

Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 10th September 2026

1. Present.

Mrs. Penny Budgen – Chair.
 Mrs. Claire Cable-Alexander.
 Mr. Nicholas Keene.
 Dr. Sarah Stanhope.
 Mr. Alan Woodward.

 Dr. Stephen Fraser – Clerk.
 Mr. Mark Coleman – VofWH Councillor.
 Two members of the general public.

2. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from
 Dr. Dimitrios Hatzis.
 Mr. James Plumb – OCC Councillor.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

These were signed as a true record by the Chair.

4. District Councillor's Report.

This had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Recent changes to the way planning applications process meant that more decisions would be taken by officers rather than the open Planning Committee.

At the moment there were conflicting messages from government as to the delay in implementing a unitary authority. As a result, there would be District elections in May 2027 but it was unclear how long councillors elected then would serve (4 years or less depending on an implementation decision.)

Consultation on the next Joint Local Plan was open. **The Clerk to check if an email had been received and if so, circulate.**

5. County Councillor's Report.

This had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The County Council is in the process of consulting parishes on the implementation of 20mph speed limits and also asking for additional areas to be considered. As residents of Abingdon Road had as requested that their application be re-submitted, **the Clerk to respond requesting Abingdon Road be re-evaluated.**

6. David Wilson Homes Development.

Mrs. Budgen reported that the archaeology survey was proceeding at the moment.

DWH had been informed that the possible electricity power route from Appleton to the site along village roads was unacceptable and another route should be sought. The final decision may lie, however, with SSE, the service provider.

It was noted that the supply route for the cables from the Cearn Solar Farm avoided the village roads and would go to Appleton and on to Farmoor where a new substation would be built. It seemed sensible to use the same route for DWH.

7. Proposed Hills Quarry.

As mentioned in Councillor Plumb's report, Mary Hudson would soon return from maternity leave and was expected to resume as the case officer. A response was still awaited from Hills.

A member of the public stated that he believed Tubney House was now sold subject to contract and was concerned that the adjacent field might be offered as additional quarry land or possibly a Traveller Site. Further information would be sought by all parties.

8. Community Outdoor Space.

This was deferred until the next meeting when Dr. Hatzis and Tobe Daley would be present. The council needed to prepare a proposal for how an allotment would be used.

9. Produce Show.

The produce show had been a successful event despite the weather limiting the availability of fresh produce. A total of £472.00 had been donated to Child Line with a similar amount going towards the Church Community Space.

10. Tubney Defibrillator.

The Clerk had costed a defibrillator and cabinet to the same design as the Fyfield device for compatibility of pads and battery. With initial consumables, this was currently £2,055.00. He had emailed the residents of Jubilee Cottage to obtain a quote for the installation of an electricity supply and the wiring of the cabinet. Once this was obtained, it would be circulated.

It was **resolved** to purchase the defibrillator and cabinet once an agreed quotation had been received.

11. Underpass Signage.

The signage on the underpass warning cyclists and walkers to be aware of each other had been vandalised. Replacement signs had been sourced and the signs would be mounted soon on metal poles with vandal proof screws.

12. COMET Bus Grant.

The Clerk had not received a request for support of the COMET bus service to date. Mr. Keene stated that the service had been forced to move to Tuesdays but there was concern that the current usage made the provision unviable. He anticipated a decision would be made this month and a request for a support grant would follow.

13. Parish Council Web Site.

The Clerk stated that though he was happy to publish those pages for which he had a statutory responsibility, such as minutes and financial information, he was concerned that other information reflected council's opinion, not his own. He requested that a councillor have responsibility for supplying text and photographs for the news and events pages. Dr. Stanhope volunteered to take on this role.

14. Cearn Solar Farm Consultation.

A letter and brochure had been circulated to council. The letter invited a representative of council to attend a design workshop. Dr. Hatzis, possibly accompanied by Mrs. Budgen, would attend.

15. Planning.

The following applications have been returned Supported.

