

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 April 2026 at Tackley Village Hall

Councillors Present: Councillors Liz Marshall (LM) (Chair), Andrew Lines (AL) (Vice-Chair), Richard Holland-Oakes (RHO), Sue Lygo (SL), John Gibbins (JG), Karen Snow (KS).

In Attendance: Cherie Carruthers (Clerk)
Andy Graham CCIr (OCC)
Genny Early DCIIr (WODC)

Members of the Public: 3

25/116 Public Participation:

i. **Julie Farren** updated on Village Hall progress:

- Solicitor transferring the Village Hall from an incorporated charity to a Charity Incorporated Organisation. She requested a letter from the PC as landlords, to confirm that we are aware that the transfer is happening. This was **agreed**. CC to send email confirming.
- The PC needs to apply to WODC for the S106 money, once received they will supply a letter of intent to the VH, CC to email WODC and copy Julie Farren in.
- Architects are at the structural engineer stage of the proceedings; this will feed into detailed plans and the tender.
- 50 Year anniversary booklet delivered to all houses.

ii. **Jeremy Posnansky** spoke to the meeting regarding pot holes:

He suggested rolling out the action he has taken to get the pot holes sorted. He served a statutory Section 56 notice on OCC under the highways act 1980, which requires them to admit they are required to fix the highway. If he does not receive a reply to the notice within 1 month, he can then apply to Crown Court for an order to enforce repairs.

There are 8 large pot holes along Whitehill, 4 people who have burst tyres. OCC are not repairing them. He asked if the PC could serve a Section 56 notice on OCC? He asked if it is possible to let people in the village know this can be done. He noted that people need to be a bit more proactive.

AG responded that he has sympathy with what has been said, he personally has reported 50 pot holes within the division, it is true that the money is part of the problem, which has been a legacy for decades with lack of investment.

There are 25 teams covering 3000 roads within Oxfordshire. Repairs are temporary by nature but some have been marked and then scheduled to be done, the rain has caused a time lapse, priority status to determine the severity. Assure the residents that he is playing his role in getting the pot holes done and decrease the backlog.

He advised that reporting them on Fixmystreet is the best way or second best way is to become a superuser for potholes. Volunteer and be trained. Pop this on Notices asking for volunteers.

iii. **Malcolm Riddout** came to speak regarding the temporary closure of the south bound platform; this is estimated to be approx. 9 months with no train to Oxford. On agenda

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

25/117 Co-option of Councillor to fill vacancy of Steve Hill's seat: AL proposed the co-option of Karen Snow, seconded by SL. Vote – Unanimous. Karen Snow was co-opted to the Parish Council.

25/118 Apologies of Absence: Cllr's Angus Paxton and Tim Sumner were noted.

25/119 Declaration of Interest: LM in item 12.i – a family member is a recipient of a payment.

25/120 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on **9 March 2026** meeting were **approved** as a true and fair record. Proposer AL, Seconder RHO.

25/121 Clerks Report / Actions Register.

- **Sandbag Store:** Delivery delayed due to the Easter Bank Holiday.
- **Parking under Oak Tree:** the residents have been written to, but they are still parking, CC suggested a friendly knock and chat. It was suggested that rocks could be situated along the verge line to stop access.
- **Dog Poo Bins:** WODC confirmed annual cost will be approx. £600 per annum on top of current £600; it was agreed to monitor this before installing more.
- **Litter at VH:** Pizza truck has confirmed he takes waste home with him. The waste is from the VH. CC to write to Julie Farren.
- **Crecy Hill:** Lease with OCC has expired, do the PC wish to enter a Tenancy of Will until the new lease is drafted? Will OCC keep it and maintain it; as it is currently not. It was agreed to sign the ToW. CC is to reach out to Jack Wheeler biodiversity officer say why it is special and can they do more

25/122 To consider District Council matters:

GE updated on the following:

Planning processes. West Oxfordshire District Council (WODC) has responded to a Government consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) highlighting significant concerns:- nature recovery and climate resilience are treated as secondary considerations rather than fundamental planning principles; nationally set planning rules will lose the value of local input to improve building developments; local plans must continue to play a strong role in shaping development at the local level, reflecting the unique needs and circumstances of individual areas. This includes safeguarding net zero energy standards at Salt Cross Garden Village.

