

Shilton Parish Council

Minutes of Council meeting on Thursday 27th November 2025 held at Bradwell Village Hall, Woodside Drive, Bradwell Village, Burford, OX18 4XB at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr David Cuthbertson (Chair), Cllrs Andrew Pearson & Steve Harrison. Parish Clerk Julie Alden.

Members of the public: 12

Agenda

1. Welcome from the Chairman.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To receive or accept apologies for absence.

Apologies from Sarah Royle and Andy Bray.

3. To approve and sign minutes of Council meeting on 28 August 2025.

The minutes were approved and signed.

4. Matters arising from that meeting not on the Agenda.

None.

5. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

None.

6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors.

Cllr Rosie Pearson updated the meeting on progress with the New Local Plan and in particular the Preferred Spatial Options Consultation paper that outlines the proposed Settlement Hierarchy and Spatial Strategy. Cllr DC commented that Shilton would be designated a Tier 4 Small Village and would therefore be protected from major housing developments, but would be expected to see some low-level development. The Carterton West development for 1000 new houses is once again being proposed by Crest Homes. Carterton Town Council seem unlikely to support the proposal.

A discussion took place about a proposed bus service on Fridays from Bradwell Village to Burford. It was agreed that the Parish Council would only offer financial assistance for such a service if it was proved to be used by residents. It was agreed to review this at the next meeting.

There then followed a discussion on the possibility of arranging for the Villager Bus to operate a service from Bradwell Village. It was suggested that the likelihood would be improved if more volunteer drivers were available, particularly if they came from Bradwell Village residents.

Policy and Finance

7. Finance update – to review and approve finance update.

The major items of expenditure were the clearance of the pond and the removal of a dead tree at the pond. Expenditure exceeded income by £2,700 so far in the year.

The precept for the next year and a draft budget for 2026/2027 is attached. There is a big increase to cover the costs that we anticipate, from £6948 to £10286.76£4300 is allowed for legal costs for extending the 30mph by the dip from Shilton and out the other side. It is hoped Nick Field-Johnson and Oxfordshire County Council will spend some money on signage etc, but there is a contingency in case. Cllr SH also raised the cost of pollarding the willows and tree felling, which is £2800.

8. Payments and receipts – to review and approve current payments and note receipts.

Planning

9. To comment on any planning applications received before the date of the meeting.

No applications.

10. Update on previous planning applications.

Nothing outstanding.

11. Carterton/Brize Norton planning.

There followed a further discussion of the plans for housing developments in West Oxfordshire and in particular the Carterton Development Plan. It is generally felt that the current infrastructure is totally inadequate to support the level of development proposed in the area. Cllr DC is attending meetings of the Carterton Development Group and is trying to encourage other Parish Councils to participate.

Highways, flooding & village maintenance

12. Highways.

The council has received the results of the traffic survey undertaken through the Dip. The highest recorded speed was an unbelievable 80-90 mph. Average speed was 39.31 mph. There were a very large percentage recorded above the 40 mph limit. The next step will be to formally propose the reduction in the limit to 30 MPH. The money for the legal work involved has been included in our 2026-27 budget. In the mean-time the council has contacted the OCC Vision Zero group to ask that they undertake an urgent review of the speed limit on the B4020.

13. Ridge report.

Cllr AP reported that OCC would be producing a report in January concerning the previous years flooding event, together with an assessment of the proposals for mitigation proposed by the PC.

There followed a discussion concerning the possibility of fund raising to facilitate repair and alteration to Packhorse Bridge.

14. Grass cutting.

A good job has been done on the grass cutting. The last cut was by the contractor's father, as he is himself away in Australia.

15. Trees.

Cllr SH said that trees have been planted down Alvescot Rd and most had survived the dry summer. Some spare trees were available to anyone want some.

16. Conservation.

Cllr AB not in attendance.

Other matters

17. Opportunity for the public to speak – to provide members of the public/press with the opportunity to comment on items on the agenda or raise items for future consideration. In accordance with Standing Orders, this will not exceed 15 minutes in total and 5 minutes per person.

Cllr DC said that the parish council will not be putting in CCTV but would leave it to individuals to provide their own systems.

Louise Waterhouse said that the gardener at Bradwell Village still had not put the new noticeboard up. The problem is with the directors and management company. The parish council had previously offered to do it.

Chris Borton asked where the bench on top of the hill by the church has gone. Cllrs AB and SH are replacing it shortly.

Lynne Borton mentioned the huge pothole on Alvescot Rd, and was directed to log it on fix-my-street, which she will do.

The meeting ended at 8.33.