

Newington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on
25th June 2025 at 7:00pm in St Giles Church

Present:

Cllr Nettleton; Cllr Howlett (DH); Cllr Black; Cllr Thomson; Cllr Howlett (NH)
In Attendance: District Councillor David Turner; Clerk/RFO Lawrence Wootten

Members of the public: One parishioner.

012.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None received

013.25 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – None

014.25 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None

015.25 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The report from District Councillor David Turner had been circulated to the Parish Council ahead of the meeting and is available as Annex A to the minutes of this meeting.

No report from County Councillor.

016.25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- (a) The corrected minutes of the last meeting held on 9th April were approved, signed by the Chairman and will be added to the website.
- (b) The minutes of the last meeting held on 14th May were approved, signed by the Chairman and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post approved minutes on website.

017.25 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- a) On 30th May 2025 the balances of the council's accounts were noted and approved:
Barclays Community Current Account - £6,003.17
Barclays Savings Account - £563.20
- b) 20th May 2025: First monthly Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox website/domain of £11.99.
- c) Receipts received since last meeting:
14th May 2025 Allotment rent £10
15th May 2025 Allotment rent £ 5
- d) It was noted that two cheques written to Cllr Thomson, each for £289.58 (for the purchase of flood bags) had been returned unpaid as the cheques had apparently not been completed according to the bank mandate. Council approved to write a single cheque to Cllr Thomson for the two payments - £579.16.
No other invoices for payment.
- e) To consider requests for Community Grants – none received
- f) The Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25 was received and will be added to the website.

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

- g) The Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 was approved and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 on the website.

- h) The Accounting Statements for 2024/25 were approved and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to publish the Accounting Statements for 2024/25 on the website.

- i) The Council approved the completion of the Certificate of Exemption from External Audit for 2024/25 which will be submitted to the External Auditor by the Clerk/RFO.

ACTION FOR CLERK/RFO – to submit the Certificate of Exemption to the External Auditor and publish the document on the website.

- k) The dates of the Exercise of Public Rights were approved as from Monday 30th June to Friday 8th August 2025 and will be submitted to the External Auditor and published on the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK/RFO – to submit the dates for the Exercise of Public Rights to the External Auditor and publish the Exercise of Public Rights Notice on the website.

- l) It was agreed to proceed with moving the Council's Barclays two bank accounts to Unity Trust Bank, with all councillors on the online banking mandate as signatories and the clerk/RFO as account administrator.
- m) The Council approved the clerk to request Hugo Fox to set up 5 email accounts linked to the www.newingtonoxford-pc.gov.uk domain at a monthly cost of £11.99 (inc. VAT).

018.25 PLANNING

Planning Reference Number: P25/S1653/FUL

Location: Former Ariens Factory Site, Haseley Trading Estate, Great Haseley OX44 7PF

Proposed: Redevelopment of the site as a Vehicle Depot retaining one of the buildings as a workshop to contain offices and welfare.

Although this application is outside the parish, the Council agreed that it should support those nearby villages where the impact of this application was likely to be felt more. It was agreed that the clerk would contact Little Milton parish council accordingly and ask if they would like Newington Parish Council to respond to the application in support of Little Milton Parish Council's views.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to contact Little Milton Parish Council.

019.25 COUNCILLOR & PARISH REPORTS

- a) Cllr Black reported that the notice board was in need of refurbishment – cleaning and maybe repainting. It was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries and get some estimates for the work to be carried out.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to obtain some quotes for refurbishing the notice board.

- b) Event Co-ordination – Nothing to report
- c) The Clerk and Cllr Black reported that the new website was live and being updated regularly.
- d) The issue of flooding to properties where there is a dropped kerb was raised as well as the speed limit sign on exiting the village towards Berrick Salome. It was agreed that the clerk would email Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department from the new .gov.uk email address once it was activated.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to email OCC Highways Department once the clerk's .gov.uk email address is working.

- e) Rights of Way - nothing to report.

- f) Allotments – nothing to report.

019.25 GREATER OXFORD UNITARY AUTHORITY PROPOSAL

The Clerk had forwarded the Greater Oxford Unitary Authority proposal from Oxford City Council to Councillors, which was the third unitary authority proposal along with the Oxfordshire County unitary proposal from Oxfordshire County Council and the Ridgeway unitary authority proposal from South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse District Councils.

Cllr Thomson agreed to send more information to Councillors

ACTION FOR CLLR THOMSON – to forward more information on the various Unitary Authority proposals to Council.

020.25 SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE NURSERY SCHOOL

It was agreed that the Clerk would forward recent email correspondence on this matter to the new County Councillor once the new .gov.uk email address was activated.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to email County Councillor once clerk's .gov.uk email address is activated.

021.25 COUNCILLOR AND CLERK TRAINING

(a) No training courses requested

(b) Clerk will be attending the OALC Talking Tables event on Friday 18th July (as Clerk/RFO to Kennington Parish Council) and would brief Councillors on the outcome of discussions at that event. It was expected that representatives of all three Unitary Authority proposals would be in attendance.

022.25 CORRESPONDENCE – None received

023.25 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Local Government Reorganisation
- Churchyard/Burial Ground Mowing

024.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

17th July 2025

9th September 2025

Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signed Date