

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Tiddington with Albury Parish Council in the **Village Hall** on **Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 7.30pm.**

Present – Mr C Hill - Vice Chair **(CH)**, Mr W Meadows **(WM)**, Mrs R Stogden **(RS)**, Mr R Chaplin **(RC)**

PUBLIC FORUM

One Parishioner was present and raised the issue of dog fouling in the village and asked if expensive bins will solve the problem? The feeling of the PC is that whilst it may not solve the issue of those owners who don't clear up after their dogs there is at least there a collection point for those who do. And is the Albury View bin a good idea, especially if we must fund it? Put on FaceBook and in the newsletter, again, dog owners' responsibilities.

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196. Apologies – Mrs T Smith - Chair **(TS)**, Mr J Russell **(JR)**, Mrs L Martin - Clerk/RFO **(LM)**

197. Approve and sign minutes – Completed

198. Matters to Report:

- **Tim Bearder (TB) District Councillor:**
 - **Flytipping:** There is no support or process to support Parishes at the moment, which is something he is trying to address, especially in relation to cameras - but secret cameras don't work. There is a webform which is not currently redirected to FMS but needs to be.
 - **Potholes:** Whatever method is chosen is problematic. **RC** challenged the method of cutting the holes out in individual squares as this doesn't make for a lasting fix, especially as this County has a very soft subsurface – for example Oxford is blue clay, Thames is running sand. We need to do more surface dressing rather than patching. There is a plan to bring everyone together at the Council at the end of March to review the process
 - **Grant:** **TB** was sorry we didn't get the Grant we applied for in relation to the TNR project. **CH** asked if there were other grants we could apply for and **TB** will look into it - **LM** sent 26/03/26
- **Judith Edwards (JE) County Councillor - Apologies**

199. Flooding/Drains

- Sandy Lane road (near Willow Spring Farm) has been repaired, but this will be temporary as the spring is still running over it. Further inspection identified three areas for further work/investigation:
 - Top end around house - running ok at the moment so leave
 - Down Sandy Lane on the left hand side where traffic has pushed in the ditches. Ideally needs piping but would require a budget/grant from somewhere? - **ALL**
 - The bottom end of the pipe by bus stops requires digging/cleaning out. The ditch down the right hand side of the road has been dug out w/c 26/01/26 by the Farmer, so do we need to dig out the left hand side?- **CS/RC**
- Next actions from Section 19 report:
 - Parish Council to produce a Community Emergency Plan. See point **210** - **ALL**
 - Parish Council to implement a Flood Warden scheme with training and guidance documents for the volunteers. Requested volunteers on FaceBook and via Feb/Mar newsletter. No offers received, submit again and on FB - **ALL**

- ***“Explore options for natural flood management measures in upper catchment”***: - Site visit took place on 02/03/26 with William Piotrowski, OCC and **TS/RC/CH**. William will talk to the Michaelis family about dredging the pond on the edge of Fernhill Woods. They have put a pipe in from the stream under the footpath, but a licence is required for this, **WP** to check. William will also talk to Carl Stallwood and Lee about removing the build up of silt in the culvert on both sides of the A418. Full notes still to be issued - **LM/WP**

200. Neighbourhood Plan / Nature Recovery

- Neighbourhood Plan - NP team had a meeting to discuss a light review of the Plan during 2026 covering environment, new policies, etc and parishioner feedback. PC approved. Need a few more volunteers, especially from Milton Common, so put an article in the next Newsletter (£2,000 allocated in 2026/27 budget). SODC to be informed. Need to discuss how and who needs to be involved in the review in the April meeting - **CH/LM**
- TOE (Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment) visited Sandy Lane Farm on 15/10/24 to discuss introducing some funding for ponds on the site. Team to discuss possibility of a second pond on the Farm or in the wet area on Lower Chilcott Farm - **CH**
- The TNR team submitted a proposal for a District Grant, which included working with RTC and gaining volunteers to help, for £3,650 but this was rejected. The plan included the use of the £1,000 grant from 24/25 financial year from SODC Community Councillor Grants. Need to look for alternative grants/funds - **CH/LM**
- The request for additional volunteers has had some success via FB and the newsletter, put in the newsletter again for April/ May - **CH/JR**

201. Councillors' Update of Matters in Hand

201.1 Ickford Bridges

- Permissions and discussions are underway with the Environmental Agency, Historic England (both bridges are Grade II listed) and Bucks CC. Work is now due in **Spring 2027** due to the lack of the appropriate stone needed for the repair, which the PC feels is unacceptable. The stone is not a problem; it was the concrete that needed replacing. Add **TB** into all correspondence - **LM**
- The PC were notified of the removal of some hedgerows along either side of the Oxfordshire bridge by SODC, currently with Highways to schedule in. Need to check on plans - **LM**
- The Tiddington end of the bridge wall has been badly damaged. Reported on FMS and directly to the Structural Engineering team at OCC, again in March 2026 - **LM**
- **Gigaclear are closing the bridges from 9th March to 20th March for cabling work**

