

**Kennington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Minutes of the meeting held on
14th May 2026 at 7:00pm in the Village Centre**

Present:

Cllr Brown Cllr Cobb Cllr Cuddy Cllr Feather Cllr Jempson
Cllr Johnston Cllr Locklin Cllr Powles

In Attendance: Lawrence Wootten (Clerk/RFO); District & County Cllr Lugova;
Mr Andy Sweeney - OCC Team Leader Team Place & Planning (South and Vale)
Members of the public: None

1.26 TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN AND SIGN THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Cobb was nominated by Cllr Powles, seconded by Cllr Brown and elected unopposed.
He thanked the members of the Parish Council and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2.26 TO ELECT THE VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr Powles was nominated by Cllr Cobb, seconded by Cllr Brown and elected unopposed.

3.26 NOMINATIONS FOR CO-OPTION - None received

4.26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllrs Andrews, Lee, Russell and Patterson

5.26 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC - No members of the public in attendance

6.26 Cllr Cobb proposed suspension of Standing Orders at this point in the meeting to allow Mr Andy Sweeney (Oxfordshire County Council Team Leader Place & Planning – South and Vale) to discuss possible measures for traffic calming on Bagley Wood Road with Councillors. Suspension of Standing Orders seconded by Cllr Powles and approved by all. Standing Orders were suspended for 30 minutes from 7.05pm until 7.35pm.

7.26 DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST – none declared

8.26 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 APRIL 2026

The Parish Council resolved to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2026 as a true record.

9.26 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES AND SIGNATORIES FOR CHEQUES

10.26 It was agreed that appointments to committees, working groups and outside bodies would be moved to the next meeting.

11.26 It was agreed that Cllr Brown would stand down as the Chair of the Personnel Committee and Cllr Johnston would take over as Chair.

12.26 Current cheque signatories were Cllrs Cobb, Brown and Powles, with the Clerk/RFO having limited use of a Council Debit Card. Cllrs Jempson and Patterson carry out quarterly Financial Control checks, so should not be cheque signatories. It was pointed out that more cheque signatories were required since two signatories had resigned as Councillors, and it was agreed that this would be addressed at the next meeting.

**13.26 REPORT OF THE CLERK
NEW ISSUES**

- A** Clerk received report from Kennington Athletic Football Club of blocked and overflowing female toilet and a non-functioning toilet at Playfield Road Pavilion – arranged for a plumber to fix both female toilets. Both toilets now working.
- B** Clerk has requested a quote from Calber Facilities Management to provide sanitary waste disposal facilities (once per month) in the female toilets at Playfield Road Pavilion as there are currently none. Annual cost for a monthly rental and service of feminine hygiene bins would be £79.00 per unit per annum (exclusive of VAT), so £158 per annum for both toilet cubicles.
- 14.26** Cllr Brown proposed that the Clerk instruct Calber to proceed with providing sanitary waste disposal facilities, seconded by Cllr Johnston and approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – instruct Calber Facilities Management to provide sanitary waste disposal facilities as per their quote.

