

CHOLSEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Cholsey Parish Council duly convened and held on Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7.15pm at The Pavilion, Cholsey

Present were Cllr J. Finch, Cllr G. Herbert, Cllr J. Hope-Smith, Cllr L. Nixon (Chair), Cllr K. Ofield, Cllr K. Pomlett, and Cllr S. Schäfer

Also present were C. Bird (Clerk); three members of public until 7.30pm; two members of the public to present a proposal regarding the skate park from 7.35pm until 8.10pm

Start time: 7.20pm

End time: 9.15pm

172. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr D. Bamford, Cllr V. Bolt, Cllr J. Collins, Cllr P. Jenkins and Cllr M. Smith.

173. Public participation session: to hear questions or comments from members of the public (max. 15 mins)

Two residents attended to speak about water troughs on the Ilges Lane allotments; one resident attended regarding planning application P25/S0590/HH.

174. To receive Declarations of Personal or Pecuniary Interest for any agenda items (*note, this does not preclude later declarations*)

There were none.

175. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2025 (Appendix A) and receive update on any Minute items

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2025 and they were signed by Cllr Nixon.

176. To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillors

The District Councillors' report was noted with thanks.

177. To hear a presentation from a local resident proposing further development of the Recreation Ground Skate Park

Two members of the skate park community presented a proposal for further development of the Recreation Ground skate park. The Councillors asked questions and it was agreed to form a working group to investigate the proposal further.

178. To note Clerk's report (verbal), in particular:

a) To discuss next steps in deregistering the Land at Wallingford Road allotments

It was discussed that this land could support approximately 14 full size allotment plots. However it is believed not to have been active as allotments for decades, due to the distance from the village and its location by the bypass at the end of Wallingford Road, which was until recently 60mph. It also does not have a water supply.

It was **resolved** that if deregistering this allotment land is possible, then it will be managed for nature. Deregistering the land will also enable the Parish Council to charge the solar panel company for the access that is being provided across the allotment land to the solar plant.

The Clerk will write to the National Allotment Society to explain the Parish Council's position.

b) To discuss next steps in response to a report by R.Ford on Ancient Local Pathways between Moulsoford and Cholsey

It was **resolved** to support the proposal seeking to restore an ancient path between Moulsoford and Cholsey. It was agreed that this should be taken forward by the Transport Committee, working with Moulsoford Parish Council as appropriate.

c) Annual Community Meeting 2025

Saturday 7th June – the Pavilion hall is available from 11.15AM-12.45PM

It was agreed to form a working group to work on this event. The Clerk will email the Councillors to arrange this.

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179. To note Estate Manager's report (Appendix B)

The Estate Manager's report was noted with thanks.

180. To receive update from the Transport Committee (Cllr Collins)

The Clerk reported that Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) has now put speed limit changes in place, and are in the process of implementing parking restriction changes/line re-painting.

Cllr Collins has recently been informed that OCC intends to design and deliver a puffin crossing on Reading Road in 2025/26, subject to their Accessibility and Road Safety Budget being improved.

Councillors were encouraged to participate in the 'Let's Talk' Consultation for OCC's Wallingford Area LCWIP (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan) which closes on 24th March.

181. Finance

a) To agree response to 2025/2026 grant request for the Cholsey Village CIC (contribution to employment of Children's Centre staff)

It was **resolved** to make a grant of £22,000 to the Cholsey Village CIC towards the continued operation of the Happy Hub Children's Centre.

b) To agree response to 2025/2026 grant request for the Cholsey Village CIC (contribution to Fun in the Park Summer 2025)

It was **resolved** to make a grant of £1500 to the Cholsey Village CIC towards Fun in the Park 2025.

c) To approve new payments and note payments received (Appendix C)

The payments were approved and signed by Cllrs Ofield and Schäfer.

182. To consider new planning applications and planning amendments at 13th March 2025

P25/S0590/HH	Demolition of garage. Two storey front extension, two storey side extension, second storey rear extension, 76 Station Road It was resolved to make the following comment: This is a significant increase in comparison to the existing property and removes a garage. Policies to address: CNP H7. It is noted that the plan includes an EV charging point. The Parish Council has also noted the neighbour's comments (74 Station Road) and wishes to support these.
P25/S0599/HH	Demolition of garden storage room. Side and rear extensions, ground and first floor. Rear garden outbuilding, 41 West End It was resolved to make the following comment: This is a significant increase in comparison to the existing property and includes what appears to be a gym in the rear of property. Policies to address: CNP H7, including requirement for EV charging point for side extension CNP para 149.
P25/S0711/S73	Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) on planning application P24/S1858/HH to reduce the overall floor area; to allow retention of more of the existing building, 8 Rowland Road It was resolved to make the following comment: The application has been amended to reduce the footprint in comparison to the original dwelling. Councillors note that this application has been amended several times and should be closely monitored to ensure adherence to any approval. Policies to address: CNP H7.

183. To note South Oxfordshire District Council planning decisions as at 13th March 2025

P25/S0213/HH	Single storey extension to the rear of recently approved side extension (P24/S2602/HH), 29 Papist Way Granted by SODC
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184. Items for report or inclusion on next agenda

Recent primary school visits re. neighbourhood planning (Cllr Pomlett)

Neighbourhood Plan working group in place (Cllr Pomlett, Cllr Schäfer, two residents with planning expertise)

185. To confirm the date of next Full Council meeting – Wednesday 16th April 2025, 7.15pm, Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey