

CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on
Wednesday, 11th March 2026, Culham Pre-School

Attendees – Councillors:	Apologies noted:
Nacho Gimenez (NG)	Denise Corney – Clerk
Caroline Baird (CB)	Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SCR) Parish Councillor and District Councillor
Chris Pritchard (CP) CHAIR	Robin Jones (RJ) County Councillor
Siobhan Sergeant (SS)	
Mike Richmond-Cooper (MRC) (notetaker)	
Members of the public: 1	In Attendance:

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm

1	Welcome, Apologies and Quorate The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. The meeting was Quorate. Apologies were noted from Denise Corney (Clerk). The Clerk was unable to attend due to illness. In the Clerk's absence, notes were taken by Cllr Richmond Cooper.
2	Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest None for this meeting.
3	Public Participation A member of the public discussed the oak tree that recently fell on the Recreation Ground. He suggested that the tree has value and if dried and planked, and could be used for the benefit of the community. He asked that careful consideration was made when deciding the future of the wood. The member of the public also asked whether it was possible to automatically email out minutes or Mouthpiece articles, once they are uploaded onto the parish website. The PC will review. Representing members of the public, Caroline raised concerns regarding parking on the High Street, following a recent delivery lorry that knocked a wall down due to parked cars restricting access to her driveway. The PC discussed the matter and agreed that parking restrictions should be considered opposite the driveway to The Clock House and also on the corner of the Glebe. Siobhan will contact John Beale to ask for advice. The PC also requested that the Parish Clerk remind the nursery that staff and visitors should use the lock car-park for parking.
4	Report from SODC Councillor – Sam Casey-Rerhaye. The full District Councillor report can be found at: Culham Parish Council
5	Report from County Councillor – Cllr Robin Jones The full District Councillor report can be found at: Culham Parish Council

Clerk's Report and Financial Update:

Finance: Bank Reconciliation: 5th March 2026

Current Account: 2946.47; **Instant Access:** £19769.46. Total £22265.93

Budget Variation – Due to the fallen tree and clearance at the Glebe, increased costs of circa £5k. Village pavilion initial feasibility costs – increase against budget – £3K budgeted, Spend £5548.42 to 5th March.

We need to plan carefully for any further spend regarding the Pavilion prior to requesting grant funding should the project go ahead.

Interim Internal Audit has been completed. Some further work to complete for end of year audit 31st March £2026.

Recommendation of Purchase Card from Unity Trust Bank – now complete and awaiting card delivery to home.

Diocese of Oxford and Community Orchard. – No further information, I will chase up post this meeting.

The Green – I spoke with Kerry Holbrook-Bull from Adkins in January. She is happy to attend the April meeting to chat through The Green and any other issues/updates. I will add an item at the top of the April meeting so that she does not need attend throughout the meeting.

Emergency Plan – Draft template was circulated during November to Councillors for their input with a reminder to ask residents for their input. Progress update from Councillors requested.

Insurance Renewal questionnaire – I have completed in readiness for the renewal quotation from Gallagher.

Pavilion Feasibility Study - Trevor from lapd architects joined this month's meeting, to present three options for the re-development of the recreation ground pavilion. The options will be presented to the village at the upcoming Community Meeting, assuming the PC has confirmation from the diocese that building redevelopment is allowed. The community will be able to vote for their preferred option, before any work commences.

Following Trevor's presentation, the PC discussed pros and cons for each option, aligning on Option 3 - Pavilion adjacent to current site.

The PC will prepare a short survey, asking the community to submit feedback regarding each of the options, plus organise a vote for the preferred option.

The PC discussed whether to present the options to the community, even if we are waiting on Diocese approval to redevelop the site. The community will be able to give their input and preference, before any work commences.

Councillors agreed to ask the Clerk to contact Wellers (lawyers) and ask them to increase pressure on the Diocese, if they are slow to respond with regards to the lease extension and renewal.

SIDS 20mph awareness camera on Tollgate Road

The Parish Council discussed the recently installed camera, which regularly shows cars driving over 20mph. The Parish Council will review the data capture from the SIDS later in the Spring.

	HIF Road The PC discussed the recent news regarding road closure between Appleford and Sutton Courtenay, raising concerns regarding the long-term closure heading towards Didcot. The PC also discussed the future access across Sutton Bridge and will ask Cllr Casey-Rerhaye if she has scheduled a meeting to clarify future access. Full reports can be found on the Culham Parish Council Website - https://culham-pc.gov.uk/meetings/?view=all												
7	To approve: Minutes 11th February 2026 The minutes from 11th February 2026 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting and would be signed by the Chair.												
8	To Agree: PC response to Local Government Reorganisation The PC discussed the three proposals relating to local government changes but were unable to align on a preferred option. However, the PC all agreed that the Three Unitary Councils option was the least preferred, with loss of green belt and lack of alignment to Abingdon. The PC will respond individually to proposals.												
9	Finance: a) Bank Reconciliation – March 2026 meeting b) Budget Variation –increased costs due to fallen tree and damage. <i>See Clerk’s Report – item 6</i> c) Interim Internal Audit – brief review Councillors noted the interim internal audit report.												
10	To agree: Accounts for Payment <i>Councillors approved the following payments:</i> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Clerk’s salary March 2026</td><td>£477.10 includes HMRC payment</td></tr> <tr> <td>Scribe</td><td>£37.20</td></tr> <tr> <td>ICO GDPR Subscription (direct debit)</td><td>£47.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Parish Online annual fee</td><td>£386.40</td></tr> <tr> <td>LAPD (pavilion) from CIL funds</td><td>£1752.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Expenses</td><td>£36.85</td></tr> </table>	Clerk’s salary March 2026	£477.10 includes HMRC payment	Scribe	£37.20	ICO GDPR Subscription (direct debit)	£47.00	Parish Online annual fee	£386.40	LAPD (pavilion) from CIL funds	£1752.00	Clerk Expenses	£36.85
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11	To review: Planning Applications listed to 28th February 2026 P26/SO412/NBC High Lodge Farm, Culham OX14 – Temporary pop up summer camp – no objections												
12.	Items for inclusion on the next agenda: End of Year Finance update, planning for annual meeting.												
13.	To confirm date of next meeting: Wednesday, 15th April 2026, Culham Pre-school/nursery												