201.2 20mph Consultation

- There will be a review of the impact of 20mph restrictions in due course (probably 2026) and Tiddington may get more support after this is completed
- The Parish could conduct its own Community Speed Watch programme; some volunteers may be available. There could be a possibility of access to a shared SID, investigate further - **LM**
- Possibility of gaining a speed indicator device was raised by a parishioner funded from the £200,000 Community Fund from the Police. Grant applications submitted (23/02/26) - **LM**
- Little Milton stated their speed calming measures plus crossings cost in the region of £100,000 in 2001 and were paid for by the Council. Chinnor Clerks confirmed their speed calming measures cost around £35,000. Currently not an option for TwAPC

201.3 Fix My Street - Currently on report

- Milton Common, potholes & worn-out road. **Surface dressing planned from A418 to Old London Road on: 26th April to 30th April, 04.00 to 18.00 and again 11th to 15th May, 04.00 to 18.00**
- Damaged wall on Ickford Bridges - **LM**
- Weeds blocking the drains on A418 - **LM**
- Need to report big potholes on Albury Lane, might need **TB** support again to get fixed - **RS/JR**
- Reported broken safety bollards on road crossing outside Tiddington garage. Have been earmarked for potential repair in future budget - **LM**

201.4 Defibrillators

- Defibrillators at Village Hall and F&G fully operational and checked in March 2026.

201.5 Installation of Ultrafast Broadband – Gigaclear

- Service is available throughout Tiddington
- Meeting held with Gigaclear, who are looking into the options of getting Albury Lane and the Church connected after Rycote Trust refused access via the other road. Still awaiting feedback from Gigaclear - **LM/RS**
- Draycot Corner will get access once Ickford Bridge cabling work is completed
- Ducts outside Fairview, Milton Common had to be lowered further to protect them from the future developments and should also help to reduce the puddles!

201.6 Dog fouling bins - see comments from Parishioner in Public Forum

- We can get closed bins into the play area and along Albury View & move one of the bins by the far gate, but we need to pay for them. SODC will continue to empty them - **LM**
- Cost for a Maelor Trafflex Round Litter Bin 90L (to match current versions in the Parish and ones used by SODC) is circa £280 plus VAT and installation. Alternative is a plastic version costing circa £180 plus VAT, included 4 bins within budget - **LM**
- Request for dog bin at top of Albury Lane, but the PC need to fund the emptying of it - **LM**

201.7 Highways Asset Response Team (HART)

- Offer to repair various areas we identified. So far agreed: pavement alongside the A40 in Milton Common, pavements in Albury View up the road and along A418.

201.8 Pavement alongside the Notice Board near A418

- Quotes received from ODS and DJT Surfacing Ltd circa £6,000 exc VAT. Quote requested from AAA but no response yet. Need further review. **LM/RC**

201.9 Milton Common - concerns

- Speed limits along A40 through Milton Common/ speed indicators - look to borrow from another Parish via Road Safety contact at OCC - **LM**
- Perspex/glass on the notice board to be replaced. Quote approved - **LM**
- Property owners have cleared felled trees however an enormous amount of mud is now along the whole of London Road, with large potholes and big puddles. Emailed both the owners of Fairview and the construction company next to Belfry to request help with clear up and maintenance. Sent 11/02/26. Response received from Fairview - **LM**

201.10 Bus stops/shelters

- Quotes received from three contractors for constructing a small bus shelter on Tiddington side of A40, options included a living roof and wooden ones. To be funded by CIL money and included in the 26/27 budget. There is an issue with power lines near the potential spot, shelter may need to arrive flat packed and then constructed. Agree way forward at April meeting - **LM**
- Quote for cleaning all bus shelters approved including a contribution from Great Milton for the one on A40 (13/02/26). In 2026/27 budge, proceed once ivy cleared from Tiddington brick shelter - **LM/TS**

201.11 Notice Board in Tiddington

- Quote approved to revarnish Notice Board in Spring - **LM**

201.12 Spring Litter pick

- Arranged for **Saturday 14th March at 10am Village Hall** in Tiddington and on **Saturday 28th March at Milton Common**

202. Planning

202.1 Planning Applications received:

- None

202.2 Planning Decisions to be noted:

- None

202.3 Planning Decisions Pending (awaiting decision from SODC/ Bucks planning departments):

- **P25/S1987/FUL - Solar Farm:** land bordering either side of the M40 near Postcombe and Lewknor Villages OX9 7EG. Objection *submitted from PC*. **Decision date: 28th February 2026, but no decision made yet**
- **25/02196/AOP - Land East of Worminghall Road, Ickford:** Construction of 68 houses. *PC Objected. Still awaiting decision*

202.4 Planning Appeals in progress:

- None

202.5 Planning Consultations:

- None

NB. CH attended SODC Planning training session on 03/03/26 in Didcot. The Neighbourhood Plan is influential in planning decisions and should be as specific as possible in detail. **CH** circulated a summary of output from the meeting.

