MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 28th September 2026
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

Councillors Present:	**Roger Tyers (Chair), Kate Carter-Windle, Graham Cox**
In Attendance:	**Councillor Dave Jackson**
Public:	**1**
Clerk:	**Annette Fowler**

N.B. This is the rescheduled meeting that was due to be held on the 21st September.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
Prior to the council meeting commencing there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to make comments and to ask questions of the Parish Council.

A resident asked about plans for parking at the Fox. See Cllr Jackson report below. There was a post on FB to say that the Fox had been told to clear the hedges to enable parking and to keep cars off the road.

1869 **To receive apologies for absence**
Cllr McRobie and Cllr Graham

1870 **Declarations of Interest**
To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct (and section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992).
There were none.

1871 **Minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes from the meeting held on 20th July 2026 were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers

1872 **Reports from District and County Councillors** - Full reports can be found on the PC website www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org

Dave Jackson –
In my role as a volunteer "super user" I marked and scheduled the action on Fix My Street for 112 loose or missing kerbstones both in Middle Barton and Sandford St Martin. Once again, the contractor started to do the repairs straight away. In most locations it was a few stones, but they also re-aligned a long length of 19 collapsed stones near 22 Holliers Crescent.

Signed .....

Date.....

I was asked by a resident on the corner of Rectory Crescent to enquire about a replacement street sign. My enquiries told me that usually such a request goes through the parish council, but I was kindly told that the request could go straight to the right person at WODC. They even suggested that we could have two at either side of the junction of Rectory Crescent and Woodway Road.

A resident at 25 Church Lane has asked if a big "Keep Clear" sign could be put on the road at the top of their drive (which serves three houses), to dissuade parents obstructing the drive. This would be identical to the two other markings further up Church Lane. I have entered the request on Fix My Street.

A resident in Mill Lane, overlooking the ford, asked me to find out what is happening about the unsightly temporary red fencing on the footbridge. I messaged Chris Grain, the OCC Highways officer, and he has contacted the bridges team to get an update.

I had a chat with Roger Tyers (Chair SBPC) on various matters, and I suggested that I should ask the WODC road sweeping team to come at half term to sweep certain roads where the drains are critical to prevent flooding of properties. In our parish this includes by school (hence half term) and Kiddington Road / Fox Lane.

The news that the Government has postponed the introduction of Local Government Reorganisation means there will be no "Shadow Unitary" elections next May. It also puts a spanner in the works of my desire to see out the demise of WODC in 2028. I will have to consider my options in due course!

1873 **Village Matters**

a) ANPR – Cllr Tyers - Julia Manley from Thames Valley Police has looked at 3 locations which she considered suitable and said they could move the camera periodically. I suggested a central location by the AMH to cover both directions along the B4030 plus side view of both Worton Road and Kiddington Road but unfortunately there are no poles available with electricity. She is waiting for our PCSO to complete a report before we can move forward.

b) Evenlode Catchment Partnership email - Cllr Tyers – I have contacted Wild Oxfordshire for an update on when they anticipate a start on the work. Ann Berkley said that work was scheduled to start before the month end, but the date had slipped slightly, so early October.

c) Pluvial flood alleviation measures south of the houses in Church Lane – Cllr Tyers - Everything approved; just waiting for confirmation that the drain under Church Lane has been cleared which is due to happen before the end of the month and for a start date from B A Hull Ltd. The 360 Diggers were delivered to the site on Friday, and I believe work started on site today. The work is scheduled to be completed within approx 10 days.

Signed .....

Date.....

d) Email from resident, 8 Holliers Crescent - tree causing damage to property - two quotes received -
Top Leaf - £250 to remove the tree and £100 for stump grinding
Tree Total - £450 to remove tree and £105 for stump grinding

RESOLVED,

THAT, the quote from Top leaf was approved. The Clerk will contact Top Leaf to arrange a date for removal and will inform the resident.

e) School Transport - The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Graham is assisting missing bus passes.

1874 **Donation request from the Pre-school towards installing air conditioning**

RESOLVED,

THAT, the PC approved a donation of £1,000.

1875 **Donation request from the School towards a new wooden trim trail –**

RESOLVED,

THAT, the PC approved a donation of £500.00

1876 **Donation request from BVMHF towards maintenance of grass cutting equipment** - they have spent the following –
Servicing the small ride on mower and under-sealing it: £250.00
Servicing the tractor and installing a new clutch: £556.10
Repairing the mowing attachment and servicing the petrol strimmer £576.63

RESOLVED,

THAT, the PC approved a donation of £500.00

1877 **Parish Website -** maintenance – new website link is available as well as new email addresses for all Councillors – the Clerk is currently working with Parish Online and will send details as soon as testing is complete.

1878 **Reports**

(a) Highways (Cllr Cox) – gave an update on the condition of some of the Roads and drains in the village –
Church Lane, Hillside Road, Marshall Crescent -– poor condition/potholes, badly need repairing. Previous potholes repaired are now falling apart with holes appearing. There are various deep potholes past the School.

Kiddington Road – the new surface is failing with potholes appearing on edges and in poor condition with a water leak evident. Also, at the last meeting we talked about the possibility of installing a footpath down from the AMH. Cllr Tyers will take this forward.

Signed .....

Date.....

A copy of the report was given to Cllr Jackson as Pothole Superuser. The Clerk will investigate whether the leak on Kiddington Road has been reported.

Drains – most appear to be blocked with leaves/debris on road edges around the village. Clearing of drains is recommended. Cllr Tyers confirmed he had already been in touch with OCC.

Cllr Tyers - 20mph Request for feedback from OCC- Speedwatch – I've spoken to Dave Jackson, and we are going to try and get the 'group' together and get two or three of them trained in setting up the ASWC so that we can start actively doing sessions again.

(b) Drainage and Flood Protection (Cllr Tyers) - You may have noticed we have some smart new signage either side of the Mill Lane Ford, which is helpful, especially the sign on the north side which shows a car falling off a cliff! For the past two and a half years I've been talking to Robin Calver (Team Leader - OCC Structural Engineering) about the Mill Lane Ford and Bridges without much success. Recently, I've re-addressed the situation in part because of the 'Red Plastic Barriers' on the footbridge which has prompted emails from local residents. I've contacted the residents from the Mill House and had a response and last Friday I met Cllr Andy Graham there to look at the various different issues, including the footbridge, the barrier along the culvert, the disgusting culvert itself, the Mill Lane Road surface and the Ford 'berms' which are no longer fit for purpose. I will be writing to Robin Calver and copying Cllr Graham in with a view to getting Robin to come out to site for a meeting. I am also trying to address the use of the Section 106 fund's we are due to be allocated from the Cotswold Motor Museum (formerly The Mullins) and Holliers for "Highway mitigation" in an effort to use some of those funds for Mill Lane, the Culvert and the Ford. This won't happen overnight, but I am determined to give it a really good shot as the whole of that area is disgusting.

1879 **Planning – Both applications were emailed to the Councillors due to the deadline for comments –**

26/02036/HHD - Barton House - Erection of ancillary outbuilding to replace existing timber outbuilding, and associated works – comment to support the application has been posted on the planning portal.

26/02073/FUL - 34 Church Lane – new documents uploaded – The PC posted the same comment made for the first application.

W/26/00939/PRMA - Licensing Application Consultation - The Bartons Memorial Sports & Social Club – No comments to make.

1880 **External Audit - to receive and note the External Auditor's Report**

The Clerk confirmed that the external audit carried out by Moores, with minor comments regarding supplying information in more detail.

1881 **Finance**

(a) Accounts for Payment - To consider and approve accounts for payment -

Signed .....

Date.....

Payments approved via email in August

Payment type	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk salary	Annette Fowler	CONF
BACS	Email hosting	IONOS	£7.20
BACS	3rd grass cut	NR Prickett	£494.40
BACS	Donation to Maintenance of Public toilets at the Sports & Social Club	BVHMF	£2,000.00
D/D	ROSPA Inspection of play equipment at the Sports & Social Club	BVHMF	£123.00
BACS	Traffic mirror cleaning	CTF Window Cleaning	£25.00

September payments to be approved

Payment type	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk salary	Annette Fowler	CONF
BACS	External Audit fee	Moore	£283.50
BACS	New website/email	Parish Online	£300.00
BACS	Microsoft subscription	Annette Fowler	£ 84.99

RESOLVED,

THAT, all payments listed were approved.

The Clerk confirmed that the second Precept payment of £10,780 received on the 17th September.

1882 **To receive items for next agenda**
ANPR
Trees

1883 **For Information only**
Cllr Tyers – commented that Horses are riding along public footpaths. The Clerk will write to the village 'footpath officer' Jenny McCleery to ask her to get some signage put up.

1884 **Date and location of next meeting**
To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 19th October 2026** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at 8.00pm.

Signed .....

Date.....