

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
Held Tuesday 21st July 2026 at 6.30pm
in The Village Hall, Main Street

Councillors Present

Cllr Robertson (Chairperson), Cllr Hobill, Cllr Mercer, Cllr Rivers Fletcher and Cllr Shepard

Mrs C Coles (Parish Clerk), County Councillor Chris Mills and four villagers

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.

26/41. Apologies for absence

District Councillor Malcolm Littlewood (personal)

26/42 To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

Cllr Hobill declared an interest in the planning application at the barn adjacent to Stonecroft House.

26/43. To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 19th May 2026

The minutes of the last two meetings were approved and signed as a true and accurate record of the meetings.

26/44. To receive an update on progress from previous minutes (for report only by the Chair/Parish Clerk)

The Parish Clerk and Cllr Rivers Fletcher are to meet to report the potholes and missing signs.

At the last PC meeting a villager spoke about the state of some footpaths and roads. He has taken photos but not sent them through yet. Cllr Shepard has reported the corner of Main Street/Whatcote Road three times but a quick repair by Highways seems unlikely. It is creating an additional hazard as the horse box fire has damaged the road surface. Cllr Mills asked to speak to WCC Highways to expedite work.

Cllr Shepard has chased for an update on the defibrillator runner scheme and is waiting for West Midlands Ambulance Service.

26/45. Public Participation Session

Mr and Mrs Stuart were at the meeting and they own the field at the end of Green Lane. They have been approached by numerous developers over recent years who have mooted developments of up to 20 houses. Mr & Mrs Stuart are proposing a much more sensitive development to include a property for their own occupation to accommodate their special needs when their existing house becomes unsuitable. They are proposing the development of 4 self - build houses, one for their own occupation, with two entrance driveways from Green Lane, to maintain as much as possible of the existing hedge. There will be a plot passport scheme so that buyers have to live in the village for 3 years after building. A hedge will be planted at the back to act as a barrier. There are no plans for Whatcote Road. Each property will have detailed planning so they are proposing an outline application to start with. The Chair thanked them both for bringing this information to share at this meeting.

Signed

Dated 15th September 2026

26/46. To receive a report from the County and District Councillors

A report from Cllr Mills was received and circulated. The main points included: Crisis and Resilience Fund, Family Information Service (FIS), Positive changes coming to NHS Health Checks, Screen time for children, Warwickshire Police – We’re Listening Campaign, Summer safety, Support for home heating oil or LPG, Hybrid booking system at HWRC’s, Councillors Grant Fund - Final Call and Free summer parking at Stratford Park and Ride. Cllr Mills spoke about the South Warwickshire Local Plan (SLWP) and 600 additional houses have been allocated and voted through in Kineton. An announcement has been made on Local Government Reorganisation. There will be two unitary authorities in the North and South. The full report is on the village website www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk.

A report from Cllr Littlewood was received and circulated. The main points included: South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP), 5 year housing land supply, Devolution and Local Government Reform. The full report is on the village website www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk.

26/47. To discuss the website and adding archive material

From the floor a villager suggested that another page is put on the village website to read ‘Photo Archive’. She has been reading through old Parish Council records. The social history of the village changes over time. Some villagers have been in the village for 50 years with lots of knowledge but this is decreasing. It is an ageing population and some have Alzheimers. It is important to start collating historical photos for the website as it is now and changes going forward. The Oxhill News are good references but go back to the 80s. The village will benefit long term.

26/48. Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £52.00 to ICO (Data protection fee)
- £35.00 to J McKail (internal audit)
- £25.00 to Parish Clerk (SLCC membership)

26/49. To receive an update on planning

New

- 26/01521/TREE, T1 horse chestnut - Crown reduction of 2 metres both in height and laterally (about a 30% reduction, the tree is overhanging from the neighbouring property), removal of 1 limb (see annotated photograph) at The Old Forge, Gilks Lane. No objection.
- 26/01393/FUL, Demolition of existing barns: erection of 5 dwellings with associated works at Barn adjacent to Stonecroft House, Kineton Road. Objections with comments.

Older

- 25/02060/FUL, Erection of proposed self-store building on former transport depot at Wixey Transport. Granted by SDC.

26/50. To review the woodland management plan for Burland House Farm to cover the next 10 year period

The management plan was circulated. The bulk of the land is outside of this parish and there are lots of plans to review. Comments are to be made by 29th July. The woods are not on any of the public footpaths across Burland House. The proposals represent the owners sustainable approach to woodland management.

Signed

Dated 15th September 2026

26/51. To note the following correspondence

- *Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Register of Interests form, new provision.* An important amendment has been introduced to the Localism Act 2011 under English Devolution and the Community Empowerment Act 2026. The publication of a councillor's home address is no longer required as standard.
- *Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Vacancy for a Parish Council representative on Audit and Standards Committee.* The closing date is 7th August and nominees must be members of a Parish Council.

26/52. Councillors Reports

Cllr Mercer reported that a meeting to review footpaths will be held soon and a plan of action will be put together.

Cllr Rivers Fletcher noted the VAS sign is working and can be moved around. The same speeds are being recorded each way.

The Chair spoke about Severn Trent (ST) and the situation is moving slowly. ST are investigating separating surface and foul water systems, but now acknowledge that pump and associated pipework and sewage farm lack capacity, and plans are afoot to address these issues, to reduce the risk of further sewage spillages on to private land.

26/53. To note next meeting date and time

15th September 2026 at 6.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.20pm.

Signed

Dated 15th September 2026