

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 9th of April 2026, at the Village Hall, Shotteswell.

Present were: Cllrs Faulkner (Chair), V Ingram (Clerk), M Pearson, D Sadler, Cllr Gist (SDC) Cllr Mills (WCC)

Apologies: Cllr Zammatt

Members of the Public: 7

Declaration of Interest: None

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr Faulkner and seconded by Cllr Pearson.

Matters Arising:

Highways and Trees:

Potholes across various lanes within the village, as well as along the B4100, have been reported.

Surface dressing works are currently being considered for First Turn and Second Turn during the 2027/2028 programme.

The Clerk requested that the gullies on Second Turn be re-dug to improve drainage, which has since been approved by WCC.

Due to budget constraints, gully clearance is carried out on a three year cyclical programme, with the next scheduled clean due in 2027. Jetting works are only undertaken where there is a confirmed risk of property flooding or risk to life. The Council acknowledged that a number of blocked gullies are contributing to the deterioration of road surfaces, particularly on Bakehouse Lane.

Cllr Mills offered to investigate whether any interim improvements could be made. The Clerk noted that the replacement gully installed recently has proven to be significantly more effective and suggested that similar replacements for the remaining two gullies be considered to help address the ongoing drainage issues.

Mud had been cleared from around the path to the postbox a request had been made to consider if a handrail could be installed to make it easier to get up the path. The Clerk will investigate styles and costs and report back to next meeting

The Tree grant application to SDC was unsuccessful as SDC will not finance any trees on highways ground. Cllr Gist offered to see if there was any scope for a change of this decision, as this was to replace dead trees rather than new planting.

A few loose branches, hanging into the road, had been cleared by Cllr Faulkner.

The passing bay on Mollington Road requires clearing. Cllr Faulkner will arrange for this to be attended to as soon as possible before the markings disappear completely.

Inconsiderate parking around the village green continues to be an issue. Unfortunately, the matting installed on the village green has proved ineffective due to vehicles repeatedly driving over it. As a potential solution, it was proposed to increase the number of flower tubs in the area. A resident has kindly offered to fund additional flower tubs, which may help discourage parking. This proposal was discussed and it was agreed to accept the offer.

The Clerk has contacted WCC regarding the potential reciprocal arrangements relating to the Alkerton tip. There is little further update at present, other than that several Oxfordshire County Councillors have requested that the decision be reconsidered. The most recent correspondence advised that additional time was required to assess whether the scheme was having a significant impact.

Playing Field

The fencing in the far corner of the playing fields near Snowdrop View has now been replaced. The contractor completed the work to a high standard, removed the old fencing, and also repaired the gate during the visit.

The pigeon deterrents above the swings need replacing. Cllr Pearson and Cllr Faulkner will arrange for these works to be carried out.

The contractor also disappointingly reported finding dog fouling within the playing field area.

Bus Shelter

The loose post on the notice board requires attention. Cllr Faulkner will undertake the necessary repairs and arrange for the ivy to be removed once again.

Dog Fouling

Dog fouling has been reported in the playing field. A request has also been made for dog owners to keep their dogs on leads when using the permissive path near Laurel Farm.

Fly Tipping Fly-tipped items have been reported at the lay-by on the B4100.

Finance paid since last meeting

Mowing £1,662	Poppy wreath 62.90
Tree Planting £108	Rosera Tree £255
Sign for tree £108.45	Annual Tidy up £322
Fencing £900	

Proposed by Cllr Pearson and Seconded by Cllr Faulkner

A response had not been received back from SDC re the code of conduct and councillor charter.

It was decided that the Councillors would have an email address for Parish Council business. Proposed by Cllr Sadler seconded by Cllr Pearson.

Delegation policy is the same as what the council already holds terms for clerk and also standing orders, the Clerk would investigate further.

Correspondence: The Parish Council had been approached over a matter concerning the Village Hall, this was deferred to the next meeting.

A resident asked if it could be recorded how beautiful the village looked at Spring Time and thanks passed to whoever planted the daffodil bulbs.

County and District Council reports were summarised and had been published in full on the web site.

Meeting closed at 20.16pm

26/00912/TREE New Cottage Shotteswell Banbury OX17 1HU - T1 cherry - Crown reduction of 2 metres both in height and laterally - T2 sycamore - Frame work pollard back to previous pollarded points

26/00766/TREE Church Farm Church Lane Shotteswell Banbury OX17 1JD - T1 apple tree - Fell (dead)

26/00764/TREE The Old Chapel Chapel Lane Shotteswell Banbury OX17 1JB -T1 bird cherry - fell.