- P26/V0713/LDE – Firs Cottage Fyfield
- P26/V0679/LB – Tubney Warren Barn
- P26/V2118/HH 23 Digging Lane Fyfield
- P26/V2609/FUL Unit G2 Kingston Business Park
- P25/V2598/FUL Westbury House, Fyfield Wick

No decision had been taken as regards the Dog Walking field. District was waiting for information from the Environment Agency.

Mrs. Budgen and the Clerk had received correspondence from a Sunday Telegraph journalist implying that there had been building activity prior to P25/V2598/FUL and was keen that the council raised the issue with the planning authorities. Following discussion with the District Councillor and amongst council, it was decided that **the Clerk respond indicating that any member of the public could raise a query and that the journalist should approach the Press Office in the first instance.**

16. Finance.

The current balance of accounts was as follows:

• Precept Account brought forward.	£17,829.54
• Payments Out:	
• Dataprint 3337 Fyfield PC	£100.80
• Dataprint 3338 Fyfield PC	£138.00
• KB&S News 2632	£35.00
• David MacElvogue – F&TPC MAINT	£275.00
• Dataprint 3354	£158.00
• Dataprint 3359	£58.00
• David MacElvogue – Big Art Banners 000070783	£86.52
• Dataprint 3365	£184.80
• KB&S News 2641	£40.00
• Oxford Cow – Inv-0191	£190.00
• Sarah Stanhope – Prod Show 1	£16.57
• Sara Stanhope – Prod Show 2	£51.82
• J E Jolly – Tubney Churchyard	£250.00
• Appleton Gelato – Inv 16	£45.00
• Sarah Stanhope – Prod Show 3	£28.96
• Fee for cheque transfer of Nat West monies	£0.80
• David MacElvogue – Big Art Banners 000070783 – VAT & Postage	£41.30
• Dataprint 3371	£177.60
• Mrs P Budgen – Produce Show Rosettes	£52.51
• Dataprint 3379 Fyfield PC	£57.60
• Dr S. Fraser - Childline Donation	£472.00

• Fee for Cash Deposit	£2.29
• Payments In:	
• Interest	£26.30
• Produce Show Cash Receipts	£472.25
• Interest	£27.21
• Precept 2nd Instalment	£5,500.00
• Available Precept	£21,392.73
• CIL Account brought forward.	£15,290.90
• Available CIL	£15,290.90

The Clerk had moved all monies from the NatWest account by cheque which incurred a small fee, as did the paying in of the Produce Show cash. Against this, the moneys moved to the savings account had accrued considerably more in interest payments.

17. **Adoption of Internet Banking.**

The use of internet banking to pay debts had raised two issues

Firstly, when a payment is created, it appears to be with a payment date of the creation date. It must be authorised by a second user before midnight that day or the payment just vanishes without being actioned. It is important that the second authoriser is available at relatively short notice. To this end, we need a third user of internet banking.

Dr Stanhope volunteered to be that third user. **The Clerk to set Dr. Stanhope up as a user.**

Secondly, some payments still required access to a bank card. Payment to NSPCC required a debit card transaction which meant passing the transaction through a personal account. The same applies to the regular annual payments for web services. A debit card on the current account would not be subject to second party authorisation. With this in mind, it was **resolved** that the Clerk should apply for a Debit Card so that such payments could be made directly.

18. **AOB.**

Mr. Woodward reported that the Coach Road was getting progressively more overgrown. Previous attempts to get the vegetation removed had proved unsuccessful. **Mr. Woodward would report the issue on Fix My Street along with photographs.**

Mr. Woodward also stated that the new 50mph covering the dual carriageway in Tubney Wood was being ignored. He felt that larger signage was required **and would submit a Fix My Street report.**

Mr. Budgen requested that the **Clerk submit another Fix My Street report concerning the vanishing arrow at the Fyfield turn on the A420**

The Clerk to also submit a Fix My Street for the clearance of weeds from the Fyfield Main Road pavements.

There being no further items, the Chair closed the meeting at 8:55pm.

Next Meeting Thursday 12th November 2026.