- C** Clerk received request from OPT to provide access to Playfield Road playing field for a contractor to work on fence posts belonging to them, but accessed from the playing field. Contractor provided proof of public liability insurance before receiving keys for playing field access.
- D** Clerk received notification of a possible breach of planning in Bagley Close from a resident. Information received was sent to VoWHDC Planning Enforcement Officer. Clerk was subsequently informed by Planning Officer that no breach of VoWHDC's Planning Regulations had occurred and the case was now closed.
- E** Clerk received email from resident: "There are 2 stone plaques indicating there was a Kings Field adjacent to our village centre. So far I have been unable to find any direct information about it's location despite many other such fields being well documented. The Kings Fields were created in the 1930's as a memorial for the late king George. Does the Parish have and documents relating to this activity in Kennington?" Clerk has already directed the resident to the Kennington History Society, but do any Councillors have knowledge if/where this information might be found.
- F** Clerk received Notification of Payment and Remittance Advice from VoWHDC of CIL payment of £5,158.26 into the Parish Council's bank account on 28th April 2026.
- G** Clerk submitted 2025/2026 Q4 S126 VAT reclaim to HMRC of £10,737.26, which was paid into the Parish Council's bank account on 17th April 2026.
- H** Clerk received request from Kennington Athletic Club to investigate hot water for the showers at Playfield Road pavilion, which seem to be running cool very quickly. Clerk has arranged to meet with plumber at the pavilion on 13th May 2026 to investigate.
- I** Email received from War Memorial volunteer: "Just wondered if I may go ahead and order the same no of geraniums from Oxford Garden Centre, as last year? I can get a quote to let you know costs. Also, I've been meaning to say such a big THANK YOU for organising to get the fallen leaves swept up thoroughly last autumn. It made the area look well cared for, one the grassed areas were cleared of them." Quote received for X48 1 litre geraniums - any colour - £215.57 including delivery (with a 10% discount secured by volunteer).
- 15.26** There was a general discussion about both the planting and grassed areas at the War Memorial. It was suggested that the grassed areas may need treatment for moss and weed build up.
- 16.26** It was agreed that Cllrs Cobb and Powles would meeting with the volunteer at the War Memorial in the next few weeks to discuss the planting regime and agree any further plant purchases.

- J** Broken door in male toilets and broken door handle in female toilets at Playfield Road pavilion noted by Clerk, and local building maintenance contractor contacted to get a quote for repairs.
- 17.26** The Clerk presented the quote of £247 to the Council. Acceptance proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Powles and approved by all. Clerk to arrange for the work to be done as soon as possible.

ACTION FOR CLERK – arrange for contractor to make toilet door repairs at Playfield Road pavilion as soon as possible.

- K** Clerk received phone call from driver whose car had been locked in at Forest Side playing field on a Sunday following Kennington Athletic junior football matches. Driver had contacted the football club and gate had been unlocked to let them out.
- L** Clerk received phone call from resident reporting that the water access point on the cricket square at Playfield Road had been turned on. Clerk called the cricket club groundsman who turned off the water. If there is a repeat incident, the Council might wish to consider a lock on the water access point.
- M** Clerk delivered all necessary paperwork for the 2025/26 AGAR to the Parish Council's Internal Auditor.
- N** Old hardwood Parish Council noticeboard stored outside Playfield Road pavilion noticed by the contractor who built and installed it 30 years ago. Contractor informed the Clerk that the noticeboard could be refurbished since the frame is hardwood and has not rotted. Clerk has requested a quote with a view to reinstating/repositioning the noticeboard in the village.
- 18.26** The Clerk presented the quote of £665 to the Council. Acceptance proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Powles and approved by all, but the location of the noticeboard may need to be approved by Oxfordshire County Council. Clerk to inform contractor that the Council is happy to proceed with the restoration, but the location is to be confirmed.

ACTION FOR CLERK – arrange for contractor to restore the old noticeboard with installation location to be confirmed.

- O** Clerk and Chairman received an email from a member of the public concerning a misunderstanding of the process undertaken by the Parish Council to initiate the Community Governance Review. The Clerk has responded, stating the legal basis of all Kennington Parish Council's minutes. No response received.
- P** Clerk received email regarding stepped bridge access in Kennington. Further communication revealed it was meant for the Clerk to Kennington Community Council near Ashford in Kent.
- Q** Clerk received email from ARCh asking if the Parish Council would consider another Community Grant application. Clerk has replied and enclosed Community Grant application forms and is now waiting for completed forms to be returned.
- R** Request received from St Swithun's School to borrow PA system for a school event. Is the Council happy to lend it to them?
- 19.26** Cllr Cobb proposed that the Council should lend the PA system to St Swithun's School, seconded by Cllr Powles and approved by all. Cllr Cobb to liaise with St Swithun's school.

ACTION FOR CLLR COBB – arrange for PA system to be made available to St Swithun's School.

- 1** Clerk attended Playfield Rd Pavilion with GP Gas to investigate the showers "running cool" (item H on Clerk's Report). GP Gas found all immersion heaters to be working, but suggested that larger water tanks might help and have kindly offered to help the Parish Council source replacements.

