

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bletchingdon Parish Council held on
Wednesday 25th February 2026 in the Meeting Room at Bletchingdon Village Hall, OX5 3FD at 7:30pm**

Present: Cllr Dan Robins (Chair), Cllr Chris Lane, Cllr Duncan Ledger, Cllr Nicola Morris, Cllr Rachel Pirie (Vice-Chair), Cllr Mark Taylor, Cllr Matt Whitehead

In attendance: Cllr Laura Gordon (OCC). Cllr Gordon left the meeting at 20.40.

Apologies: Cllr Gemma Coton (CDC)

1. Apologies for absence – to receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Taylor

2. Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of interest, gifts and hospitality – to receive any requests for Dispensations, Declarations of Interest from Councillors relating to items on the Agenda, in accordance with the Council's code of conduct

3. Public participation - to receive questions from members of the public relating to items on the Agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct and standing orders

4. Reports from District and County Councillors – the February report from Cllr Laura Gordon (OCC) and from Cherwell District Council has been forwarded to Cllrs.

Cllr Gordon reported on the County Council approach to road maintenance and gully maintenance.

Cllr Gordon reported that she is working with other Councillors to consider a HGV strategy for Oxfordshire.

Cllr Gordon reported that the illegal landfill clearance is not yet underway due to the recent wet weather.

5. Communications from TVP, CDC, OCC, NALC and OALC - have been forwarded to Cllrs

Noted.

6. Minutes - To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2026

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted as a true record. They were signed by the Chair.

7. Update on progress from previous Minutes – the Clerk / Chair will report on progress of outstanding items which do not require further decision. Refer to Rolling Monthly Action List

The Chair gave an update on the progress of items listed on the Rolling Monthly Action log.

- a) The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of replacement pads for the defibrillator to the value of £150.

8. Governance

- a) **Scheduled Elections 2026.** Cllr Morris updated following the recent briefing.
b) **Internal audit.** To note that preparation is underway.

9. Finance

a) **Financial Report** – to receive the report for information

As at 30th January, the accounts stood at:

Barclays Community Current Account	£ 1,822.13
Barclays Business Premium ME Deposit Account	£76,400.82

Income

Bletchingdon Sports & Social rent	£ 1.00	Received 20/01/26
Ecclesiastical – refund of claim excess	£ 250.00	13/02/26

Outstanding Payments

None

Debit Card Payments

Date paid	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Net	VAT	Total
19/01/26	Vonage – Service charge 18 Dec 2025 – 17 Jan 2026 Inv 1158479955	General Admin	149/24/o	£6.23	£1.25	£7.48
19/02/26	Vonage – Service charge 18 Jan – 17 Feb 2026 Inv 1158933585	General Admin	149/24/o	£6.87	£1.38	£8.25

Standing Orders and Direct Debits

Date paid	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Net	VAT	Total
23/01/26	HMRC – PAYE & Employers NI	Clerks Salary	025/25/q	£140.98	Nil	£140.98
30/02/26	Bletchingdon Village Hall – Monthly rent of the Parish Office	Village Hall	025/25/q	£150	Nil	£150.00
16/02/26	Bletchingdon Village Hall – Monthly rent of the Parish Office	Village Hall	025/25/q	£30	Nil	£30.00

- b) **Invoices and other items for payment** – to consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule

There are no invoices for payment.

10. Training

- a) **NALC, OALC and SLCC** – to consider any further training offered by NALC, OALC and SLCC

The Council **RESOLVED** to note the training courses and agreed that Councillors should attend any appropriate training if available.

11. Parish matters

- a) **Community Emergency Plan** – No update.
- b) **Green Bletchingdon** – No update
- c) **Bletchingdon Bus Service** – No update.
- d) **Bletchingdon School** – No update. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Robins will invite the Chair of Governors (or representative) to attend a future meeting.
- e) **Neighbourhood/Parish Plan** – The consultation has now closed. It was **RESOLVED** that the comments received will be reviewed by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- f) **Village Improvements** – The deadline for planning application for The Blacks Head has passed, no further update is available.
- g) **The Village News** – The deadline for the next issue is 18th March 2026. It was **RESOLVED** to include the upcoming elections, update regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, and thank you to the volunteers for sign cleaning.
- h) **Enforcement Update** – It was **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr Coton for an update.
- i) **Community Fitness Area** - Cllr D. Ledger has received confirmation from OCC that the legal agreement is being progressed. Noted.
- j) **EV charging points** – No update
- k) **Land behind the Sports Social Club** - Cllr M. Taylor to report – No update.
- l) **Oxford Road Playground** – Matter was resolved. It was **RESOLVED** to settle the invoice when received.
- m) **Damage to roadside fence on Oxford Road Playground** – No further update.
- n) **Traffic Calming and Speedwatch** – No update

- o) Website** – No update
- p) Trees on Village Green and Recreation Ground** – No update

12. Planning Applications

a. Awaiting Decision

26/00315/F - Robin Investments Limited - Caravan And Camping Park, Diamond Farm, Islip Road, Bletchingdon, Kidlington, OX5 3DR - Variation of Condition 6 (caravan use) of 24/03381/F - to enable the 8 static caravans to be used for holiday accommodation purposes without any restriction on the period of occupation

It was **RESOLVED** to submit comments regarding the complete removal of restrictions.

