

Minutes of the meeting of Nuneham Courtenay Parish Council held on Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at the Village Hall

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.37pm.

Parish Councillors present: John Peters (Vice-Chair), Judy Eden, Madhvi Saini and Mandy Rigault (Chair).

Also present: Cllr Robin Jones (OxonCC), Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SODC) and one parishioner.

In attendance: Geoffrey Ferres (Clerk).

25/110 Apologies

None.

25/111 Declarations of interest

None.

25/112 Public participation

None.

25/113 Minutes of the Council's last ordinary meeting

The Council **approved** the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13th January 2026. The Chair then signed them and initialled each page.

Action: Clerk to publish signed minutes on Council's website

25/114 Co-option to fill vacancy

The Council **agreed** to defer the matter to a future meeting.

25/115 County Councillor's report

Cllr Robin Jones (OxonCC) introduced his latest report, which the Clerk had already published on the Council's website.

Action: In future, Clerk to send councillors a link to each report when published

25/116 District Councillor's report

Cllr Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SODC) gave a report and said she has approved a grant to the Playing Field Association.

25/117 Planning matters

- a) 30 Nuneham Courtenay: Replacement of seven single-glazed metal-framed windows with double-glazed PVC windows. [P25/S3614/FUL] [Consultation deadline: Wednesday 4th March 2026]

The Council **agreed** to submit an objection.

Initialled:

Date: Tuesday 5th May 2026

- b) Land between Burcot Farm, Burcot and Cowley Substation
Blackberry Lane, Oxford: Installation of an underground high voltage cable to support permitted solar development – new information.
[P25/S3614/FUL]

The Council **agreed** not to submit a comment.

- c) Land south of Grenoble Road near Sandford: Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion in relation to the proposed community.
[P26/S0396/SCO] [Not subject to public consultation]

The Council **agreed** not to submit a comment.

- d) Linear site comprising corridor between A34 Milton Interchange and B4015 north of Clifton Hampden including part of A4130 east of A34 Milton Interchange, land between Didcot and former Didcot A Power Station and Great Western Mainline, land to north of Didcot where it crosses private railway sidings and River Thames to west of Appleford-on-Thames before joining A415 west of Culham Station, land to south of Culham Science Centre through to connection with B4015 north of Clifton Hampden:

Section 73 application to continue development permitted by R3.0138/21 (Dualling of A4130 carriageway (A4130 Widening) from Milton Gate Junction eastwards, including construction of three roundabouts. Road bridge over Great Western Mainline (Didcot Science Bridge) and realignment of A4130 north east of proposed road bridge including relocation of lagoon. Construction of new road between Didcot and Culham (Didcot to Culham River Crossing) including construction of three roundabouts, road bridge over the Appleford railway sidings and road bridge over River Thames. Construction of new road between B4015 and A415 (Clifton Hampden bypass), including provision of one roundabout and associated junctions. And controlled crossings, footways and cycleways, landscaping, lighting, noise barriers and sustainable drainage systems) without complying with condition 23 to vary wording that veteran trees still cannot be removed as part of development except for veteran (Tree T283) and Ancient (Tree T147) which have been re-classified since the approval of R3.0138/21.
[R3.0025/26] [Consultation deadline: Thursday 26th March 2026]

The Council **agreed** not to submit a comment.

- e) 5 Nuneham Courtenay: Formation of new dropped kerb to facilitate safe vehicular access; within the front garden, driveway surfaced in

permeable gravel is proposed – new information. [P25/S3897/HH & P25/S3898/LB]

The Council **agreed** not to submit a comment.

25/118 Finance

a) Bank reconciliation to end January 2026

The Council **noted** a bank reconciliation to the end of January 2026 presented by the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer.

b) Budget monitoring report to end January 2026

The Council **noted** a budget monitoring report to the end of January 2026 presented by the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer.

The Council **agreed** to increase the following provisions for Payments:

- Recoverable VAT from £300 to £1,200
- Village Hall hire from £350 to £450.

The Council also **agreed** to increase the provision for Receipts from Recoverable VAT from £10 to £1,300.

