Document Retention Policy No changes required

Equal Opportunities Policy No changes or updates required

Freedom of Information Policy No changes or updates required

B) To consider the following new policy

Information Technology policy

Recommendation:-To adopt the policies.

Item 18 Footpath Warden

Cllr Hobson has expressed an interest in taking on the Footpath Warden role which has been vacant since last June. Training has become available through ESALC and a place has been booked for the 4th February at a cost of £70

Recommendation To approve Cllr Hobson as Footpath Warden

Item 19 Social Media Use

Council has been asked to consider posting times and dates of meetings on its Social media platform Facebook. This is not required, (currently the meeting date only must be posted on at least one noticeboard in the parish and on the Councils own website), but it is a changing world and many do not look at noticeboards.

It would be recommended to ONLY post on the Councils own Facebook page and leave it to others to share from there. If Council agree then ALL meetings must be posted, not just those which may be considered 'of interest' to the parish.

Recommendation To approve the posting of all meeting times on social media