

Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council on 17 March 2026	
	<u>Present</u> Cllr Howe, Cllr Robbins, Cllr Ford, Cllr Evans, Cllr McIntyre, Cllr Jones Members of the Public – 1 member of public
89/26	Apologies for Absence Cllr Fenton
90/26	To receive Declarations of Pecuniary, Personal or Prejudicial Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers 90.1 None EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC The Committee is asked to consider passing the following resolution: "That under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act." Meeting will be cleared for item Village Shop below 90.2 Agreed
91/26	Open Forum 91.1 County Councillor – no report 91.2 District Councillor – no report 91.3 Members of Public –Richard Martin informed the meeting of the work to date regarding the Cripps sign at the village centre for Ian Grey's project – he distributed A3 copies of the design with suggested wording and the positioning at the Village Centre. He also showed an aluminium sign which he has had printed (not final). He stated he believed the idea was to have it either side of the front door at an angle but the air conditioning is changing so the alternative is putting it on the wall in maybe an oak frame – which he personally thinks makes sense and he feels is the best place. It will be cluttered by the door if placed there. Reminds everyone who Stafford Cripps was what he did in Filkins, about the village centre and the legacy and the Filkins Plan. Has it been submitted to the Cripps family – yes Judith and Andrew. It was also supposed to be on a stand from Ian Grey's original idea? It would be too cluttered – on the wall is too prominent and it is over the bench. On the stand makes it look a point of interest – on the wall it will just look like another notice. Reply was flatter ones are used for vistas/views – this was designed so it can be tried. Design looks good – Is this the finished project? Virtually unless any one has any corrections and then the final one will be printed. RM is happy with it as is. Ian Grey was hoping to have it in place by June. It does not have to be white – people with visual problems prefer white. How long will it last in the sun – 5 years. There is no glass on the front. Is this the design Ian Grey had in mind- as he mentioned something more substantial. Yes Ian had the idea of something else – but a plaque has to be done like this and can be mounted. There is no other way of doing it. Cost of the plaque - £40-50...The RFO pointed out to the Council that Cllr Leverton gave £2000 to the project from the Stewardship fund and if this is not spent it will have to be returned. RM said he did not know about the costings. Made of cheap oak a stand may cost £5-600 – lot of the cost is design costs but RM has done this. Stainless steel tubing has been suggested by Ian. This would be out of place and is heritage circles are reacting against that. Talking heritage the aluminium sign on the wall will not look very heritage. Only etched steel would last but you cannot get the detail. Framework that Ian had was oak. Can the money be used for something else? No it was given for the plaque. Thank you for the work that you have put into it Richard Martin it is much appreciated. We will discuss further. Thank you for bringing it. RM will look at the framework details.

