

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, BARLEY CLOSE, BLOXHAM ON MONDAY 5 OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor David Bunn, Chairman; Councillors Joanna Barton, Neil Hegarty, Richard Morley and Nick Rayner.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer), County/District Councillor David Hingley, District Councillor Rob Pattenden and three members of the public.

81/26 Apologies – Parish Councillor Amanda Baxter submitted her apologies because she had another appointment.

Parish Councillor Mike Fenner submitted his apologies because he had another appointment.

Parish Councillor David Morris submitted his apologies because he had another appointment.

Resolved that the apologies from Councillors Amanda Baxter, Mike Fenner and David Morris be accepted and the absences authorised.

82/26 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

83/26 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2026 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2026 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

84/26 Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.

85/26 Chairman's Announcements

- A meeting would be arranged with Cherwell District Council Planning Officers, to be held via Zoom, to discuss the Parish Council's role in the Reserved Matters stage for the three applications in the village, which currently had outline planning permission. The Parish Council emphasised the importance of being fully involved in these applications, particularly in relation to the proposed social housing mix, housing tenures, the new affordable housing scheme and the range of house types to be delivered.

With regard to the Barford Road outline application, it was noted that only one bungalow was proposed. The Parish Council would seek to ensure that the housing mix aligns with the policies and requirements set out in the Neighbourhood Plan.

86/26 Open Forum – Councillor Nick Rayner reported that the village noticeboards appeared untidy. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council owned only two noticeboards, both of which were locked. It was agreed that Councillors would review all noticeboards in the village and report back for discussion at the next meeting. **Action ALL**

Councillor Joanna Barton reported that quad bikes were being ridden along the Public Right of Way behind the Smiths' land towards Milton. It was agreed that a notice would be published in the village reminding residents that quad bikes were not permitted on Public Rights of Way and that such use, poses a safety risk to pedestrians.

The Clerk was asked to contact the PCSO for Bloxham to request that the village be monitored to address these issues of antisocial behaviour. **Action TG**

A resident reported that the footpath from The Goggs along the back of Winters Way was in a poor condition. This needed to be reported to the County Council's Fix My Street website. **Action TG**

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It was agreed that a note would be circulated in the village generally, reminding residents about their riparian ownership if they had a boundary with a water course. They should check their deeds and be aware of their responsibilities. Any rubbish should be cleared away so as not to increase the flood risk in the village. **Action TG**

Councillor Richard Morley reported that the 'Beware of Horses' sign on Bloxham Grove Road had fallen down and that the dog waste bin further along the road, past the barn, was lying on its side. **Action TG**

The Chairman reported that a suggestion had been put forward to locate the Christmas Tree on the opposite side of the A361, on the area previously occupied by the speed camera. This option would be explored for future years; however, it would not be feasible for 2026.

(For information, following guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, the Parish Council did not specifically name individual residents within its' minutes, unless they were speaking in an official capacity)

- 87/26 Reports from County and District Councillors** – District Councillor Rob Pattenden reported that the Local Government Review continued to be paused by the Government and it was unclear when further information would be received.

Councillor Pattenden also reported that the Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan had been approved by Cherwell District Council's Executive earlier that evening. It would now be considered by the full Council on 19 October 2026. He had also attended the tour of the Thames Water Treatment Works in Bloxham and had found it very interesting.

County Councillor David Hingley reported that from Monday 28 September 2026, traffic filters had replaced the temporary congestion charge in Oxford. More information was available on the County Council's website.

The Councillors were thanked for their reports.

88/26 Environment/Village Matters

- i) Flooding – Prior to the meeting, Councillor Neil Hegarty had circulated a report on the work of the Flooding Working Group. The report was available on the Parish Council's website.

The Chairman asked County/District Councillor David Hingley for his help to enable the flooding project to progress as there had been a limited response from Tony Brummell at Cherwell District Council.

Councillor Hegarty was thanked for this report.

Resolved that the report be noted and Jerry Wood be thanked for all his work on the flooding project in the village. **Action TG**

- ii) Traffic Calming Working Group – Prior to the meeting, Councillor Richard Morley had circulated two reports on the work of the Working Group and the minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2026. The reports and minutes were available on the Parish Council's website.

Councillor Morley highlighted the proposals from the Traffic Calming Working Group in respect of the review 20mph speed restrictions. Following a discussion, it was felt that as the community had been consulted on the previous 20mph speed restrictions project, a consultation exercise should be held again. It was noted that the deadline for the consultation was the end of November 2026.

Councillor Morley also highlighted from his report, an update on the availability of Section 106 funds for the proposed pedestrian crossing at the Primary School, as well as the current outstanding highways issues in Bloxham.

Councillor Morley was thanked for his report.