26/00250/F - Amanda & Peter Carpenter - Monks Head, The Causeway, Weston Road, Bletchingdon, Kidlington, OX5 3DH - Alterations and extensions to existing property including the demolition of garage and garden room and erection of single storey extension to the rear.

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

26/00137/F - Trinity Properties Ltd - Outbuildings at 8 Heathfield Cottages Street Through Heathfield Village Heathfield OX5 3DU - Demolition of existing outbuildings at 8 Heathfield Cottages and erection of dwellinghouse with associated works and operations.

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

25/03356/F - Asker Horse Sports - Asker Horse Sports Islip Road Bletchingdon OX5 3DX - - RETROSPECTIVE - Change of Use from equestrian to guest house (Use Class C1)

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

25/00180/F - Perdix Partnership - Bletchingdon Park House Springwell Hill Bletchingdon Kidlington OX5 3DW - Incorporate a new boat landing stage into the dam outlet structure on the Central Pool and erection of boat house.

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

26/00101/TCA - Catherine Lange - 3 The Row Bletchingdon Kidlington OX5 3BZ - T x 2 Laurel - removal because of excessive shading and low amenity value T x Cherry trees - removal because they are in the wrong place and are being bent by the neighbouring oak tree. They are young trees.

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

25/03340/F - EMN Properties Ltd - Blacks Head Inn The Green Bletchingdon Kidlington OX5 3DA - The repair, alteration and extension of the Grade II Listed Blacks Head Inn including construction of new accommodation and associated landscaping and car parking.

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no further comments in addition to those already submitted.

25/03344/TCA - Mr A Stern - Bletchingdon Park House Springwell Hill Bletchingdon OX5 3DW - Tree works

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

25/03300/TCA - Mr Richard Ehrman - Bletchingdon Park Stables Church End Bletchingdon - Take the Acer tree back to previous approx. 1.5m

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no comments.

b. Decisions made

Approved - 25/03297/Q56 - Ms Amber Richardson - Ingleby Farm, Ingleby Paddocks, Enslow, Kidlington, OX5 3ET - Prior approval application for the conversion of an agricultural building into one dwelling.

Application withdrawn - 25/03128/F - Mr Doug Bagnall - Dollys Barn, Bletchingdon, Kidlington, OX5 3DP - Erection of stockyard building on existing agricultural holding.

c. Appeals - none

d. To note those received after Agenda publication

Approved - 25/00179/F - Perdix Partnership - Bletchington Park House Springwell Hill Bletchington Kidlington OX5 3DW - Proposal to construct a new architectural folly on Island Pool, including viewing tower, works to the island and stepping stones to access the island.

Approved – 26/00046/TCA – Mr Chris Lane – The Green, Bletchington, OX5 3DA - T9 - Broad-Leafed Lime - Raise low canopy to 5.0m.T11 - Common Beech -Raise low canopy to 5.0m.T15 - Common Horse chestnut - Raise Low Canopy to 4.0m.

13. Correspondence (emails and letters) received – These have been circulated to Cllrs, noted.

Oxfordshire Age UK	Info on 2025-2030 strategy for a fairer later life in Oxfordshire
North Oxfordshire Residents Action (NORA)	Tritax and Albion warehousing proposals refused by planning committee – request to sign petition
Chairman Beckley and Stowood Parish Council	Request to sign petition opposing Greater Oxford proposal
David Robey Kidlington Parish Council	Letter opposing Greater Oxford Proposal.
AVA Recreation	Support and advice on Planning Playground Improvements for 2026
North Oxfordshire Residents Action (NORA)	Request for grant support to fund resident communications and independent reporting in 2026
Query from resident	Flags on poles throughout the village.
OCC	Springwell Hill road closure 2 nd to 6 th March

14. Reports from meetings - to receive reports from any meetings attended

- a. Monthly Sports & Social Club – Cllr Lane provided an update.
- b. Online Elections 2026 Parish Briefing – Cllr Morris provided an update.
- c. London Oxford Airport – Cllr Taylor was not in attendance to update.

15. Attendance at Meetings – there are no upcoming meetings

16. Items for information or next Agenda only

17. Date of Next Meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place in the Meeting room of Bletchington Village Hall on Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm