



Full Parish Council Meeting Meeting Minutes for Monday, October 6, 2025.

Present: Alison Sercombe, Toby Newman , Richard Street, Peter Ramsdale, Paul Gregory, Paul Willmott, Anthony Shepherd, Lucy Thomas, Fay Fox, Clerk

Officer: Asst Clerk

Members of the Public: 8

The meeting opening at 19:30 and closed at 20:39

	Item	Action
#90/25-26	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Richard Barrett, Cllr Andrew Cooper, accepted Cllr Masters has now stepped down, he sends his thanks.	
#91/25-26	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Wilmott and Cllr Ramsdale for Wheatley Playing Fields Trust and Wheatley Rugby Club- item #104 ix Cllr Shepherd for Wheatley Playing Fields Trust- item #104 ix Cllr Newman & Cllr Thomas- Wheatley Park School Cllr Barrett & Cllr Fox- The Merry Bells committee- item #104 vi Cllr Sercombe- Wheatley Windmill Preservation Trust- item #104 xi	
#92/25-26	TO CO-OPT TO FILL FOUR VACANCIES (Local Government Act 1972 s82) 2 applications received who will attend the meeting to present to council Aaron Brookes sought co-option onto the council. Members unanimously approved the appointment. On signing their acceptance of office Cllr Brookes joined members at the council tables. John Wolstenholme sought co-option onto the council. Members unanimously approved the appointment. On signing Their acceptance of office Cllr Wolstenholme joined members at the council tables.	
#93/25-26	TO RECEIVE MINUTES From Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2025 – previously circulated. Were approved by the Council and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.	
#94/25-26	TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ACTIONS From Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2025 – previously circulated	

- i. VAS updates to 20mph. Emails have been sent on the 02/06/2025 to both companies who have supplied the signs. Replies have confirmed signs can not be adapted for new 20mph so new devices will be needed. Quotes still being sought
- ii. Tree work- meeting held with Tree Surgeon to discuss work needed, Tree Register being updated to establish what needs surveying
- iii. Cooper Close land, potential storage area, still to be investigated

#95/25-26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & PUBLIC QUESTIONS (maximum of 30mins in total and 5mins per person) Start 19:36 Finish 19:50

Resident- Can the Parish Council comment on the parking in the Merry Bells car park now being enforced?

No, the Merry Bells carpark is not managed by the Parish Council and queries need to be directed to the Merry Bells Committee.

Can the Parish Council have a Litter Champion? To be added to the Cllr Development Day

#96/25-26 PRESENTATION FROM SCOTTISH & SOUTHERN ELECTRICITY NETWORKS ON THEIR PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER (PSR) Presentation by Graham Slaven on the free service for those that need support most in a powercut and all the other resources they have to support customers. Things like- The 105 number, the community fund and the Powertrack app.

Apologies sent so will look to reschedule or direct to the Coffee Morning

#97/25-26 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM OFFICERS And includes

- i. A new Parish Clerk has been appointed- Sophie Coda, for 30 hours a week. Sophie was previously a Parish Councillor 18 months ago and lives within the village. There will also be an experienced Clerk- Allison Leigh supporting which policies, and mentoring Sophie for 10 hours per week for a 6 month period.
- ii. Newsletter Oct/ Nov distributed. Dec/ Jan deadline- Thursday 6th November 2025, earlier due to the Christmas Fair
- iii. Littleworth Allotments- new contract still to draft
- iv. Grounds Team been off sick so limited work has been completed outside
- v. Annual Play area inspections taken place- action plan to be created for completion
- vi. Tool marking booked with Thames Valley Police

- vii. Antisocial/ Criminal Behaviour- continuing. Residents are encouraged to report all incidents to the Police. Environmental Visual Audit has taken place and we are awaiting OCC's recommendations from it.
- viii. Parking on Littleworth Apron- work continuing with DVLA/ SODC/ OCC
- ix. Winter Preparedness- salt ordered and due for delivery by the end of Oct
- x. Tree work- SSE to carry out work near Littleworth Nature Reserve/ Allotments to ensure clearance for existing overhead cables, date TBC
- xi. Kelham/ Farm Close Alley, OCC to clear the pipes behind the flats, of roots and silt, which will prevent flooding in the alley. Asst Clerk has chased to confirm if the work has been completed.
- xii. Asst Clerk has joined the Police Cyber Resilience Centre for the South East, on the Parish Council's behalf, following the Cyber Security Training
- xiii. A Remembrance wreath has already been sought for Remembrance Day, Sunday 9th November 2025, when Cllr Sercombe will lay for the Parish Council.