92/26	To Accept Minutes of Last Meetings 92.1 Minutes for Council meeting on 17 February have been circulated to Councillors. Accepted and signed by council 92.2 None Cllr McIntyre entered the room
93/26	Monthly Working Party Updates 93.1 OALC Monthly Meeting – Cllr Ford 93.1.1 OALC meeting tomorrow night Cllr Ford has attended 2 other meetings: Parish Transport representative and Lowlands meeting on transport plans. There is a diagram of proposed transport routes which was circulated. OCC has divided for movement and place plans – Oxon lowlands A40 down towards Lechlade – uplands north of Burford. Plans and actions that have been put in place 2016 plan for Witney and Carterton but things are changing. Eynsham Park & Ride is mentioned. Planning on reducing car journeys drastically through West Oxfordshire by 40% by getting people to walk, cycle and bus. P&R planning permission has now been granted for access. Connection is mentioned between P&R and Cassington. Bus lanes only run to Cassington. Lowlands group do not refer to a train station at Alvescot Downs just a mass transit route ie fast buses and dedicated bus lanes. Alvescot Downs development is shown on the diagram as allocation of land still in consultation. Where is the funding coming from – where does this stand when they become a Unitary Council. Government has stated no funding for new road schemes on upgrading existing. It is a Mixture of many different schemes and new council will come up with their own scheme. A consultation will be sent out in May but will they exist. They do state natural boundary of Carterton but they have the Alvescot Downs marked. Botley Road due to open in August 2026 Parish Transport – Government has legislated that bus schedules can only be changed every 6 months. Transport meeting covers buses and trains and success story is when we managed to get Villager bus service to Filkins. 64 no change – X2 is changing. Unitary Authority changes mean daytime is commercial – out of hours run by Council. This will change – buses will go to Strategic Authorities (level above Unitary). Oxford/Cambridge corridor another £400m funding announced to develop Greater Oxfordshire Corporation. New freight stations are being built. It is a good idea – but they way they go about it may not be. B4477 – bobcat is scheduled to visit. 93.2 Planning – Cllr Howe, Robbins, Jones 93.2.1 Alvescot Downs – Crest Nicholson put published a consultation on their own website but not widely publicised. Clerk submitted the same objections as the Local Plan. Probably to tick boxes to say they have consulted 93.3 Property, Cemetery, Highways – Cllr Jones, Robbins, Ford 93.3.1 As above B4477 update. Speedwatch Team are talking to Cllr Ford concerning a Meeting. 93.3.2 EDF energy have taken over pool account. The account did say £660.53 in Credit but this has now disappeared. They are saying it is an error. As it stands now Village Centre owes approx. £3k to the swimming pool. 93.3.3 RoSPA report booked for April 2026
94/26	Village Matters 94.1 Drainage Survey – Broughton Poggs taking place 19/20 March- can't progress bypass of bridge until this is done. Meeting with land owners for new pipe outlet from the pond at Broughton Poggs Manor. All agreed and happy to go ahead. We have asked TW Wilson for quote. Grant can be applied for to cover works. Met with Cheaveau's regarding bunding – lot of stream has been cleared – with lay of land will be easier to do some natural water breaks which will flood The Willows which is unused woodland. Hopefully

	we can report back in May. 94.2 Bus shelter roof is in need of repair – Quote for £250 received. In next couple of months Agreed 94.3 Platinum Garden- Student has met with Cllr Ford. Working 1 hour a week – re built bug Hotel, raked up leaves to compost. Clerk asked groundsman to trim down wild flowers and cut grass. Some patches will be cleared and new wildflower seed put down. Agreed. Quote from groundsman for cutting the grass £25 each time (2 weekly) add put in Newsletter to ask for volunteers to do this. Furniture will need treating – need preserver Applied when dry. Cllr Ford will purchase. 94.4 Bulb Planting – Gardening Club have asked permission to plant more bulbs from Grey House to A361. This was agreed 94.5 Gardening equipment in shed – do we want to keep it as not being used. Andy Hoad has serviced the 2 strimmers. 3 or 4 mowers and large munching mower. Should we sell them. Ask Adrian Jefferies advice. 94.6 Allotment fence line – ECT states that the fences are our responsibility but they have donated 9 fence posts. Clerk will contact contractors for quotes. Clerk has asked that the fence line be cleared. Mark Matthews, Mark Dowell and Matt Simpson to be approached 94.7 Trees overhanging the wall on way to dog bin. On Cheveaux field trees also overhanging. Highways to be consulted.
95/26	Finance 95.1 Payments for March 2026 were agreed and will be authorised after the meeting for Parish Council and Village Centre. 95.2 Corporation Tax return has been submitted 95.3 Website – new site being constructed. 95.4 Internal Auditor – RFO proposed Mary Bohm as Internal Auditor. This was agreed 95.5 Citizens Advice – Agreed to donate £50.00 95.6 Hayes Palmer Trust – Thank you letter has been received from Bowls Club. Request received from St Filica Society – large shed is falling apart and delaminating and there is no floor. Asing permission to take this down and apply to Hayes Palmer for a new container which will be site on concrete blocks and painted dark green. Discussion took place and both items agreed.
96/26	Village Shop – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM 96.1 Discussion took place re Village Shop arrangements and new lease
97/26	Next meetings APRIL MEETING CANCELLED, CHANGE OF DATE 05/05 APM & Annual Parish Meeting, 16/06

Signed as a true and correct record by Cllr Richard Howe at meeting on 6 May 2026