- 2** Clerk received email regarding internment of ashes in Kennington cemetery. After confirming that the enquiry was intended for Kennington village in Oxfordshire (and not London or Kent), the Clerk referred them to the Church Warden of St Swithun's and Reverend Samson.
- 3** Clerk received phone call from resident requesting information on obtaining a burial plot in St Swithun's cemetery. Clerk passed on contact details for St Swithun's Church Warden and Reverend Samson.
- 4** Clerk received email from resident of St Swithun's Road to report weeds growing in new path at zebra crossing St Swithun's Road and rotting road sign for St Swithun's Road. Clerk has passed on the details to Cllr Cuddy to register on FixMyStreet.
- 5** Report received from Mr Andrews (N) from Kennington Athletic Football Club on various housekeeping items which had been carried out by the club at the sports pavilions. Clerk replied to thank the football club for their efforts.
- 6** Clerk received query from Wolvercote Cricket Club Groundsman regarding frequency of mowing the outfield in May. Clerk informed Groundsman that mowing is every fortnight in May, and weekly from June until August. No further tampering with water access points on the cricket square reported by Groundsman, but the clerk has located an easily-accessed and tamper-proof stopcock which will cut off the water supply to the playing field if necessary.
- 7** Email received from resident via Cllr Feather from resident of Forest Side regarding maintenance of the hedges behind their house which backs onto Forest Side playing field. "Do you know who is responsible for the maintenance of the hedges? Is it the Parish Council, Egrove, or the Vale of White Horse? Only once in the 23 years I have lived here has it been cut by contractors. I know all my neighbours are also finding it difficult to maintain themselves."
- 20.26** It was agreed that the Council's position is that the hedges at Forest Side are the responsibility of the residents. Proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Locklin that the Clerk should respond that maintenance of the hedge is the responsibility of the residents – approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – respond to the resident informing them that the hedges at Forest Side are the responsibility of the residents.

CONTINUING ISSUES

- S** Clerk took delivery of new Solar-Powered Speed Indication Device (SID) – now stored in the green container at the Village Hall awaiting installation.
- 21.26** The Clerk presented a quote of £648 to the Council for installation of the SID by an Abingdon-based specialist company – MAC Traffic Solutions, and reported that he had been unable to find a similar company locally. It was agreed that installation should be carried out by a specialist company with suitable Public Liability Insurance. Acceptance of the quote proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Feather and approved by all. Clerk to inform contractor that the Council is happy to proceed.

ACTION FOR CLERK – instruct MAC Traffic Solutions to proceed according to the quote received.

- T** Clerk arranged for Oxfordshire County Council Highways Officer to come to the Parish Council meeting on 14th May to discuss Bagley Wood Road traffic control measures.
- U** Clerk placed order for 2 x Broxap's Lanarkshire Slim Planters with Logo: Laser cut text as per approved visual with gold backing plate to both of the long sides – "Kennington Parish Council". Clerk now awaiting delivery.
- V** Clerk received phone call from resident of The Lawns requesting information about the Community Governance Review and Oxfordshire Local Government Reorganisation. The resident felt that although it

was logical for The Lawns to become part of Kennington Parish, they felt that the threat presented by the Greater Oxford Unitary Council meant that they would prefer to stay in Radley Parish which, unlike Kennington Parish, would be in either Ridgeway or Oxfordshire Unitary Authority.

W Clerk has written to Layla Moran MP regarding problems with the Royal Mail delivery service in Kennington.

X Clerk received quote from Purely Plants for compost and planting for the two additional planters in the village of £160.

22.26 Cllr Feather proposed that the Council accept the quote for the additional planting once the planters have arrived, seconded by Cllr Johnston and approved by all. Clerk to inform Purely Plants.

ACTION FOR CLERK – inform Purely Plants that the Council accepts the quote and will proceed as soon as the new planters have been received.

Y Clerk submitted May Kennington Chronicle article with a QR code for a Bagley Wood Road traffic calming survey.

Z Clerk received email from resident of Otters Reach regarding volunteer planting of small shrubs on the grass verge. They haven't had a reply from parks@southandvale.gov.uk – but have been informed by VoWHDC that the request has now been passed on to the Property Team.