#98/25-26 TO DISCUSS RECENT/UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- i. Local Produce Market- Sat 13th September 2025, another successful event apart from the refreshment arrangements pulling out on the day
- ii. Wheatley Christmas Fair- Friday 28th November 2025, 2pm-8pm. Planning.
- iii. Councillor Development Day- Saturday 11th October 2025 9.30am-3pm, Coffee Room The Merry Bells

#99/25-26 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR- CLLR BEARDER

Adult Social Care- scored good in the Care Quality Commission report.

Flooding- work continuing

Oxford Congestion Charge- Wheatley Residents can apply for 25 permits under the [Oxfordshire Permit Area Resident](#) option

Unitary Councils- Monday 27th October, 7.30pm, meeting in the Merry Bells where Cllr Bearder will be presenting the OCC option & Cllr Ramsdale will be presenting the South Oxford option to Wheatley residents and councillors and members of our nearby parishes.

#100/25-26 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM SODC DISTRICT COUNCILLOR- CLLR RAMSDALE

Flooding- work continuing with working group and other representatives including OCC. Section 19 Report didn't look at other areas, including Crown Rd / Church Rd so new modelling has been done but does not impact on Crown Sq. Flood Alleviation scheme- ongoing, business case going to the Environment Agency for funding. Blocked drains are being mapped, please report concerns to Cllr Ramsdale. High St culvert camera investigations still need to happen.

Littleworth Apron parking- untaxed cars, road obstructions, a multiagency approach is continuing. Another County Cllr is proposing a motion for OCC to take ownership of the DVLA abandoned cars process.

SODC Councillor Grant Fund open until Friday 5th December 2025, 12pm.

#101/25-26 TO CONSIDER RESPONSES TO CONSULTATIONS None

#102/25-26 TO APPROVE CORE DOCUMENTS None

#103/25-26 TO RECEIVE UPDATE/MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM:

- i. Finance Committee – 16.06.2025, next meeting 20.10.2025 Cllr Street sends apologies, Cllr Barrett to Chair
- ii. Open Spaces Committee –15.09.2025, next meeting 17.11.2025
- iii. Planning Committee – 10.09.2025, next meeting 08.10.2025
- iv. Staffing Committee – 21.05.2025, next meeting TBC
- v. Littleworth Playing Fields Working Group –no meeting
- vi. Oxford Brookes Development Working Group - no meeting
- vii. Traffic Working Group – 23.09.2025, awaiting minutes, next meeting TBC
- viii. Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan Working Group- 20.08.2025, next meeting 15.10.2025
- ix. Littleworth Apron Working Group- 27.03.2025, next meeting TBC

#104/25-26 TO RECEIVE UPDATES/REPORTS FROM:

- i. Community Larder- Cllr Willmott
4th Dec- Christmas Sale
The larder includes Meg's Café for refreshments
Thanks to allotment holders for fresh produce donations
- ii. Flooding Group/ Actions- Flood Wardens, to be discussed at Cllr Development Day. Update from MP Freddie Van Mierio
- iii. Good Neighbour Scheme– no update received

- iv. Howe Trust- Two cooptative vacancies to be filled, to be discussed at Cllr Development Day
- v. Maple Tree Centre– no update received
- vi. Merry Bells Management Committee- Cllr Barrett
- vii. Thames Valley Police- Quarterly meeting held 03.10.2025
Progress being made on antisocial behaviour reports. All incidents should be reported.
- viii. Wheatley Charities – reported dated 08.09.2025 received
- ix. Wheatley Playing Field Trust – reported dated 26.09.2025 received. Structural Engineer engaged to assess future surveying. Doug Lamont has stepped down, Steve Kemp has been appointed in his place.
- x. Wheatley Refugee Support Group- no update received
- xi. Wheatley Windmill Preservation Trust- Cllr Sercombe. Next Open day Sunday 12th October, 2pm-5pm

#105/25-26 CORRESPONDENCE AND ANY URGENT ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- i. SODC updates- Food & Warmth Grant, Half Term Activities in South & Vale, Garden Waste permit scheme success, Response to Planning Inspector on the Joint Local Plan
- ii. Oxford County Council Updates- Doggy Swims, OxRAIL, Fibre Broadband operational work, Council Chief stands down,
- iii. NALC Updates
- iv. OALC Newsletter
- v. Healthwatch Oxfordshire Briefings
- vi. Matthew Barber- Police & Crime Commissioner updates
- vii. Thames Valley Police- Police Officer pay increases,
- viii. Citizens Advice AGM 15.10.2025
- ix. Greater Oxford petition to reject- to add to Cllr Development Day

#106/25-26 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

#107/25-26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING Monday 3rd November 2025