Action: Clerk

c) Transfer from deposit account to current account

The Clerk advised the Council that he believes the Council has sufficient money in its current account to last until it receives the first half of next year's precept.

d) Payments

The Council **approved** the following payments:

- £228.00, Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils, Annual membership subscription
- £97.50, Nuneham Courtenay Village Hall, Hire for 2025-26 Q2 Q3 and Q4.

The Chair and Vice-Chair signed the payments and initialled the supporting paperwork. **Action: Clerk to make payments to OALC and Village Hall Committee**

e) Receipts

The Council **noted** the following receipt since the last ordinary meeting in January 2026:

- £905.00, HMRC, VAT refund Q3 2025.

25/119 Correspondence

- a) Great British Spring Clean, 13th-29th March 2026
The Council **agreed** not to take part.
- b) National Highways and Transport Public Satisfaction Survey 2025-26
– Public Representatives
The Clerk said he would forward the message to councillors.
Action: Clerk
- c) Annual Community Emergency Plan Survey
The Clerk said he has downloaded a template for a Community Emergency Plan from the website of the Society for Local Council Clerks and will study its suitability for use by this council.
Action: Clerk

25/120 Internal Audit 2025-26

The Council **agreed** to re-appoint Auditing Solutions Ltd as Internal Auditor for 2025-26.

25/121 IT Policy

The Council **agreed** to defer this matter to a future meeting.

25/122 Accessibility Statement

The Council **agreed** to defer this matter to a future meeting.

25/123 Grant application to SODC

The Council **agreed** to defer this matter to a future meeting.

25/124 Annual Parish Meeting 2026

The Council **agreed** to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 14th April. **Action: Clerk**

25/125 Conservation issues

- a) Former Cockadoo/Harcourt Arms
Nothing to report.
- b) All Saints Church
The Chair said she would suggest to the Churches Conservation Trust that it apply to the Council for a grant. **Action: Chair**
- c) Village Guide
The Chair said Dr Malcolm Airs has agreed to do a talk in the Village Hall on the history of Nuneham Courtenay to raise money towards the

repair of the Coronation carpet and she has provisionally booked the Village Hall for Saturday 27th June.

The Chair said she also planned another history of Nuneham Courtenay exhibition on Saturday 12th September.

The Council **agreed** to pay for the hire of the Village Hall for these events using the money remaining in the Village Guide restricted reserve.

25/126 Playing Field

The Clerk reported he is still disputing invoices for the months of December, January and February in which no work was either requested or undertaken. **Action: Clerk**

25/127 Village Hall

Nothing to report.

25/128 Community Safety

The Council **agreed** to pay for the use of the Village Hall in the event the weather might put parishioners off from taking advantage of the visit to the village the Police Community Support Officers have arranged for 6.30-7.30pm on Friday 24th April.

25/129 Speeding and other Highways issues

No concerns have been raised with councillors regarding the full width resurfacing of the A4074 through the village commencing on Monday 9th March.

The Council discussed with Cllr Robin Jones and Cllr Sam Casey-Perhaye the possibility of obtaining one or more Vehicle Activated Sign on the basis the Council would repay the County Council the cost over a number of years. **Action: Chair**

25/130 Local Government Reorganisation

The Council **agreed** it supported the two councils option advocated by SODC. **Action: Clerk to draft letter to Secretary of State**

25/131 Flooding

The Clerk had circulated a report from OxonCC under Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

25/132 Public Transport

The Clerk said he has forwarded to Cllr Saini the link for the online meeting of Oxfordshire Passenger Transport Representatives on 10th

March at 1.30pm.

The Council was not aware of any reactions to the timetable changes that took place on 22nd February 2026.

25/133 Community Governance Review

The Clerk reported that a public consultation is now under way on options for grouping the parish with a neighbouring parish council. It appeared SODC's Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee is not in favour of the alternative of the parish council being replaced by a parish meeting.

The committee will decide on proposals in May and there will then be a further consultation on its proposals.

Action: Clerk to draft response on Council's behalf

25/136 Solar Farms: Community Benefit

The Chair reported that her Baldons counterpart has written to the company again.

25/139 Defibrillator

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator is in working order.

The Clerk has received an email from the parishioner who has offered to become the guardian of the defibrillator.

The meeting closed at 9.54pm without reaching the remaining items:

25/134 Records Management

25/135 Business Continuity

25/137 Council Laptop

25/138 Council Website