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Resolved that:

- 1) the reports and minutes be noted;
 - 2) a extension to the County Council's deadline for the review of the 20mph speed restrictions be requested; **Action RM**
 - 3) a consultation be undertaken in the village in respect of the review of the 20mph speed restrictions;
 - 4) the Parish Council to purchase a new VAS; **Action RM**
 - 5) funding from other sources for the purchase of a speed monitoring camera for use by the Community Speed Watch Scheme be investigated; **Action RM**
 - 6) Thames Valley Police be requested to complete speed monitoring on the A361 in the 30mph zones; **Action TG**
 - 7) contact be made with Westcotec requesting that the VAS' which were removed as part of the 20mph speed restrictions project, be returned to the Parish Council, as they are Parish Council owned assets; and **Action TG**
 - 8) if Westcotec are not forthcoming with the return of the VAS', the matter be escalated to the County Council. **Action RM**
- iii) Health and Wellbeing Working Group – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2026 had been circulated to the Parish Council. The minutes were available on the Parish Council's website.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted; and
 - 2) expenditure of up to £100, relating to the running of the Working Group, be approved and reimbursed on production of receipts. **Action JB**
- iv) Disabled Parking on Church Street – The Parish Council had been due to discuss a request for a disabled parking space on Church Street, Bloxham (near to The Loft). However, in the absence of Councillor Amanda Baxter, this item was deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved that this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council. **Action TG**

- v) Litter Pickers – The Parish Council discussed purchasing signs encouraging people to take their litter home and not drop it in the village.

Resolved that ten signs reminding people not to drop litter be purchased. **Action DB/TG**

- vi) Bus Services – The Parish Council discussed the County Council's consultation on bus services.

Resolved that the Chairman to respond to the County Council's consultation on bus services. **Action DB**

- vii) Goal Posts in Jubilee Park – The Parish Council discussed replacing and relocating the static goal posts in Jubilee Park.

Resolved that:

- 1) quotes be obtained for new static goals and nets; and
 - 2) the Jubilee Park Management Committee and Bloxham Football Club be contacted to identify where the goals can be relocated to in Jubilee Park and whether the Adult Gym Equipment now needs to be sited elsewhere. **Action DB/TG**
- viii) Wooden Chair Located in St Mary's Parish Rooms – The Parish Council discussed transferring ownership of the wooden chair, handmade by David Gibbard, currently located in St Mary's Parish Rooms, over to the Feoffees.

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Resolved that the ownership of the wooden chair be transferred to the Feoffees. **Action TG**

- ix) Remembrance Sunday – The Parish Council discussed the Remembrance Day Parade being held on Sunday 8 November 2026. The Clerk updated the Parish Council on all of the actions which had been taken, in liaison with Alex Harrison from the Royal British Legion.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted;
 - 2) Councillor Nick Rayner to lay the Poppy Wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the Parish Council; and
 - 3) Alex Harrison be contacted to establish the location of the flag, which will be flown for the event.
- Action TG**

89/26

Planning

- i) Planning Applications/Works to Trees – Prior to the meeting, the details of the planning applications/works to trees which had been considered by the Parish Council, since the last meeting, had been circulated.

Resolved that, it be noted and approved that no objections have been made by the Parish Council in respect of the following planning applications/works to trees:

26/02104/TCA Whettons Yard, Chapel Street, Bloxham
Tree works

TPO No.14/
2026 Land at Canning House, Barford Road, Bloxham
One Oak Tree

26/02207/TCA Walnut Tree House, Goose Walk, Bloxham
Tree works

26/02041/LB Clinton House, Humber Street, Bloxham
Cut channel into parapet of party wall of adjacent listed building to facilitate installation of Lead flashing to replace concrete fillet which is failing causing leakage

26/02237/TCA Rossili House, Kings Road, Bloxham
Tree works

Resolved that, it be noted and approved that objections have been made by the Parish Council in respect of the following planning application: None

26/01928/F Bloxham School Playing Field, Banbury Road, Bloxham
Variation of Condition 3 (removal of cricket nets) of 21/01685/F to allow for the year-round retention of the cricket nets at Bloxham School playing field

Resolved that, it be noted and approved that observations have been made by the Parish Council in respect of the following planning applications/works to trees: None

Resolved that, it be noted that the Parish Council is considering the following planning applications/works to trees:

26/02212/F High Gates, Queen Street, Bloxham
Erection of a detached carport (with 2 parking spaces) and a single-storey ancillary domestic outbuilding comprising a games/garden room and garden storage

26/02269/F 26 Colesbourne Road, Bloxham

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Demolition of existing single-storey rear extension and erection of a larger replacement single-storey rear extension (30sqm), alterations to fenestration and associated works

- ii) Results of Planning Applications – The Parish Council noted decisions made by Cherwell District Council since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Planning Application 26/02212/F – The Parish Council considered an application at High Gates, Queen Street, Bloxham for the erection of a detached carport (with 2 parking spaces) and a single-storey ancillary domestic outbuilding comprising a games/garden room and garden storage

Resolved that the Parish Council objects to application 26/02212/F. **Action DB/TG**

- iv) Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan – As reported earlier in the meeting, the Plan had been approved by Cherwell District Council's Executive. The Plan would now be considered by a full Cherwell District Council meeting on 19 October 2026.

