

**Newington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
22nd June 2026 at 7:00pm in St Giles Church**

Present:

Cllr Nettleton; Cllr Black; Cllr Howlett (DH); Cllr Thomson

In Attendance: Clerk/RFO Lawrence Wootten; Cllr Turner (District Councillor)

Members of the public: None

15.26 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Nettleton was elected as Chairman for the meeting (proposed by Cllr Howlett (D), seconded by Cllr Black).

16.26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – District Cllr Turner and County Cllr Edwards

17.26 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – None

18.26 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – No members of the public present

19.26 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The reports from County Cllr Edwards and District Cllr Turner for June had been circulated to the Parish Council and are available as Annex A to the minutes of this meeting.

20.26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) The minutes of the last meeting held on 27th May 2026 were approved, signed by the Chairman and will be added to the website by the Clerk.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post approved minutes on website.

(b) The Clerk reported that all Direct Debits (Hugo Fox and Information Commissioner's Office) were now set up for payment from the Unity Trust Bank accounts.

23.26 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) The bank reconciliation and financial report were presented by the Clerk/RFO and approved.

On 31 May 2026 the balances of the council's accounts were noted and approved as:

Barclays Community Current Account - £2526.60

Barclays Savings Account - £570.04

Unity Trust T1 Current Account - £1369.89

Unity Trust Instant Access Account - £0.00

b) Invoices for payment – the following invoices were approved for payment:-

L J Wootten – Clerk's salary (June 2026) minus PAYE and NI £205.43

HMRC- PAYE and NI on Clerk's Salary £ 51.04

ACTION FOR CLERK – set up BACS payments on Unity Trust banking portal for approval by two councillors.

c) Direct debits paid since last meeting:-

20th May 2026: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox website/domain £ 11.99

22nd May 2026: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox email £ 11.99

31st May 2026: Unity Trust monthly banking fee £ 7.00

d) Receipts since last meeting:

M Jaunet Allotment Rent £ 10.00

e) Community Grants – no requests received

f) The Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26 was received and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Internal Audit Report 2024/25 on the website and noticeboard.

g) The Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 was completed and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 on the website and noticeboard.

h) The Accounting Statements for 2025/26 were approved and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Accounting Statements 2025/26 on the website and noticeboard.

i) The Council approved the completion of the Certificate of Exemption for 2025/26 which will be submitted to the External Auditor by the Clerk/RFO.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Certificate of Exemption for 2025/26 on the website and noticeboard and submit to Oxfordshire County Council's External Auditor.

j) The dates of the Exercise of Public Rights were approved as from Monday 29th June to Friday 7th August 2026 and will be submitted to the External Auditor and published on the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Internal Audit Report 2025/26 on the website and noticeboard and submit to Oxfordshire County Council's External Auditor.

k) The Statement of Variance 2025/26 was approved and will be published on the website and noticeboard.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Statement of Variance 2025/26 on the website and noticeboard.

24.26 PLANNING

No planning applications received.

25.26 COUNCILLOR & PARISH REPORTS

a) **Community Liaison/Notice Board** - Nothing to report

b) **Event Co-ordination** – Nothing to report

c) **Website** – Nothing new to report – website being updated regularly by the Clerk.

d) **Highways & Potholes**

The Clerk reported that he had received a response to his email from the Clerk to Warborough Parish Council. Warborough has a FixMyStreet SuperUser, but the Clerk pointed out that the more people who report a problem, the more likely it was to get the problem sorted.

Cllr Nettleton offered to use the paint spray to mark-up potholes once Cllr Black had reported them on FixMyStreet.

The Clerk had forwarded a letter from Oxfordshire County Council regarding a general review of speed limits on Oxfordshire's rural A and B class road network to Councillors. It was agreed that this would be a good time to ensure that the speed limit between Stadhampton and Newington was included in that County Council review with a view to getting a speed reduction past the Lighthouse Nursery and on the northern approach to the village.

ACTION FOR CLERK – inform the Lighthouse Nursery about the speed limit review and contact County Cllr Edwards.

e) Rights of Way

The Council noted the following notification from Oxfordshire County Council: Proposed Diversion Under Highways Act s.119 - Footpath No. 4 at The Lydes, Newington.

It was agreed that this was a long-overdue official footpath diversion, which now accurately reflected the situation on the ground. The Oxfordshire County Council Rights of Way Definitive Map had been very out-of-date and had shown the footpath running through several houses on The Lydes.

The Clerk had received a letter from the Countryside Access Team at Oxfordshire County Council, reporting several stiles that had been reported as being in poor or difficult condition to use. It was agreed that the relevant land owner would be contacted and repairs requested.

f) Allotments

The problems with obtaining a water supply to the allotments was discussed and possible solutions considered. Cllr Howlett would discuss the situation with Mr Jaunet and report back to the Council.

ACTION FOR CLLR HOWLETT – contact Mr Jaunet regarding allotment water supply.

g) Churchyard/burial ground mowing

It was reported that sheep were now grazing the churchyard, and no further action was currently required from the Parish Council.

26.26 ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS – no items raised

27.26 COUNCILLOR AND CLERK TRAINING – nothing to report

28.26 CORRESPONDENCE – To note correspondence received where decisions are not required

OALC monthly newsletters

SODC & VoWHDC media releases

Oxfordshire County Council media releases

29.26 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION OR NEXT AGENDA

Allotments

30.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 7th September 7pm (to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed

Date