203. Finance

203.1 Applications for routine subscriptions and donations

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| ● OALC subscription | £252.00 |
| ● Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plans Alliance | £50.00 |

203.2 Accounts for payment this month

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| ● Administration to the Parish Council (Luci Martin) | £423.60 |
| ● Bank charges (17th February) | £4.25 |

203.3 Invoices approved and signed since the previous meeting

- None

203.4 Receipts:

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| ● Interest on deposit account (9th February) | £19.11 |
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203.5 Balances at bank on 19th February:

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| ● Current Account (Lloyds Bank) | £39.58 |
| ● Deposit Account (Lloyds Bank) | £41,400.29 |

204. 2025/26 Accounts

- Need to confirm names on Bank account authorise Rebecca Stodden and Jon Russell as signatories. Still waiting for cards to arrive for **RS** and **JR**? - **TS**
- VAT reclaim for 2025/26 underway - **TS/LM**

205. 2026/27 Budgets

- Precept submitted at £15,000, up from £14,500 in 2025/26.
- Final Budgets **approved** at March meeting - **ALL**

206. Newsletter

- For inclusion next edition (submission due 14/03/26): Chairs report, Gigaclear update, TNR volunteers, Flood Wardens, Budgets/Precept 2026/27, Litter pick, Neighbourhood Plan

207. Playground

- Checked weekly - all forms up to December received - **RS**
- Green bench to be renovated - **TS**
- Big Luke cleaned the basketball backboard. Need to moss kill tarmac with safety netting installed. Quote approved £120 - **LM**
- Started the process for replacing Fort in 2 or 3 years time. Obtained three quotes and first designs to assess the amount of funds required - **LM/RS**
- Need to update all the signage in the playground, money allocated in 26/27 budget - **RS/LM**
- Check height on swings, too high? - **LM**

- Playground Inspection booked for April 2026. Cost £138.00 (inc VAT) - **LM**
- Need to consider paved/solid walkway access to play area at some point - **ALL**

NB. Evaluation form for Grant monies (Feb 2025) for repairs to Fort to be submitted early April - **LM**

208. Standing Orders

- Presentation from **JR** on requirements that need to be met covering the following areas:
 - Procedural and Governance
 - Financial and Audit
 - Transparency and Public Information
 - Policies
- Need to review all requirements and create a system, including responsibilities by Councillors, to update and monitor all documentation required. For **April** meeting - **TS/JR**

209. IT Policy

- IT Policy generated and circulated to councillors - **LM**
- Extensive work required to implement IT policies to include website accessibility, Assertion 10 (for AGAR next year), cyber security & email hacking. Five quotes received, for discussion - **LM**

210. Community Emergency Plan

- Part of Standing Orders project - **TS/JR/LM**
- Received a toolkit and templates from OCC, and offer to help check drafts, plus a potential volunteer - **TS**

211. Sewage dispersal into River by Thames Water

- Via our email to Freddie van Mierlo, we received a response from Thames Water following our letter of complaint. Circulated to Councillors. Need to continue monitoring - **LM/CH**
- **FvM/TB** are planning a film on the current situation in due course
- An enormous amount of mess was left down the pavements and into drives at the bottom of Tiddington after the recent water burst causing a potential flooding issue. Request this is cleared as a matter of urgency by Thames Water - **RC/TS**

212. Correspondence Received:

- Rural Bulletin, Public Sector Network Newsletter, Thames Valley Alerts, Citizen Advice, Neighbourhood Watch newsletter, CommunityFirst, Wheatley Parish Council Newsletter, Haseleys Newsletter plus other general correspondence - circulated
- SODC general communications - circulated
- OCC general communication - circulated
- OALC general communications - circulated

AOB:

Tidd Fest: Ticketed Community activity on 22nd August 2026 in Village Hall and some of the recreation ground. PC approved of this idea, as a great alternative to the Fete. Considerations would be Health and Safety, Safeguarding, if children attending and general security

Provision for Village Hall: Ongoing as part of PC responsibilities to support community buildings

Next Meeting: Tuesday 14th April 2026, Tiddington Village Hall at 7.30pm