AA Clerk received phone call from resident regarding disabled space outside their house which is on Oxfordshire County Council's list of Various Roads (South & Vale) - Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Places (November 2025) but not yet in-place. Clerk will try to find out when the work is scheduled to take place – can our District and County Councillor help?

23.26 Cllr Lugova suggested that the Clerk pass on the details the disabled parking space for her to chase up with OCC Highways.

ACTION FOR CLERK – pass on details of disabled parking space to Cllr Lugova.

AB Clerk has written to land owner of property on Sandford Lane where an old, damaged chain-link fence is obstructing the footpath requesting that it is removed to restore safe access for users of the footpath.

AC Clerk has emailed PCSO Maddie Highmoor to thank her for her recent efforts in stopping illegal motorcycle use on footpaths near the Rive Thames.

AD Clerk has written to Rewley Road Fire Station, Kennington Athletic Football Club, Kennington Library, Martin Barron (photographer) and Korky Paul to thank them for their support for the Forest Side Play Area Opening Event.

24.26 Cllr Brown pointed out that the Toddler Group and Kennington (Oxford) Band had been inadvertently missed from the list of organisations, and that the Clerk should send a letter of thanks to them too – approved by all. Clerk to action.

ACTION FOR CLERK – send letters of thanks to the Toddler Group and Kennington (Oxford) Band

8 Clerk received response from Layla Moran MP regarding letter to her concerning Royal Mail service in Kennington. *"Thank you for your email to Layla Moran MP regarding postal delays in Kennington. Layla has asked me to respond to you on her behalf in the first instance and understands the frustration of residents. We have now written to Royal Mail regarding this issue, asking for a response on how they intend to ensure residents receive important health and utility bill letters in a timely fashion going forward. We have also asked them to provide a response on their current performance in Kennington and any possible explanations for these delays. When we receive a response from them we will share it with you in due course."*

- 9** Update received from War Memorial volunteer regarding flowers – “I have estimated that we will only need around 30 geraniums, if we have the larger 1L size, £4.99 each. So that would cost £150 at the most, probably less if Jacky gives us some discount. This will include delivery.”
Does the Council wish to proceed with this?
This item was discussed under item I above (minute ref 15 and 16.26).
- 10** Clerk has written to the External Auditor informing them that both expenditure and income in the 2025/26 tax year exceeded £200,000 (owing to income from the FCC grant and expenditure on the Forest Side Play Area). The External Auditor has responded that they will be sending out requests for the information related to this in the near future.

25.26 CORRESPONDENCE AND REQUEST FOR GRANT AID

Requests for grants – None received

Correspondence for discussion/action

- A** Oxfordshire County Council community transport grants 2026-27: APPLICATIONS INVITED
B Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 - Sections 98 and 99

Correspondence forwarded to Councillors for information

- C** River Thames Society – Invitation to AGM
D The Abingdon Bridge – Cakes & Ale Festival Saturday 16th May 2026
E VoWHDC – Media Release - Let’s talk rubbish 2026 – tell us what you think of our waste and street cleaning services
F VoWHDC - Media release - Another £100,000 available for climate and nature recovery projects
G Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – S14 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Temporary Footpath Closure at - Radley & Kennington, Sugworth Lane
H VoHWDC - Media release: Former taxi driver convicted for fraud and insurance offences after forging licence documents
I Town and Parish Council Forum: Tuesday 21 April 2026 - Planning, Land Charges and Mapping systems
J Thames Valley Police Commissioner’s Office - My local update for you - April 2026
K VoWHDC - Have your say on our plan to connect food producers to food providers in South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse

Newsletters

- L** Read the latest news from Healthwatch Oxfordshire
M CPRE Oxfordshire: Latest News, Campaigns and Policy Updates
N OCC – The latest news for your communities
O Rural Services Network – Your free RSN Weekly Newsletter
P OALC – April Newsletter

26.26 FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of Bank Accounts as at 30 April 2026

Community Account	500.00
Business Premium Account	171,828.95
National Savings & Investment Account	87,406.14
Public Sector Fund (CCLA account)	117,769.16
Total	377,504.25

