

**Minutes of a Meeting of Barton under Needwood Parish Council as Sole Trustee of
Barton under Needwood Village Hall, registered charity number 502046
Held on 5 March 2026, 6.30pm, Robert Douglas Room, Barton Village Hall**

Present:

Cllr E Sharkey (Chairman)	Cllr D Lord	Cllr C Davis
Cllr S Bedford	Cllr S Naylor	Cllr H Frend
Cllr M Hassall	Cllr J Sellers (late arrival 1839)	Cllr I Meadows (late arrival 1852)

Siobhan Rumsby (Minutes); Village Hall Management Committee Representatives: Sue van Daesdonk; Lynn Bennett

1. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received from Cllr Wallace. Absences noted from Cllrs Sellers, Crawley and Meadows
2. Previous Minutes of the Trustee meeting of 4 December 2025 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.
3. Financial position – the financial accounts were summarised, currently showing a deficit but would have been surplus had it not been for VAT expenditure on the sound system. The Hallmaster automated system was making it easier to get invoices out promptly.
The Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December were presented and it was resolved to accept for signature by the Trustee Chairman.
4. Committee Update:
 - Damage to hall - one hirer has paid some compensation for losses. Another party had not responded and will be taken to the small claims court; attempts at mediation to reach a settlement.
 - More regular hirers were booking.
 - The pricing structure had been reviewed.
 - BVH Promotions reported on a good event at Christmas with Kalamazoo and the band had been booked again for 11 December. A Jazz event would be taking place this week and Murder Myster on 12 June.
 - Strategic Review – it was reported the hall needed £45k just to break even. They had concluded that a Community Hub was the way forward focussing on delivering what they do well. Incorporating more of a business focus would have involved hiring in someone with a larger salary. The Community hub also maintains the ethos of the Charity.

Questions & Answers –

It was confirmed that the damages settlement amounted to circa £500-600 to cover costs.

One off parties amounted to less than 10% of annual income.

Christmas event – thanks were expressed to volunteers for help with balloons – they have streamed back the number of balloons for any future event.

5. CCTV Upgrade – one quote related to extended coverage across the whole of the carpark; the second quote included internal cameras. This would assist with Martyn's Law compliance and would help identify anyone who was using rooms they hadn't hired. BPC to fund outside cameras and BVHC will pay for internal cameras. The door intercom system would be updated with newer software.

Accepted on Signed

6. Land adjacent Methodists Church – still under review
7. Land adjacent Village Hall Wall on Crowberry Lane
A Fire Evacuation test had highlighted an issue with the safe exit via one of the fire escapes; report submitted. It was felt the Trustee is responsible for this work. Hirers are working on Personal Evacuation Plans. New signage will also be in place.
8. Dates of future meetings –
2026: 4 June; 3 September; 3 December
Meeting closed at 18.55 pm.

Accepted on Signed