

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of an Annual Parish Council Meeting
Held Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7.10pm
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 three villagers

The Chair thanked everyone for attending. The meeting began slightly later at 7.10pm following the Annual Parish Meeting.

26/26. Elections

Election of Chair and signing of Acceptance of Office form

It was proposed by Cllr Hobill and seconded by Cllr Shepard that Cllr Robertson be Chair. Cllr Robertson signed the Acceptance of Office form.

Election of Vice-Chair

It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Mercer that Cllr Rivers Fletcher be Vice Chair.

26/27. Apologies for absence

District Councillor Malcolm Littlewood (work)

26/28. 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 Hogwood Farm.

26/29. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2026

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

26/30. To receive an update on progress from previous minutes (for report only by the Chair/Parish Clerk)

The dead tree on Whatcote Road has been removed.

Sewage - It is hoped that Severn Trent will have formulated firm proposals and funding by the next council meeting in July. There is potential action being taken by the Environment Agency.

26/31. Public Participation Session

A member of the public spoke about the state of the pavements around the village. They have not been maintained for a number of years. Cllr Mills agreed to take this forward and asked for the information to be sent to him.

26/32. To receive a report from the County and District Councillors

A report from Cllr Mills was received and circulated. The main points included: Raising of threat level to severe, Warwickshire County Council AGM, Strengthening local social care and health support, Enhancing school facilities in Warwickshire, Cost of Living webpages and emergency contacts. The full report is on the village website www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk.

Signed

Dated 21st July 2026

A report from Cllr Littlewood was received and circulated. The main points included: Health Screening events across Stratford district for men over 40 – PSA (Prostrate screening) and for men and women aged 18 and over for diabetes and cholesterol. These have been successful. The accessible sport of padel coming to Stratford Leisure Centre, Free membership for people with Parkinson's in Stratford-on-Avon District, Clinical Waste Disposal and the by-election in the adjoining ward of Bishops Itchington, Fenny Compton and Napton. The full report is on the village website www.oxhillcommunity.co.uk.

26/33. To consider the purchase of glove/bag dispensers to handle dog waste

A villager had suggested purchasing these dispensers which he had seen being used elsewhere. They cost £104.40 each. Councillors questioned whether they would be used. There are four bins in the village and dog waste can be placed in any bin. It was agreed not to purchase any.

26/34. Finance

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £190.20 to WALC (membership)
- £414.00 to Thomas Fox Landscaping (removal of dead tree)
- £300.00 to Zurich Insurance (renewal)

26/35. Governance

- *To confirm eligibility to use the General Power of Competence and consider adoption*

The meeting was informed that with the Clerk holding a recognised professional qualification (Certificate in Local Council Administration) and the Council meeting the electoral mandate of having at least two thirds of the council elected, the Parish Council is eligible to use the General Power of Competence. Resolved - that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965. The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, the council adopts the General Power of Competence from 19th May 2026 until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council. Proposed by Cllr Shepard and seconded by Cllr Hobill.

26/36. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for year ending 31st March 2026

- *To note completion of the internal audit.*

The internal audit has been carried out. All the documents were circulated.

- *To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption*

It was agreed to approve the Certificate of Exemption. It was signed by the Chair and Parish Clerk/RFO.

- *To approve and sign Section 1*

It was agreed to approve Section 1. It was signed by the Chair and Parish Clerk/RFO.

- *To approve and sign Section 2*

It was agreed to approve Section 2. It was signed by the Chair and Parish Clerk/RFO.

Action: The Parish Clerk to forward the paperwork to the External Auditor and place all the documents on the noticeboard and website before 30th June 2026.

26/37. To receive an update on planning

- *25/01271/FUL, Change of use of land to provide 7 Travelling Showpersons plots and associated works including hardstanding on land adjoining Coverwell Farm, Pillerton Persey. Objections with comments.*
- *26/00449/FUL, Proposed redevelopment of existing intensive pig farm to create 10 new dwellings at Hogwood Farm, Pillerton Persey Road. Supported with comments.*

Signed

Dated 21st July 2026

- 26/00272/TREE, TA Lawson cypress- Fell. -Group B, hawthorn x4no. – Fell at Barnside, Main Street. No objection by PC and SDC.
- 26/00512/TREE, Tree work at Payns House, Back Lane. No objection by SDC.
- 26/00323/TREE, Tree work at Little Barn, Oxhill. No objection by SDC.
- 26/00397/FUL, Proposed one and a half storey side extension to form additional living accommodation at 15 Leys Field. Granted by SDC.
- 25/02939/FUL, Proposed garage conversion with vertical extension to create an additional storey. Roof works including two tiled dormer windows, one to the front and one to the rear. New entrance hall to the existing dwelling at 2 Peacock Cottages, Main Street. Granted by SDC.

26/38. To note the following correspondence

- Thank you email from Oxhill Village Hall for donation. The Chair noted that the Parish Council will continue to support the village hall which is a fundamental point in the village and has a strong strategic value. Mr Harbour noted that in the Big Lottery Funding application it was said that every village should have a meeting place. It is fundamental to community life and Oxhill is fortunate to have two facilities where people can meet. The Old Chapel is privately owned but was used when the hall was being refurbished. The hall is publicly owned.
- A villager thanked the Parish Council for all their work and said he appreciates what they do.

26/39. Councillors Reports

Cllr Rivers Fletcher reported that PC Speedy will be in position soon. He is in good condition.

Cllr Mercer spoke about his work with local footpaths. He is meeting the Tysoe Footpath group to understand what they do. He will review the footpaths with a villager and come up with a plan. They will look at more outlying paths.

26/40. To note next meeting date and time

21st July 2026 at 6.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed

Dated 21st July 2026