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Income received in April	£
CCLA Investment Management Ltd Income reinvestment 31 March to 30 April 2026	373.21
VoWHDC First half of precept 2026/27	79,400.00
VoWHDC CIL Payment	5,158.26
HMRC - Ref: Xfv126000101381 VAT S126 Reclaim – 2025/26 Q4	10,737.26
St John's College Forest Side	11.62

Direct debits to be paid in May	£	Power to Act
Virtual Landline Invoice No. 1424239 (28 April 2026 – 28 May 2026) virtual landline subscription	8.75	Section 111 LGA 1972
YGP Forest Side Pavilion electric (Invoice No: 1329524)	58.17	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
YGP War Memorial February electric (Invoice No: 1335405)	41.55	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
YGP Playfield Road Pavilion electric (Invoice No: 1327175)	116.42	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
EDF Playfield Road Pavilion gas (Invoice 3CBED647-0024)	15.27	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

Direct debits – accounts currently in credit	£	Power to Act
Castle Water Inv. 10009783645 Playfield Road Pavilion water 01.03.26 to 31.03.26	5.54 CR	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
Castle Water Inv. 10009781233 War Memorial water 01.03.26 to 31.03.26	36.62 CR	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

Reference No. 2026/	Additional accounts paid in April by Clerk using Barclays Debit Card	£	Power to Act
036	Google Google One Annual subscription (2 nd April 2026)	15.99	Section 111 LGA 1972
037	Amazon Replacement pole for Parish Council's pop-up banner (14 th April 2026)	13.99	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

Reference No. 2026/	Accounts to be paid in May	£	Power to Act
020	Mr L J Wootten Salary for April less tax, NI & pension contribution	1434.29	Section 112 LGA 1972
021	Oxfordshire County Council Pension Fund Clerk's and Employer's contributions for April	483.34	Section 111 LGA 1972

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022	Mr A Highley Village Warden Salary for April less tax and NI	373.56	Section 111 LGA 1972
023	Mr T Fleming War memorial grass cutting volunteer for April	45.18	Section 111 LGA 1972
024	Mr A Cobb Chairman's monthly allowance for April	73.69	Section 111 LGA 1972
025	HM Revenue and Customs Tax and Employer NI contributions for April	523.35	Section 111 LGA 1972
026	Calber Facilities Management Playfield Rd Pavilion cleaning – Invoice CL486679	208.90	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
027	Adventis Web Hosting – Invoice 0000342	31.50	Section 111 LGA 1972
028	Community First Oxfordshire Annual subscription 2026/27	70.00	Section 137 LGA 1972
029	Kennington Village Hall Room hire in April – Invoice 2026-177	120.00	Section 111 LGA 1972
030	Elan City Evolis Vision Solar Powered Speed Indicator Device	3,000.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
031	Broxap Street Furniture 2 x Lanarkshire Slim Planter	1,824.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
032	Lawrence Wootten Food and drink for Annual Village Meeting	49.04	Section 137 LGA 1972
033	MR H Services Playground safety inspections – Invoice 0598	208.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
034	GP Gas Repairs to female toilets at Playfield Road Pavilion	384.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
035	Eurooffice Printer ink cartridges, printer paper, stationery	287.30	Section 111 LGA
038	BGG Cutting up and removing fallen Leylandii at Forest Side Invoice 1676/26	342.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
039	Zurich Municipal Insurance Annual Insurance Premium (Year 2 of 3-year fixed premium)	1,291.97	Section 111 LGA 1972
040	Grundon Pavilion wheeled bins – Invoices 1485943 & 14859542	248.80	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976
041	Alan Cobb 3 x electrical extension rolls for PA system	48.00	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976

Total to be transferred in May: £11,046.92

- 27.26** Reconciliation reports together with the trial balance, cash books and summary income and expenditure (against budget) and copy of annual budget reports were circulated to all Councillors for April 2026.
- 28.26** The Clerk reported that he had submitted the 2025/26 Q4 VAT S126 reclaim of £10,737.26, which had already been paid into the Council's bank account.
- 29.26** The Clerk reported that a CIL payment of £5,158.26 had been received from VoWHDC in April.

30.26 The Clerk reported that he had completed the 2025/26 Q4 Financial Control Checks with Cllr Jempson on 21st April 2026.

31.26 The Financial Report was proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Cobb and approved by all.

32.26 DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PLAYING FIELDS COMMITTEE HELD ON 29 APRIL 2026

The draft minutes of the Playing Fields Committee held on 29 April 2026 were noted.

33.26 ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS AT THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING ON 22 APRIL 2026

Concerns raised regarding the increase in HMOs in Kennington and graffiti on a property in Bagley Wood Close were noted and discussed.

34.26 ANNUAL REVIEW SCHEDULE

It was resolved that the Council's Annual Review Schedule of its documents had been reviewed and agreed and would be posted on the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post current review schedule on the website

35.26 Cllr Brown pointed out that reference to General Power of Competence (GPC) should be removed from all documents, as the Council no longer has this, and that the Clerk is not the only employee of the Council, so documents should be altered to reflect this.

36.26 It was agreed that allocation of the Council's financial assets would be moved to the next meeting.

37.26 The Clerk asked if the Council ought to get up-to-date valuations of its buildings, since the last valuations were carried out in 2017. Cllr Brown proposed that the Clerk obtain quotes for buildings valuations, seconded by Cllr Cobb and approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – obtain quotes for buildings valuations

38.26 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

39.26 It was resolved that the Standing Orders for Kennington Parish Council had been reviewed and agreed (incorporating the latest NALC update to paragraphs 14 and 18), and that the Financial Regulations had been reviewed and agreed (with reinstatement of paragraph 6.8, and changing "four councillors" to "five councillors" in paragraph 7.1). This was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Powles and agreed by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to update the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations documents on the website

40.26 DIRECT DEBITS 2026/27

41.26 It was resolved that the 2026/27 Direct Debits for Kennington Parish Council had been reviewed and agreed. This was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Johnston and agreed by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – update these documents on the website

42.26 S137 EXPENDITURE IN 2025/26

43.26 It was resolved that the expenditure incurred under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 by Kennington Parish Council had been reviewed and agreed. This was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Cobb and agreed unanimously.

44.26 PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE

45.26 2026-27 annual insurance policy premium from Zurich Insurance was £1,262.55, being the second year of a three-year deal agreed at a meeting on 8th May 2025 (minute ref 43.25). It was agreed that the policy still provided adequate cover for Kennington Parish Council's liabilities and should be renewed. This was proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Brown and approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – confirm renewal with Zurich Insurance and post on Village Hall notice boards and at both pavilions and on the website.

46.26 MEETING DATES FOR 206-27

47.25 The amended meeting dates up to and including the next Annual Meeting of the council were proposed by Cllr Powles, seconded by Cllr Cobb and agreed by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post the 2026-27 meeting dates on the Village Hall notice board, send a copy to the Village Hall Manager and post on the website.

48.26 COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW FOR THE AREA OF RADLEY PARISH TO THE NORTH OF SUGWORTH LANE

49.26 Cllr Johnston left the meeting for this item and played no part in the subsequent discussions on the matter.

50.26 It was agreed that Cllr Cobb would attend the meeting of the Community Governance & Electoral Issues Committee meeting on 28th May on behalf of Kennington Parish Council.

51.26 REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

52.26 A revised Complaints Procedure based on the latest template from the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils was approved. Proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Powles and approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post the revised Complaints Procedure on the website

53.26 PLAYFIELD ROAD PAVILION PROJECT

54.26 The preliminary report produced by Parkinson Partnership had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting and was discussed. Cllr Feather reported that he will now contact the project's architect and report back to the Council once the architect has reviewed the information.

55.26 WOOD BARK PURCHASE FOR THE LINKS PLAY AREA

56.26 It was proposed by Cllr Johnston and seconded by Cllr Brown that the Clerk should purchase a 1000-litre bag at £242.72 and 20 x 50-litre bags of BSEN1177-tested play area-grade wood bark at £276.21 (plus shipping and VAT) for the Links play area. Approved by all.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Order play grade bark to be delivered to the Links play area.

