

**Newington Parish Council
Oxfordshire
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
15th July 2025 at 7:00pm in St Giles Church**

Present:

Cllr Nettleton; Cllr Black; Cllr Thomson;
In Attendance: Clerk/RFO Lawrence Wootten
Members of the public: One parishioner.

025.25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Cllr Howlett (DH); Cllr Howlett (NH); District Cllr Turner

026.25 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS – None

027.25 ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – See discussion under item 030.25e below.

028.25 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

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

No report from County Councillor.

029.25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

(a) The minutes of the last meeting held 25th 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

- The clerk reminded Council that signatures were required to complete the application form to set-up the Unity Trust Bank online account.
- The clerk informed Council that the Direct Debit for the .gov.uk email accounts was now up-and-running and the accounts would be operational in the new few weeks.
- The clerk informed Council that all documents relating to the 2024/25 Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) had been published on the website and the necessary documents submitted to Oxfordshire County Council's External Auditor (Moore and Co) – he had also received confirmation of receipt from Moore and Co.

030.25 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

a) On 30th June 2025 the balances of the council's accounts were noted and approved as:

Barclays Community Current Account - £5,012.02

Barclays Savings Account - £565.07

b) Invoices and accounts paid since last meeting:-

20th June 2025: Direct Debit payment for Hugo Fox website/domain - £11.99.

23 June 2025: Newington Parochial Church Council (s137 Community Grant) - £400

27 June 2025: James Thomson – reimbursement for flood bags - £579.16

c) Receipts since last meeting:

2nd June Bank Interest - £1.87

d) No invoices for payment – but see s.137 request under item e below from Newington Parochial Church Council.

- e) A request for a further Community Grant was received from Newington Parochial Church Council as the only communal indoor space available to villagers. Council agreed that the church was an important asset to the community of Newington and resolved to award a further Community Grant of £590.00 to be paid immediately under s137 LGA (1972).

031.25 PLANNING

No planning applications received.

032.25 COUNCILLOR & PARISH REPORTS

- a) New titles would be put on the notice board to reflect the change in the Parish Council website address, and new contact details for the clerk would be added by Cllr Black and the Clerk.

ACTION FOR CLLR BLACK and CLERK – to update the notice board with new website address and contact details for clerk.

- b) Event Co-ordination – Nothing to report
- c) Website – new website being updated regularly. A notice will be put on the old website directing users to the new website.
- d) The ongoing issue of flooding to properties where there is a dropped kerb was discussed in addition to the speed limit sign on exiting the village towards Berrick Salome. It was agreed that the clerk would email Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department and our County Councillor from the new .gov.uk email address once it was activated. Cllr Black has taken photos to demonstrate the flooding problem but there seems to be disagreement between Thames Water and Oxfordshire County Council as to who is responsible for the issue.

ACTION FOR CLLR BLACK and CLERK – to email OCC Highways Department once the clerk's .gov.uk email address is working.

- e) Rights of Way - nothing to report.
- f) Allotments – nothing to report.

033.25 SPEED LIMIT OUTSIDE NURSERY SCHOOL

It was agreed that the Clerk would forward recent email correspondence on this matter to the new County Councillor once the new .gov.uk email address was activated.

ACTION FOR CLERK – to email County Councillor once clerk's .gov.uk email address is activated.

034.25 CHURCHYARD/BURIAL GROUND MOWING

The possibility of the Parish Council taking responsibility for mowing the churchyard/burial ground was discussed. The clerk explained that this can be done directly by the Parish Council rather than through a Community Grant to the Parochial Church Council. It was agreed that this should be investigated further and quotes obtained for mowing.

035.25 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

The Clerk and Cllr Thomson gave an update to Council on the status of Local Government Organisation in Oxfordshire.

036.25 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.

037.25 CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to discuss

038.25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9th September 2025 (to be confirmed)

Meeting closed at 8.06pm

Signed Date