

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th March 2026 at Tackley Village Hall

Councillors Present: Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) (Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice-Chair), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), Angus Paxton (AP), Sue Lygo (SL).

In Attendance: Cherie Carruthers (Clerk)
Andy Graham CClr (OCC)
Genny Early DClr (WODC)
Tim Sumner DClr (WODC)

Members of the Public: 2

25/105 Public Participation:

Julie Farren updated on Village Hall progress:

- 2 new Trustees on the CIO
- In process of sorting the transfer of the asset, which is the village hall. Received a fee proposal from a solicitor of £12,000, plus a pre-merger vesting declaration costing approx. £3,500. They have postponed this work whilst trying to find a solicitor willing to do this pro bono through Law Works.
- 18 December 2026 is the 50th Anniversary of the village hall, the plan is to launch the fundraiser for the extension.
- Produce a booklet giving the history of the hall, information about the extension Pop-up-Pub and user groups. This will be delivered at the same time as the newsletter.
- Setting up a subcommittee to specifically look at grant applications and funding streams.
- Request a letter from the Parish Council ring fencing the S106 money from WODC. Add to April agenda.
- Fire Assessment has confirmed the Committee Room is fit for use.

25/106 Apologies of Absence: Cllr John Gibbins were noted.

25/107 Declaration of Interest: LM in item 10.i – a family member is a recipient of a payment.

25/108 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on **12 January 2026**, were **approved** as a true and fair record. Proposer AL, Seconder LM. Minutes of the **9 February 2026** meeting were **approved** as a true and fair record. Proposer AP, Seconder RHO.

25/109 Clerks Report / Actions Register.

- **Sandbag Store:** On order, lead time currently 4 weeks.
- **Path Corner:** on agenda.
- **Readvertise Casual Vacancy:** No applications have been received to date.
- **Yarnton Men's Football** – CC has written to them to thank them for their support with the pitch maintenance, and to notify them that the PC, as the landowners, have been in contact with the Football Foundation regarding further pitch improvements.
- **Pot Holes:** AG responded to Anne Gwinette. There are no plans to review the contract at this present time.
- **Insurance Claim:** A resident has filed a claim of subsidence caused by tree roots. The PC have forwarded this to our insurance company and loss adjusters.

25/110 To consider District Council matters:

GE updated on the following:

WODC had examined the proposed budget and effects on council tax next year, it was agreed to go ahead with an increase, the increase will include an additional role for fly tipping enforcement.

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WODC have formally adopted the Salt Cross development, which complies with environmental building standards for 2,000 houses in Eynsham / Witney.

Scrutinising the proposed changes to NPPF, one of which is that you cannot have anything in your plan that is different to any other local plan. She noted that the standard method to calculating the standard minimum requirement of in WODC is unreasonable.

25/111 To consider County Council matters: AG updated:

There is currently no plan for OCC to revisit the potholes contract. Decades ago, roads were built for a certain lifespan, they have now come to end of life, some roads have been resurfaced. Pothole filling to resurfacing is vastly different in cost.

Recent weather has compounded everything including the disintegration of the roads. OCC have employed 8 or more new crews to start to move the backlog of pothole filing. He advised keeping reporting potholes on Fixmystreet and copy himself in too.

He suggested the PC train a volunteer up to be a superuser, to report the potholes. Proving to speed up the process. This can be done by signing up on the OCC website.

RHO asked about the Woodstock car parking charges – 15 spaces, has it not pushed the problem that people are now driving into the city now instead? AG did not think so.

Congestion Charges – investment plan free park and ride return bus travel until 31.12.2026, after that discounted price. There will be a Hospital Express park and ride from Oct 2026.

25/112 Section 106: The members discussed next steps, including estimate costs for a public toilet which were approx. £12-45,000 for the fitting. RHO advised we want function and cost, need a ballpark figure for village consultation. Neil Clarke architects in Woodstock could draw up plans for toilet scheme.

AL advised that the hard-court needs resurfacing and repainting, Charmian Knight advised about the Blenheim Bursary Fund; AL will investigate this.

It was noted that we need to develop a scheme to unlock the Art Fund section of the 106. Charmian noted that local artists may work with the children at the school and help develop a scheme to get the S106 art fund. West Oxfordshire Arts: she has agreed to contact them on the PC's behalf.

It was agreed that costings for Toilet Scheme, Hard Court resurfacing and specific wording for the Village Hall extension will be on April's agenda.

25/113 Parish amenities:

- i. **Paving at school entrance:** it was agreed in principle to cover the costs of the paving: Proposer: AL Seconder: RHO.
- ii. **Football Foundation meeting:** SL updated that she had met with the FF; they tested the pitch in 3 places by taking soil samples, initial outcome was that the soil is dry and sandy with no worms. They will send a report for CC to circulate.
- iii. **Dog Poo Bins:** CC is waiting for a response from WODC on exact costs of increasing the emptying, based on current costs, it would be an additional £550.00 per year.
- iv. **Parking under the oak tree Rousham Road;** it was agreed to write and pop a note through the resident's door requesting they stop parking there. Possibly consider mitigation, using rocks to edge the grass and No Parking signs.

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- v. **Litter at the Village Hall;** SL spoken to VH, CC to ask Pizza Man that comes on a Thursday to ensure he uses the commercial bins, double check who is doing this.
- vi. **Salt Bins** – receive an update on removal of old salt. SL outstanding defer to April

25/114 To consider matters of Finance and Policies:

- i. It was approved that the following payments were ratified and the impact the payment would have on the budget and reserves. Proposed: AL: seconded: SL: **APPROVED**

Gross (£)	VAT (£)	Payee	Details
£916.07		Clerks Pay	Feb Salary
£50.00		B Marshall	Feb bin emptying
937.69	156.28	Green Scythe Ltd	Feb green space maintenance
1,875.38	312.56	Green Scythe Ltd	Dec & Jan invoices
312.00	52.00	OALC	Annual Subscriptions
480.00	80.00	Ron Varney	Annual Hedge Cutting
522.29	87.05	WODC	Dog Bin Emptying

It was noted to advise Ron Varney to NOT cut the Heath hedge until further notice.

25/115 Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- i. Hard Court resurfacing and line painting costs.
- ii. Architects and costing for public toilet scheme.
- iii. Motion to increase the litter / bin emptying pay.

AL noted that the draft Spatial Consultation outcome will be circulated at the end of June, where we can comment again. The final Paper will be published the end of November 2026.

RHO noted that wrought iron gates at the top of Whitehill look very nice.

Next Meeting: Monday 13 April 2026 @ 7pm.

Meeting Finished: 20582pm

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Parish Council Meeting held on 9 March 2026.

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Date.....