

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6th JANUARY 2026 IN THE VILLAGE SHOP.

Present: Councillor: M Percy, P Wait, S Percy, J Hobson, D Bird and Lynn Thornton (Clerk)

Apologies: None

REF

24/26 Open Forum

The chair welcomed Mrs Anne Morgan to the meeting, Mrs Morgan highlighted that the original plan for the redevelopment of the recreation field did not include a hedge, planting a hedge is a safety concern, at the moment the visibility is good. With the current chain link fence you can see what is around, there is concern with a few residents that a hedge could be a safety concern with young children and for those walking along the pavement.

The clerk has received emails from several parishioners raising their concerns about planting of the hedge, these have been circulated to the councillors.

Cllr Percy advised the hedge would be maintained, the fence will be embracing the hedge.

The councillors agreed the residents of the village need to be consulted for their views before the hedge is planted, as this is a change to the original plans consulted on. The consultation should seek a formal view on height, the gap between the hedge and fence and the height against the fence. And ultimately if a hedge should replace the fence.

25/26 Apologies for absence

None.

26/26 Declarations of Interest by Councillors

None.

27/26 Co-option of councillor

Mr Daryl Bird was proposed by Cllr Percy seconded by Cllr Wait, all councillors supported.

28/26 Reports from County and District Councillors.

District Cllr Percy and CC Dean provided reports before the meeting, which have been circulated to all councillors.

29/26 CRAG update

The installation of the toddler park will commence on 11th February; there is a dip at the edge of the tennis court and the edge of the park. This has now been measured, and all seems ok, but currently it is a trip hazard, contractors have reassured CRAG they will sort and grade this area. There has been concern raised about how wet the ground is at the moment, but the contractors are not concerned.

There will be no heavy machinery on the site, should be completed in a couple of weeks, an opening session has been organised for Wednesday 11th February at 11am, media are expected to attend along with Cotswold Homes.

The installation of the compost bins at the edge of the car parks is coming along well, if they do not finish as scheduled then they will resume the work in March, The bins are only to be used for cuttings from the field and the churchyard and will be monitored for usage.

The CRAG committee have lots of activities planned for the year ahead.

- The new benches will be purchased for the toddler park.
- The Sensory Garden is being cut back.
- 8 new trees going in.
- Clean up day planned, this will also include clearing the back car park.

There is currently 4 grant applications in progress.

The clerk has received an email from Mr Simon Board; he is concerned about the maintenance costs which will be created by all the changes to the field and how it will be existing financed.

The mounds still need attention; the committee is hoping to use the material from the toddler park.

30/26 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th January were approved and signed as a true and correct record by those present at the meetings.

31/26 Planning
The council has received notification of the following planning applications:
 None.

The council has received notification regarding the following planning applications:
 None.

32/26 Accounts – PC

Incomes received and payments for authorisation

National Grid	78.62	Wayleaves
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Payments for Authorisation

L Thornton	530.40	Wages – January 2026
L Thornton	191.52	Annual Mileage
Steve Birkbeck	390.00	Fence repairs
Service Charge	4.25	Bank Charge
WSP	1056.00	Interim invoice for leases
Coaley VH	86.00	Hall Hire
S Cook	100.00	Newsletter editing
S Cook	131.24	Newsletter Printing

33/26	<u>Clerks Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several emails about the hedge, already circulated. 	
34/26	<u>Temporary Holding Agreement</u> The bi-yearly summer fete committee have requested the parish council consider their request to hold the events money. They currently have an account, but the fees soon build up. The councillors voted to support this request.	Clerk
35/26	<u>Annual Parish Meeting</u> The councillors proposed holding the meeting on Tuesday 21 st April, Cllr Pearcy to invite CRAG to attend to show their new designs and provide an update.	Cllr Pearcy
36/26	<u>Tennis Court</u> The tennis court fence is frayed in a couple of places; this could be a safety issue. Ideally this needs to be resolved sooner rather than later. Councillors voted to get the work actioned, clerk to obtain quotes. The electricity box also needs attention; it needs to be removed and ensure it is safe.	Clerk
37/26	<u>Village Shop</u> Cllr Wait confirmed the committee is rethinking the Christmas openings for 2026 as it was quiet in 2025. The committee also discussed a CRAG questions box in the shop, lots of residents come into the shop and ask questions the volunteers may not know the answers to.	
38/26	<u>Village Hall Update</u> Cllr Hobson reported the aircon stopped working, a hall user set off the fire alarm and reset it but had not told anyone. This has now been resolved. A fire safety report has been received, it has advised a better standard of fire door needs to be installed. The hall committee has agreed to replace some of them. Cllr Hobson has confirmed the final instalment has been paid. A mailbox will be installed at the front of hall; this will hopefully stop post from going missing.	
39/26	<u>Leases</u> The clerk has sent through all the relevant documents to WSP, this is to confirm the registration of the land with the land registry.	
40/26	<u>Neighbourhood Watch Update</u> Cllr Pearcy does not have an update, except for the burglaries still happening at the farm, NHW sign have been installed to there to hopefully deter trespassing.	Cllr Pearcy
41/26	<u>Footpaths, ditches and Stiles</u> Cllr Wait reported there are no new reports on the form in the shop. There is a shattered sign on one of the footpaths, details to be sent through to the clerk to report. A good job has been done on the repairs on Norton's alley.	Clerk

42/26	<u>Allotment Update</u> The clerk reported one of the tenants has been given last notice for non payment.	Clerk
43/26	<u>Village Maintenance</u> The bin at Westend has been repaired. The bus stop at Far Green is needs some attention, clerk to organise.	Clerk
44/26	<u>Highways Repair & Maintenance</u> Clerk has received an email from a parishioner about the installation of yellow lines outside the school, the clerk has contacted Gary Wilson at highways about installing them, this is not a cheap solution, costing approx. £15,000 which the parish council would need to finance. Cllr Pearcy has emailed the school to try and have a discussion about the bad parking but has not received a response. Clerk to send an official letter to the school, requesting they contact us to discuss the issue. The clerk has also been contacted about a fix my street report submitted for Silver Street, clerk has chased highways. Cllr Wait reported the path by the church has been tarmacked. The caved in drain has been repaired.	Clerk
45/26	<u>Playarea Update</u> Nothing to report.	
46/26	<u>Solar Farm, Peters Street</u> CC Dean gave an update on the proposed solar panels on the land at Peters Street, Immersa attended a meeting early last year and advised the panels could potentially raise £20-30,000 for the parish. This would need the community to support the scheme, the more the community buys in, the more they get back. Immersa are not currently in the position to move this project forward, but it is hopeful they may be able to in the future. The is another company in Stroud, but they cannot contribute the lump sum at the beginning of the project which Immersa can do. The project will be put on hold.	
47/26	<u>Matters for forward consideration</u> Annual Parish Meeting	
48/26	<u>Items for press release and publication</u> Minutes Hedge consultation	

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.