57.26 ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ON BAGLEY WOOD ROAD

58.26 Mr Andy Sweeney (Oxfordshire County Council Team Leader Place & Planning – South and Vale) had discussed possible road safety improvement measures for Bagley Wood at Minute Ref 6.26.

59.26 Cllr Powles reported that more than 50 responses had been received to the Survey Monkey questionnaire, mostly from residents of Bagley Wood Road, with over 70% in favour of Option 2.

60.26 It was agreed that Option 2, which would be a low-cost project should be pursued by the Parish Council. This was proposed by Cllr Johnston, seconded by Cllr Feather and agreed unanimously.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Complete the necessary Expression of Interest Forms for Option 2 and return to Oxfordshire County Council for approval.

61.26 It was noted that Option 2 (if the Council's application was successful) would be an 18-month experiment, with a decision to continue/discontinue made at the 12-month point. It could be achieved by a Temporary Road Traffic Order and signage which could be easily removed if the project failed. A Let's Talk page would be set up by Oxfordshire County Council to monitor residents' feedback (<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk>).

It was also noted that 10mph speed limits cannot be used on public roads (only in car parks), and that there is no funding available for other traffic control options in the area.

62.26 ENCOURAGING OBSERVATION OF PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN THE VILLAGE

63.26 Cllr Cuddy reported that the Coop might be willing for small banners/signs encouraging customers not to park on the double-yellow signs outside to be placed outside. It was agreed that this idea should be pursued.

64.26 Cllr Cobb suggested that yellow flashing warning lights timed for school arrival/departure might be an option – perhaps with a grant from the Police Commissioner’s Office.

65.26 REPORTS OF MEMBERS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Johnston – Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee had interviewed for a Village Hall Manager and Facilities Manager and is waiting to hear back from the candidates who have been offered the posts.

Cllr Brown – OALC

The OALC is looking for a representative for parishes in Vale of White Horse.

66.26 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr Andrews (report sent by email ahead of the meeting)

A resident had reported that a fence at the back of a property was leaning into the alley leading from Rowles Close to Kennington Road.

67.26 It was agreed that this should be reported on FixMyStreet in the first instance.

Cllr Jempson

Cllr Jempson had reported a number of issues on FixMyStreet, including a Dropped Kerb Section - Lifted Concrete Units and a Culvert Trash Screen Covered in Debris on Sandford Lane. With regard to the culvert trash screen – she had been informed that it did not currently meet the criteria for immediate intervention, but Oxfordshire County Council will continue to monitor it.

Cllr Locklin

Cllr Locklin had been contacted by a resident regarding the Royal Mail service in the village, and noted Layla Moran MP’s response to the Clerk’s letter to her on this issue.

Cllr Locklin pointed out the continuing problem with bank/verge degradation on Bagley Wood Road.

Cllr Brown

Cllr Brown noted the road traffic survey “tube” across The Avenue and suggested that Oxfordshire County Council might share their data with the Parish Council.

ACTION FOR CLERK – Contact Oxfordshire County Council to find out if road traffic survey data can be shared with the Parish Council.

68.26 REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Cllrs Diana Lugova and James Cox

Vale’s Nature and Climate Fund opened to applications from Tuesday 5 May: Local ‘not for profit’ organisations and town/parish councils can apply for a share of the £100,000 Fund, with up to £10,000 on offer for individual projects. The funding is aimed at community projects that help to address climate change and support nature recovery, alongside educating and inspiring others to get involved. Full details of the Nature and Climate Action Fund and how to apply are available on the Nature and Climate Action Fund page on our website. Please also review the 2026/27 Fund guidelines. Applications will close at midday on Monday 29 June.

New Bin Collection Day app: The Vale’s new web app for residents to find out when their bins will be emptied for their next two scheduled waste and recycling collections is now live! BinDays has been provided by our IT team to replace Binzone which we are no longer able to support, due to updated internet security standards. BinDays will provide a more reliable and easier to manage system going forward. Residents can access the service at whitehorsedc.gov.uk/BinDays

Introduction of full council livestreaming: The Vale of White Horse council already livestream a wide range of meetings - from Cabinet and Scrutiny to Planning and licensing – but we will now, for the first time, be able to livestream full Council meetings. Previously this wasn't possible due to space and technical limitations, as full Council meetings had to be held offsite. Now the council can host full Council meetings in a location equipped for livestreaming. This means people will be able to watch the discussions and decisions that matter most to our communities' lives or catch up later at their convenience. The first livestreamed full council meeting will be our AGM, taking place on 13 May 2026.

