

## SOUTH NEWINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.30pm  
In the Village Hall, Barford Road

### **Present:**

Councillors: Vanessa Doyle (Chair), Graham Smith and Sarah Wilson-Medhurst

Mrs Christine Coles (Parish Clerk), County Cllr G Epps, District Cllr D Rogers and three villagers

### **26/01. To receive apologies for absence**

Cllr Lucks (personal) and Cllr Rapps (personal)

### **26/02. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**

No interests were declared.

### **26/03. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

### **26/04. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only**

Weight limit for the village – The Parish Clerk has contacted OCC and has a new contact. She is waiting to hear back.

Pocket Park - A new sign was passed to Cllr Smith. Cherwell District Council are still drafting the license.

### **26/05. To receive reports from the District Councillor**

A report was received from Cllr Rogers and circulated. The main points included: Illegal landfill in Kidlington, Planning training and support for Town and Parish Councils approved, Planning, Primary Care and Budget Consultation. Cllr Rogers arrived with Cold Calling Stickers to give out and marker pens to keep equipment safe. He spoke about Speedwatch and agreed to send more information on the scheme. The budget discussions are not as bad as first thought. CDC thought they were losing 5% of their business rates but have received a three year settlement from the government. This years budget is now looking better. Banbury Museum may close and the District might move to three weekly bin collections.

The Chair spoke about the illegal dumping of waste in Kidlington. There is concern as some local fields have changed hands recently and not much is known about the new owners. There are many sites with illegal waste around the country in a similar position to the one at Kidlington. The village should remain vigilant.

The Chair thanked Cllr D Rogers for attending and he left the hall to attend another meeting.

### **26/06. To set the precept for 2026/27**

A draft budget sheet had been circulated before the meeting. Estimated expenditure is £10.6K. Some costs will automatically rise with inflation. It was agreed to increase the precept by 6% and set it at £10,691.00.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to notify CDC.*

Cllr G Epps arrived after attending another meeting.

## **26/05. To receive reports from the County Councillor**

A report was received from Cllr Epps and circulated. The main points included: Library Friends, Planning and related issues, Movement & Place Plan – now due March, Meet our gritters, Shaping the future of our Fire and Rescue Service and Carers Phone Friends.

Cllr Epps spoke about two important issues. The first is drainage. He had spent some time today with an OCC engineer in Somerton as they are in a similar position to this village. Due to their positioning they experience a lot of run off from fields. The drains on Barford Road and Bakers Lane have not been cleared. There are four gulleys in between Bakers Lane and the A361 which are blocked. If they are not cleared some houses are at risk from flooding. There is an ongoing problem at Wom'll. Sediment runs down onto Barford Road and goes into the drains. The water coming down has nowhere to go. Cllr Epps is to arrange a site visit.

The second issue is the Fire & Rescue consultation which closes on 20<sup>th</sup> January. There will be fewer fire fighters available.

Cllr Epps spoke about the budget. Council tax will be increased by the maximum for the next three years. There is a funding gap of £6M. Fix My Street is a valuable tool and should be used as much as possible.

A villager spoke to Cllr Epps about tree ownership on Bakers Lane and an email that was sent to him. Cllr Epps checked but could not find the original email. He will check after the meeting.

## **26/07. To receive the Clerk's Report – circulated**

### **Planning**

#### **Older**

- 25/02719/TCA, T1 Sycamore – Fell due to the size of the tree and the impact it has on the garden at 2 Barford Road. No comments or objections by CDC.
- 25/02592/TCA, T4 Holly - Reduce by 1.5 metres back to boundary \* Agent confirms that tree is located in a parking bay which is jointly owned by the owners of four properties which are located opposite the applicants property at The Hive, Moor Lane. No comments or objections by CDC.

### **Finance**

The following payments were approved under statutory powers

- £38.30 to Rydall Comms (website maintenance December)
- £38.30 to Rydall Comms (website maintenance January)
- £19.70 to Parish Clerk (village hall signs)
- £53.88 to Parish Clerk (reflective tape and village hall signs)
- £41.32 to Parish Clerk (sign for Pocket Park)

*To consider a donation request from Citizens Advice West Northants and Cherwell*

Citizens Advice West Northants and Cherwell (CAWNAC) is an independent charity, one of 208 advice charities that comprise the national Citizens Advice network. In the last financial year they have supported local people with over 13,000 issues. It was agreed to give a donation of £75.00.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to process the donation.*

### **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received and circulated.

- Royal British Legion – Thank you letter
- OCC, Landowner Deposit for land at the Great Tew Estate.
- CDC, Annual Monitoring Report – 5 year Housing Land Supply position.

- OCC, Notice of Modification Order Footpath No 22.
- OCC, Temporary Footpath Closure at footpath 355/13/50 whilst essential building work is carried out from 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 for six months.
- CDC, Bloxham Modified Neighbourhood Plan. Publication of Plan Proposal under Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) – Regulation 16

**26/08. Councillors Reports**

The salt bins have been used and have a third of salt is left. This should be enough to last for the remaining winter period. A request will be made to have them topped up in the Autumn. The salt bin at Wom'll is too high and hard to access.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to ask Highways if it can be dropped lower.*

IT Policy – A draft policy had been circulated but not accepted at the last meeting as some wording was not applicable. To comply with Assertion 10 an IT Policy has to be adopted before the end of March.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to ask OALC for further advice.*

A bespoke cart is being made for the Breadline food and flower items. It will be placed to the left of the bench.

**26/09. Public participation session (Members of the public are invited to address the council. The session will last for a maximum of fifteen minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes)**

A villager asked about progress of the weight limit but an update has been given.

A villager asked about the bonfire site and wanted clarification about what can be put there. The site is for garden waste only.

*Action: A note to be circulated on the village email.*

**26/10. To note next meeting date and time**

10<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.30pm

Meeting finished at 8.45pm.