Shilton Parish Council

Minutes of Annual Council meeting on Thursday 28th May 2026 held at The Old School, Church Lane, Shilton, OX18 3AE at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr David Cuthbertson (Chair), Cllrs Andrew Pearson & Steve Harrison. Parish Clerk Julie Alden.

Members of the public: 20

Agenda

1. Welcome from the Chairman.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To receive or accept apologies for absence.

Apologies from Nick Field-Johnson, Sarah Royle, and Andrew Bray.

3. To approve and sign minutes of Council meeting on 27th March 2025.

The minutes were signed and approved.

4. Matters arising from that meeting not on the Agenda.

None.

5. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

None.

6. Chairman's report.

N/A.

7. Election of Chair for the year.

David Cuthbertson was re-elected, proposed by Cllr Andrew Pearson, seconded by Cllr Steve Harrison.

8. Councillor Vacancy.

There is a vacancy now that Sarah Royle has stood down after serving the Shilton Parish Council for 14 years. The council would like to thank her for all the hard work that she has put in for us over those years. The council will co-opt someone in over the next month or so. There has been some interest already, but other candidates would be welcome.

9. To receive reports from District and County Councillors.

As attached. There were questions about the data centre, and why two applications had been sent in. Apparently, they are being treated as one application.

Nick Field-Johnson arrived having been at another parish meeting. A discussion took place concerning the proposal for a unitary council and the current planning requirement for 19,000 new homes in West Oxfordshire. The application for new housing on Price Way and the moving of the football pitches was discussed. Nick asked whether it would be possible to change the days on which the Shilton Parish Council meet?

Policy and Finance

10. Approval and completion of AGAR annual returns 2025-26.

As attached. Signed by parish clerk. Cllr AP proposed and Cllr SH seconded.

11. Finance update – to review and approve finance update.

Approved.

12. Payments and receipts – to review and approve current payments and note receipts.

Approved.

Planning

13. To comment on any planning applications received before the date of the meeting.

Nothing new or outstanding, except for the data centre applications. Cllr DC said that there are a lot of objections, and that if the application goes to committee, it is important that people attend the meeting to have their say. The date of the Committee meeting is not yet known.

14. Update on previous planning applications.

As above.

15. Carterton/Brize Norton planning.

As above.

Flooding & village maintenance

16. Flood alleviation.

Cllr AP noted that there is still the stumbling block of how to justify expenditure without data modelling. He attended the Bampton & District Flood Prevention Group meeting. James Feest from OCC was there, and told them about grant funding for up to £25,000, for which parish councils could apply. The Council has subsequently submitted an application for funding.

Cllr DC gave an update on roads. Cllrs DC and SH met with Charlie Maynard MP to discuss the Dip and the Wildlife junction. CM will push for the Dip to be added to the Vision Zero programme. Discussions on the Wildlife Junction are on going between CM and the Wildlife Park management.

17. Grass cutting.

This is continuing as normal. The next cut will be 8/9th June, just before the Open Gardens. Matt is still in Australia.

18. Conservation.

Cllr AB isn't here to give an update, but Cllr SH noted that the trees are looking good. Liz Fenner said that one of the trees opposite her garden looks dead and could potentially be dangerous. Cllr DC suggested contacting the arboreal team to have a tree survey done.

Report from other organisations

19. Shilton Old School

20. Shilton Welfare Trust

21. Shilton PCC

Reports as attached. Cllr DC noted what an amazing job the Old School Committee do. He also noted that the Welfare Trust have made grants, which have been mostly used for young villagers going off to further education. They are available for anyone in need in the village, though, and villagers should get in touch if they need to. A vote of thanks went to John Holloway and all who contributed to the fundraising for the bells.

Other matters

22. Opportunity for the public to speak – to provide members of the public/press with the opportunity to comment on items on the agenda or raise items for future consideration. In accordance with Standing Orders, this will not exceed 15 minutes in total and 5 minutes per person.

Nothing was raised.

The meeting ended at 20.35.