Resolved that the report be noted.

90/26 Parish Council Matters

- i) Vacancies – There had not been any applications for co-option onto the Parish Council.

Resolved that the four vacancies continue to be advertised. **Action TG**

- ii) Drop-In and Chat – The Chairman reported on the issues raised at the last session held on 12 September 2026. The only outstanding action was to obtain information for a resident from Cherwell District Council regarding any current initiatives relating to climate issues and the reduction of carbon emissions.

The next session was being held on 10 October 2026.

Resolved that the report be noted and District Councillors David Hingley and Rob Pattenden be contacted for information regarding any current initiatives at Cherwell District Council, in respect of climate issues and reducing carbon emissions. **Action TG**

- iii) Zoho Workdrive – The Parish Council discussed trialing Zoho Workdrive for Parish Council documents.

Resolved that a trial of Zoho Workdrive to continue. **Action DB**

91/26 Finance

- i) Financial Matters – Prior to the meeting, a number of financial documents had been circulated to the Parish Council.

Resolved that:

- 1) the accounts for payment be approved, as detailed in appendix 1 to the minutes;
- 2) the receipts since the last meeting, the uncashed payments & uncashed receipts and the bank reconciliation, as at 2 October 2026 for the bank accounts at Unity Trust Bank be noted; and
- 3) it be noted that Councillor Joanna Barton, as Councillor for monitoring the Parish Council's internal controls, will sign the uncashed payments list, the uncashed receipts list, the bank reconciliation as at 30 September 2026 and the Unity Trust bank and CCLA statements for September 2026.

- ii) Budget Monitoring 2026/2027 – Prior to the meeting, the Parish Council received budget monitoring report for 2026/2027.

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Resolved that the report be noted.

- iv) General, Ring-Fenced and Ear-Marked Reserves 2026/2027 – The Parish Council considered its reserves for 2026/2027.

Resolved that the report be noted.

92/26 Correspondence – The Chairman highlighted an email from Bloxham School Headmaster to Councillor Richard Morley in respect of planning application 26/01928/F. The email had been forwarded to Cherwell District Council's Planning Officer for information and was now available on the planning portal.

93/26 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the minutes numbered 94/26, 95/26 & 96/26 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

94/26 Christmas Lights 2026 – The Parish Council considered quotes for the Christmas Lights for 2026 and the survey of the street lighting columns, which power the Christmas lights.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) the quote from Field and Lawn Ltd for the Christmas lights 2026, which includes wraps for 15 street lighting columns, be noted;
- 3) Field and Lawn Ltd be requested to provide an amended quote which includes an additional two sets of wraps on street lighting columns, which makes 17 in total;
- 4) the Clerk, in consultation with Councillor Nick Rayner, be given delegated authority to accept the amended quote from Field and Lawn Ltd, which includes the 17 wraps for the street lighting columns; and
- 5) the quote from Robelec for the survey of the 17 street lighting columns which power the Christmas lights, be approved. **Action TG**

95/26 Play Equipment Surfacing at Jubilee Park and the David Tyrrell Recreation Ground – The Parish Council considered quotes for replacement play equipment surfacing at Jubilee Park and the Recreation Ground.

The Parish Council also discussed the installation of a Memorial Bench for James Henderson to be located at Jubilee Park.

Resolved that:

- 1) the quote from Wicksteed Leisure for repairs to the surfacing at Jubilee Park play area be approved;
 - 2) the quote from Wicksteed Leisure for repairs to the surfacing at the David Tyrrell Recreation Ground be deferred for further information; and
 - 3) the Parish Council to meet the installation cost for a Memorial Bench for James Henderson.
- Action TG**

(The public were invited back into the meeting at the conclusion of this item)

96/26 Meeting Dates – The Chairman reported that the next Parish Council meetings would be held at Jubilee Hall, Barley Close, Bloxham, commencing at 7.00pm.

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Resolved that it be noted that, future meeting dates of Bloxham Parish Council are as stated below.

- Monday 2 November 2026
- Monday 7 December 2026
- Monday 4 January 2027
- Monday 1 February 2027

97/26 Items for Future Agendas/Items of Information

- Access from Greenhill Park and Winters Way
- St Mary's Church Clock
- Noticeboards in the Village
- Disabled Parking on Church Street

(The meeting ended at 9.25pm)

Chairman – 2 November 2026