

**Newington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
17th September 2025 at 7:00pm in St Giles Church**

Present:

Cllr Nettleton; Cllr Howlett (DH); Cllr Black; Cllr Thomson

In Attendance: Clerk/RFO Lawrence Wootten; Cllr Edwards (County Councillor)

Members of the public: One parishioner.

039.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Howlett (NH); Cllr Turner (District Councillor)

040.25 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – None

041.25 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Flooding issues experienced by residents were raised and discussed fully under item 046.25d below.

042.25 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

The report from District Councillor Turner had been circulated to the Parish Council and is available as Annex A to the minutes of this meeting.

The report from County Councillor Edwards had been circulated to the Parish Council and is available as Annex B to the minutes of this meeting.

043.25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) The minutes of the last meeting held 15th June 2025 were approved, signed by the Chairman and will be added to the website.

ACTION FOR CLERK – post approved minutes on website.

(b) – Update on progress from the last minutes – to report progress on items that do not require further discussion

- Clerk informed Council that .gov.uk email addresses were now working for Clerk and Councillors.
- Clerk informed Council that the period for the Exercise of Public Rights was now closed, and he had received no further communication from Moore & Co (External Auditors), and the 2024/25 AGAR was now complete.
- Clerk reported that an employer's PAYE and NI account for the Parish Council had now been set-up with HMRC for the Clerk's salary and PAYE.

044.25 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) The bank reconciliation and financial report were presented and approved.

On 29th August 2025 the balances of the council's accounts were noted and approved as:

Barclays Community Current Account - £4,964.06

Barclays Savings Account - £565.07

b) Direct debits paid since last meeting:-

20th July 2025: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox website/domain £11.99

21st July 2025: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox email £11.99

20th August 2025: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox website/domain £11.99

22nd August 2025: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox email £11.99

c) Receipts since last meeting:

Clerk reported that the second half of the Parish Precept (£1750) had been confirmed as paid into the Council's accounts by SODC on 2nd September 2025, but would not be shown in the Council's accounts until the September bank statements were received from Barclays Bank.

- d) Invoices for payment – the following invoices were approved for payment:-
- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| L J Wootten – Clerk’s salary (Apr-Aug 2025) minus PAYE and NI | £965.65 |
| L J Wootten – Clerk’s salary (Sep 2025) minus PAYE and NI | £195.92 |
| HMRC – PAYE and NI on Clerk’s salary (Apr-Aug 2025) | £380.07 |

- e) No requests for Community Grants received.

045.25 PLANNING

No planning applications received.

046.25 COUNCILLOR & PARISH REPORTS

a) **Community Liaison/Notice Board**

Cllr Black reported that new website and contact details were now on the Parish Council noticeboard.

b) **Event Co-ordination** – Nothing to report

c) **Website** – new website being updated regularly.

d) **Highways & Potholes**

The ongoing issue of flooding to properties where there is a dropped kerb on the main road through the village was discussed with a resident and County Cllr Edwards present for the discussion.

Cllr Black and the Clerk had prepared a letter to Cllr Edwards, which was given to her at the meeting, and the Clerk will forward an electronic version to her for forwarding as appropriate. Cllr Nettleton pointed out that clear road signage needs to be reinstated the pinch-point in the road as it becomes invisible when the road is flooded and had already caused one driver to burst a tyre late at night.

Cllr Edwards suggested that she raise the issue with County Cllr Gant, and that her Councillor Priority Fund could be used for the purchase of sandbags etc.

Cllr Black pointed out that he had emailed OCC regarding potholes in the road, but had been informed that they were currently not bad enough to warrant repair.

e) **Rights of Way** - nothing to report.

f) **Allotments** - nothing to report.

g) **Churchyard/burial ground mowing**

The possibility of re-introducing sheep to graze the churchyard, or strimming the churchyard twice per year was discussed.

County Cllr Edwards pointed out that a grant might be available to assist with tree pruning in the churchyard.

047.25 SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE NURSERY SCHOOL

The issue was discussed with County Cllr Edwards in the meeting, and it was agreed that the Clerk would forward recent email correspondence from the previous County Councillor on this matter to her.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to email County Councillor Edwards with recent correspondence on the speed limit outside the nursery school.

048.25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Clerk and Cllr Thomson updated the Council on the current situation, and highlighted the opposition to the Greater Oxford proposal from Oxford City Council.

049.25 COUNCILLOR AND CLERK TRAINING

a) no training requested

b) the Clerk updated Council on his attendance at the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils' Open Tables event – a very useful and constructive day, particularly discussions with the Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Planning Team and representatives of the three proposed Unitary Authorities.

050.25 CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to discuss

051.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

(to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 8.41pm

Signed Date