

Shenington with Alkerton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 15th July 2026

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Present – Cllrs John Smith, Leo Oliver, Alex Cayless, Jayne Miller, John Buchanan and Lauren White the clerk.

26/076	Apologies for absence: None
26/077	Declarations of Interest: None
26/078	Acceptance of minutes: The minutes from the meeting held on 20th May were agreed and signed.
26/079	Leaders for working groups - It was agreed that the leaders of the working groups would be decided when the current councillor vacancies have been filled.
26/080 26/080/1 26/080/2 26/080/3	Open Forum: Cllr Brant District Council Reports - Cllr John Smith has advised the correct cllr email addresses for use in future report distribution. Peter Barrett - Cllr John Smith received a letter from Peter Barrett advising that he will not be returning to the parish council. Members noted his decision and wished to thank Peter for his contribution to the Parish Council over the years. Peter will continue to maintain the defibrillator and continue the weekly checks, for which the council are grateful for. Alkerton Quarry - Work appears to be coming along well. Liaison meetings are 6 monthly, and anticipate the next meeting to take place in November.
26/081	District and County Councillor Reports: No update
26/082	Village Maintenance and Improvement: No update
26/083	Councillor Report: Transport, Traffic and Roads: No update
26/084	Councillor Report: Planning, Legal & Finance: No update
26/085	Councillor Report: Emergency Plan, Crime Prevention & Environment: No update
26/086	Councillor Report: Internet & Social Media: No update
26/087 26/087/1 26/087/2 26/087/3 26/087/4 26/087/5	Parish Matters: New Councillor - Welcome to John Buchanan, thank you for joining the council and contributing your time to the local community. Senendone House Tree Removal - Following discussions with a local arboriculturist and logging companies, it was advised that, due to the species of the tree and its current condition, the trunk is likely to split and deteriorate rapidly. As a result, it would not be suitable for use as a wood sculpture. Kai at Lighthorne Tree Care who is carrying out the work has advised they will confirm a date when the work is to take place in due course. Salt Bins - Salt orders are required to be submitted to OCC by September in preparation for the winter season. Cllr John Smith to go round and check the current levels and condition of what we have in stock. Gov.uk Parish Council Website and Emails - In local council governance, Assertion 10 (Digital and Data Compliance) of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) requires the use of a .gov.uk website and email domain to ensure data security, legal accessibility, and public trust. The clerk has prepared internal memos to be circulated to councillors. Transition to Online Banking - As part of effort to increase stronger financial oversight and security we will look to switch to Unity Bank, who specialises in parish council banking and meets the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) requirements. The clerk has prepared internal memos to be circulated to councillors.

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26/088	Planning Applications since last meeting: 26/01591/F – Knapp House, The Green. Refurbishment and replacement of existing doors and windows, replacement of oil boilers with air source heating, works to existing wine cellar, replacement of rainwater goods, repairs to walling, installation of electric vehicle charging point and various minor works. Councillors support the application, subject to it meeting all conservation requirements and the Conservation Officer raising no objections.
26/089	Planning Decisions since last meeting: Application 26/01115/TCA - The clerk apologises for confusion caused in miscommunication of meeting agenda. The black pine at Lanes End is not being removed, work to be undertaken is trimming of branches and removal of dead wood only.
26/090	Financial/Administration: Bank Balances – The bank balances on 30th June were £14,150.45 (£6,589.72 Current & £7,560.73 Deposit).
26/091 26/091/1	Second Open Forum: Oxfordshire County Council's Vision Zero Road Safety Programme - A 50mph speed limit has been proposed on the A422 between Wroxton village and County Boundary with Warwickshire. Cllr John Smith to respond direct to OCC with comments.
26/092	Passing of accounts for payment: £252.00 to N R Prickett for Verge Mowing (invoice 2771) £200 to Cherwell District Council for election fees (invoice 20034900) £226.51 to Cherwell District Council for half year dog bin emptying (invoice 20033315) £90 to Shenington Village Hall for PC hire (invoice 518) £150 reimbursement to L White for OALC invoice 6449 clerks training course on 13/07/26 £198.40 to L White for June pay £49.60 to HMRC for June PAYE
26/093 26/093/1	Any Other Business: Volunteer Driver Service CIC - Councillors unanimously agreed to approve the requested donation of £30 in recognition of the valuable service the organisation provides to local communities across Oxfordshire.
26/093/2	Bus Shelter - The issue of the bus not being able to pull up to the bus shelter in poor weather was discussed. It was agreed that the clerk would write to Stagecoach to address the issue and ask for this to be looked into if possible.
26/093/3	Community Speedwatch - This has now been approved. Teams of four volunteers are required to check the speed of cars, so the parish council is looking for 12 volunteers to form a rota.
26/094	Closure of the meeting: The meeting ended at 9.05pm

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting is **Wednesday 16th September 2026** at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....