

**Minutes of Wendlebury Parish Council Meeting
held in the Wendlebury Village Hall on Thursday, 26th March 2026**

Councillors Present: Doug Blake (Chairman), Adrian Redford, David Ford and John Miller.

In Attendance: Brian Inglis (Parish Clerk and RFO), Cllr Laura Gordon (OCC)

Residents: No residents present.

1. To elect the Chairman of the Parish Council for 2026–27.

Cllr Doug Blake was elected as Chairman of the Parish Council for 2026-27 and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. To receive Councillor Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr James Daulton.

3. To Record Members' Declarations of Interest Regarding the Agenda Items.

Nothing was declared.

4. To elect the Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2026–27.

Cllr Adrian Redford was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for 2026-27 and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

5. To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 26th March 2026.

Councillors approved the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

6. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

7. Vacancy on the Parish Council

There were no applications for co-option to the Parish Council.

8. To receive a report from the District/County Councillors

Cherwell District Council – No Councillor present and no report.

Oxfordshire County Council – Cllr Laura Gordon gave a verbal update on OCC matters, including the drain clearing programme, fly tipping and recycling issues, the Islip bridge, school bus provision, Fire & Rescue consultation outcomes and the ongoing consultation process surrounding the East West Rail project at London Road, Bicester. Cllr Gordon was thanked for her continued interest in the Parish Council and for her attendance.

9. Update on Progress from the previous Minutes

The Clerk noted that there would be no benefit to the Parish Council in investing in an accounts package and thanked Cllrs for considering this. Year-end workings had shown the current system to be adequate.

10. Finance

10.1 Invoices and Payments for May – Councillors approved the May payment schedule.

10.2 Budget Monitoring – Councillors approved the report

10.3 Reconciliation of Bank Accounts – Councillors approved the report.

10.4 HSBC Bank Mandate – Councillors approved a change of address application.

11. Annual Governance and Accountability Report (AGAR Form 2)

11.1 Internal Audit Report – Councillors approved the report from the Internal Auditor.

11.2 Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) – Councillors approved the document, which was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

11.3 Annual Accounting Statement (Section 2) – Councillors approved the document, which was signed by the Chairman.

11.4 Certificate of Exemption – Councillors approved the document, which was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk. (Action – Clerk to submit to External Auditor).

11.5 Statement of Variances – Councillors approved the document.

11.6 Notice of Public Rights – Councillors noted the dates for this.

(Action – Clerk to collate and publish AGAR documents on the Parish Council website as required).

12. Allotments

Cllr Blake has identified a supplier of suitable posts to carry out fencing repairs, with plans to be made for ordering and delivery in due course.

13. Flood Grant Application

Plans are in place for the ordering of the shed and other ancillary items associated with this grant, with final arrangements to be worked out. (Action – Clerk to liaise with Cllrs Miller and Blake on logistics.)

14. Highways

Cllr Blake reported that he will be attending a meeting with OCC Officers to discuss issues with Junction 9, the proposed SE Relief Road, the Bicester Road verges and planned traffic calming in Wendlebury.

Cllr Blake continues to report extreme highways issues on Fix My Street and has reported on some repairs that have been carried out as a result.

15. Community Speed Watch –

Cllr Ford reported that Speed Watch sessions have restarted, with plans in place for an early morning session.

There are plans to make use of a free-standing traffic camera on loan from Weston on the Green PC, following a kind offer from them.

16. General Planning Matters

16.1 Cllr Blake gave a brief update on the progress of the TRITAX Application (no 25/00284/F)

16.2 The Clerk noted that there are still no dates scheduled for Stage 2 hearing sessions on the Cherwell Local Plan 2042. The Programme Officer has acknowledged the request from Wendlebury PC to participate.

17. Planning Applications – to consider all recent applications received from Cherwell District Council, detailed below, and any other planning applications submitted between the circulation of this Agenda and the meeting:

17.1 New Planning Applications: - to agree Council's response to the following application

26/00996/F Land North of Stutchfield Close, Wendlebury

Proposal: Full planning permission for the erection of two 5-bedroom detached dwellings (Use Class C3) together with access, car parking, landscaping, and associated works.

Response: Councillors voted to object to this application.
Comments available to view on the Cherwell DC planning portal.

17.2 Planning Applications Pending: - to note

25/01210/F Elm Tree Farm, Main Street, Wendlebury, OX25 2QA

Proposal: Erection of an agricultural building for general agricultural storage, with an agricultural workshop area.

Response: No Comment.

26/00579/F Park Farm House, St Giles Close, Wendlebury OX25 2PW

Proposal: Proposed demolition of collapsed stone wall and rebuilding and extension to existing garage (re-submission of lapsed 14/00617/F)

Response: No Comment.

17.3 Planning Application Decisions: – None

18. Date of next meeting – Thursday, 23rd July 2026 at 7.00 pm - Wendlebury Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.54 pm

Signed Date