Thames Water. Following the 'Dirty Business' docudrama in February, featuring Ash Smith and Peter Hammond from Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP), highlighting the large-scale release of untreated sewage to our rivers, WODC councillors have asked the Leader to write to the Prime Minister, to ask that Thames Water be brought back into a special administration regime [SAR] and then some form of non-profit, public ownership. Also to request that Thames Water report on a quarterly basis to WODC on how much raw sewage has been pumped into West Oxfordshire rivers and the progress towards preventing this.

Please consider signing the Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP) petition for the UK Government:

Hold a referendum to bring the water industry into public ownership

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/762640>

Community Safety. West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership (WOCSP) brings together local organisations with a shared goal of creating safer communities in which to live, work and visit. They work to prevent and reduce crime, disorder and fear of crime, and to develop safer communities. Among the priorities for 2024-2027 is work to address Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls. The Council's Youth Development officer, the Violence Against Women and Girls Coordinator and a small subgroup has designed a Theatre based intervention and secured significant funding from the Council. Domestic abuse in rural areas can be distinctly different from abuse in urban settings. It lasts longer, policing is largely inadequate, and rurality and isolation can be deliberately used as weapons by abusers.

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Support services are scarce – less available, less visible and less effective. For more information, please read: Captive & Controlled: Domestic Abuse in Rural Areas. **If you need help and would like to talk to someone, please contact the National Domestic Violence Helpline website or call the Freephone Helpline on 0808 2000 247.**

25/123 To consider County Council matters: AG updated:

- Reminder of the Flood Mitigation scheme grants pot. £25,000 of funding for a scheme, something that can really help the village, closing 4th May 2026. He advised people to go to OCC website and look at what we can apply for also £1k OCC priority fund.

25/124 Planning:

- [Internal and external alterations to erect a single storey extension.](#)



7 Ball Lane Tackley Kidlington Oxfordshire OX5 3AG

Ref. No: 26/00756/LBC | Validated: Wed 01 Apr 2026 | Status: Under consideration

No Comment

- [Removal of garden shed and erection of single storey extension.](#)



7 Ball Lane Tackley Kidlington Oxfordshire OX5 3AG

Ref. No: 26/00755/HHD | Validated: Wed 01 Apr 2026 | Status: Under consideration

No Comment

Area U (Rousham Road) on Spatial Options Proposal: AL advised the meeting that Bluestone Planning, engaged on behalf of OCC, had approached the PC, requesting a conversation on what the PC would like to do with that area.

CC, AL, LM, GE and KS joined the call and were shocked to be shown a plan for 70 houses (see below).



AL asked what other sites identified in the Spatial Options consultation, were they working on. They confirmed that Tackley is the only site they are planning on developing.

It became clear they had not investigated any of the challenges of building on that site. They did not know about the site, its topography, or flooding issues.

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The WODC spatial consultation is still being determined, this predetermination makes a nonsense of the consultation process.

GE believed they are operating outside of the Local Plan process, the site must have been reshaped if not removed. Each site needs to have its own infrastructure modelling done; this should pick up on all the issues with area U.

The timeline for the WODC Spatial Options is; next round of consultation June 26, then WODC decision Sept 2026, then to planning inspectorate.

KS highlighted the nature recovery of Area U; is there money on offer for communities proposing nature recovery projects. Basic idea is to create a natural wetland for birds and wildlife (extension of current bund) add an element of recreational area for people to sit. Unclear on the process on how to begin the project and scaping it. She suggested creating a team of people to work on this.

GE advised that the PC would need the landowner to want to do it, in this case the landowner is OCC. There is TOE funding specifically for wetlands, flood management schemes.