69.26 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR – Cllr Diana Lugova

OCC had AGM on Tuesday, 12th May and there were some changes in leadership. There is a new OCC Chair - Cllr Ted Fenton and new Vice Chair is Cllr Roz Smith. Council Leader Cllr Liz Leffman has announced her intention to step down as leader of the Liberal Democrat group on the county council, and as leader of Oxfordshire County Council. The new leader for the council's Liberal Democrat group is Cllr Tim Bearder. OCC will hold an extraordinary general meeting of the council on a date to be set to elect a new leader. In the interim, the current Deputy Leader of Oxfordshire County Council, Cllr Neil Fawcett, will lead the authority.

Redbridge Recycling Centre is planned to get closed for refurbishment for 3 months - from June till August 2026. Booking system is working well – from my experience and talking to workers and visitors it's much quieter, faster and more organized – no queues and people drop the waste and recycling within minutes.

OCC shortlisted for National Awards. Pleased to share that Oxfordshire was shortlisted in two national categories at the 2026 LARIA (Local Area Research and Intelligence Association) Research Impact Awards, recognising how the county is using local research and data to improve decision-making and outcomes in Oxfordshire. Also, Oxfordshire was shortlisted for Best Use of Local Area Research for our Community Insight Profiles addressing inequality, and for Best Use of Data for our work on need, pathways and inequalities in children's social care, showcasing how local insight helps design fairer, more effective services.

1,500 new public EV charge points to be installed across Oxfordshire. Oxfordshire's Local EV Infrastructure (LEVI) programme, backed by over £4 million in Department for Transport funding, will deliver a more accessible and equitable network of public EV charge points across the county. The scheme focuses on supporting the 30% of residents without off-street parking, with installation, operation and maintenance contracted to Connected Kerb and EZ-Charge. Charger locations are being shaped by data mapping, stakeholder consultation, local demand and the availability of electricity connections. In addition, residents able to park outside their homes can apply for a heavily subsidised EV charging cable channel, available for £300.

Consultations

East West Rail public consultation. East West Rail (EWR) is running a route-wide public consultation from 14 April to 9 June 2026 on its updated proposals. The consultation focuses on changes made since winter 2024/25 and is of particular relevance to Oxfordshire, including proposals affecting London Road, Bicester, and Oxford Parkway.

As part of the consultation, EWR is holding several engagement events, including:

Two further online webinars on 6 May and 2 June.

An in-person event at The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford (OX2 0ES) on 12 May, running from 11am to 6pm. This is expected to be the final public consultation before EWR submits its Development Consent Order application in summer/autumn 2027. It therefore represents an important opportunity for residents and stakeholders to comment while the proposals are still being developed. The council will be submitting a formal response to the consultation.

Oxfordshire's councils have launched a public consultation (12 May–14 June 2026) to gather views on how communities should benefit from future large-scale low-carbon energy projects. The proposed approach focuses on creating a clearer, fairer and more consistent framework for community benefit contributions and shared ownership opportunities linked to developments such as solar farms, wind turbines and battery storage. It aims to ensure that communities hosting such infrastructure receive tangible long-term benefits, including funding for

local priorities like energy efficiency, nature recovery and addressing fuel poverty. The policy would not influence planning decisions on whether projects are approved but instead guide how benefits are negotiated and distributed once schemes proceed. Overall, the initiative seeks to give residents and stakeholders a stronger voice in shaping a fair share of the economic and social gains from Oxfordshire's transition to cleaner energy.
<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cbc-and-cso-in-oxfordshire>

70.26 ANY MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Allocation of Financial Assets
Memberships of Committees and Outside Bodies
Bank Signatories

71.26 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS – None

Date of Next Meeting: 11 June 2026

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed

Date 11 June 2026