25/125 Section 106: RHO had Zoom meeting with Innova Ltd regarding the viability of a toilet block, they discussed a plan on what could be done and what can be agreed. Planning permission is required, an option is to have a unit established on the triangle area to the rear of the VH, the best way forward would be to put a slab base down and install utilities at the same time as the VH extension. They can match exterior to VH, with an apex so it is in keeping with design, and an extension to accommodate the sports storage, approx. costs £70-80,000 for the project.

Charmine Knight is meeting with S106 Arts team, a local artist is keen to do a new mosaic and incorporate the old mosaic, a stipulation being that this must be on an inside wall.

AL has applied to the Blenheim Bursary for the repainting of the hardcourt. Tarmac is in good condition so does not need resurfacing, just needs taken back and repainted, £2,995.00 applied for, which will cover this cost if successful.

AL to draft wording, to inform the residents what has been decided.

25/126 Parish amenities:

- i. **Salt Bins:** All bins are solid, need the salt removing and replacing. Ask in KPC and WODC.
- ii. **Footpath Fortnight:** Will take place in June 2026, June Collier has offered to do bridleways. OCC officer, Kate Walter came to do a site visit of the stone stile, she concluded that there is no reason to remove it, but they will ask the landowners to put in a stone to help the step up.
- iii. **Rail Crossing / Bridge update:** AL updated that Network Rail held an online meeting 13 April 2026, they showed the latest plans and updates and confirmed what is happening going forward, attended by GE, AG, TS, AL, SL, LM and CC. Their Project Manager reminded the attendees why they are closing crossing and showed drawings with the towers significantly higher than previously circulated plans. AL raised as a concern, on the height of these, looked as if the lift mechanism wheelhouse in the top of the towers and not hydraulic as previously agreed.

The impact to rail users was divided into 4 options: 1, close whole station, 2, close southbound oxford platform, 3 to move the scaffolding bridge (this cannot be done due to money and landownership) and 4, anyone who wants to go to oxford, drive, get the bus or go all way to Banbury change there and return south to Oxford, or to Heyford and then get train to oxford. The timings of the Heyford trains would mean a traveller will have to catch the 8:03am north to Heyford, wait 45 minutes to get a south bound train to Oxford.

TACKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

It was asked if a mini bus could be provided, it is not likely for during the day, but NR were not as negative about the 3 early trains in the morning. A further query of why it is taking 10 months to build was also asked.

Malcolm Riddout spoke to the meeting, stating that NR are typically being disingenuous and economic with the truth. He has written asking where the bridge is exactly going, (LM confirmed in the exact same place). He suggested an idea that someone gets off (southbound) and walk round via bridleway and footpaths. NR said no, as some might get off not realizing they would have to walk so far. Another option is to reopen the crossing to walk across. Will the PC push for a bus replacement service. Could the PC ask residents to write to MP Callum Miller and NR and make lots of noise,

LM stated that the 2 main things that need resolving or an explanation to are; bus replacement for first 3 trains and the height of the towers.

Suggested send them an email or letter with the key points being raised at meeting, and state we would like a response. Send AG a copy.

Malcolm Riddout also suggested a press release to Oxford Mail.

25/127 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: RHO: **APPROVED**

Gross (£)	VAT (£)	Payee	Details
£916.07		Clerks Pay	Mar Salary
£60.00		B Marshall	Mar bin emptying
937.69	156.28	Green Scythe Ltd	Mar green space maintenance
84.00	14.00	Playground Facilities	Playground Inspection
300.00	50.00	Parish Online	PC Website
320.00		OCV	Crecy Hill maintenance
1472.80		Oxocology	Via TOE grant direct

LM removed herself from the discussion

- ii. A proposal that Bin Emptying fee goes up to £60.00 was made by AL Seconded by SL: All in favour.

25/128 Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- i. Gibraltar Point.

Next Meeting Date: 11 May 2026 – Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parish Council Meeting:
APM @ 7pm AL to ask school, Police, CC Shop, VH, Church.

APCM straight after.

Meeting Finished: 21:10pm

Signed as a true record of the Tackley Parish Council Meeting held on 13 April 2026.

.....

Date.....