

Minutes of Blunsdon's Fifth Parish Council Meeting of 2026/27 was held on **Monday 15th June 2026** at 7.30pm. This meeting was held at Blunsdon Village Hall.

Cllr Members Present: Ian Jankinson (IJ), Peter Hughes (PH), Paul Weston (PW), Sandra Keates (SK), Lesley Elliot (LE), Vanessa Boyd (VB) & Hazel Wakefield (HW)

Ward Councilors Present: None

Members of Public: One

Officers: Debbie Braiden (Clerk) Claire Boles (Deputy Clerk) & Kate Egan (Finance Officer) virtually attending from 8 pm.

26/54 APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received and accepted from Ian Selwood (IS) and Jo Barnett (JB)

Cllr Nick Gardiner (NG) did not respond to the meeting invite.

26/55 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

1 Cllr Weston signed his Declaration of Acceptance to office. It was noted Cllr Gardiner will have to sign at the next meeting on 6TH July.

2 No interests were declared.

3 No written requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

26/56 RECESS – One member of the public raised concerns that the new air conditioning units outside the community building are unsecured at floor level. It was suggested that they should be wall-mounted or fixed to a base on the ground and, if necessary, caged to prevent tampering. The member of the public also asked that the broken wooden bollard removed from the Ermin Street pathway be reported to SBC for replacement; the D/Clerk confirmed this had already been done. He asked for a follow up regarding his previous request for a 20mph speed restriction on Kingsdown Lane due to concerns about risks to children walking in the area. Although small 30mph signs are displayed, they are obscured by hedges, and traffic was reported to be travelling at around 50mph. IJ confirmed that the request had been passed to Ward Councillor Nick Gardiner.

The replacement post at Ermin Street was on the project list. D/Clerk to check with Oliver.

IJ introduced the new councillors to the group.

26/57 MINUTES

- 1) **1. MINUTES** The draft minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on **11th May 2026:**

RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Hughes & seconded by Cllr Keates. All agreed they be accepted as a true record and the minutes were **approved** and signed by Cllr Jankinson

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2. The Full Council action points for the above Full Council meeting were reviewed on the 1st of June; only NEW action points have been added to this meeting.

For 2026 Initials:

- **Ongoing** – Items outside the control of BPC, awaiting update.
- **In Progress** – BPC actions in progress.
- **Complete** – Action completed; item to be removed from the list.

No	COUNCIL ACTIONS	Assigned to:	Status:
1	Community Building Car Charger: Charger installed, await fixing of rubber and bolt. 11/5 SK to chase • Air Con quote Great Indoors - to obtain further servicing costs following first year. • Quote received from Shop Electrician for installation of AC. • Once AC installed, the Council to issue an invoice to the shop management. • PLI from BREEVES received. Place PO for the pavers to be re-sanded. • To get quotes for timber treatment in outside porch area by entrance doors. Last reviewed 1.6.26	Cllr Keates & Clerk	Ongoing
2	Water Seepage: bend at Front Lane & Back Lane. Reported to Thames Water twice and SBC Cllr Gardiner to invite an officer from Highways to visit. IS raised concerns of inclement & freezing weather approaching which will create ice in this area. 2/2/26 Agreed annual occurrence, currently dangerous due to icy conditions. Clerk contacted Cllr Weisinger. POST MEETING NOTE: Emailed received from Cllr Weisinger a case has been raised with SBC. Report on JADU system with photos JADU Ref: E38045 (Front Lane 20/5) JADU Ref: E38308 (Back Lane 20/5) Last reviewed 1.6.26	D/Clerk	Ongoing
3	High Street Path repairs: 1/6 Highways response HighwayMaintenance@swindon.gov.uk Report E37695 for the pavement opposite 76 High Street, inspection carried out and a job has been raised. Last reviewed 1.6.26	PH D/Clerk	Ongoing
4	MUGA - Hyundai sweeper: 1/6 Training complete, it works well but IJ to speak with Hyundai re accelerator cable as when brush engages it slows the sweeper down which is not correct. Wi-Fi- Update – PC missed the first date – awaiting a new date from contractor to fit Starlink. PAGE 298 Gate Access controls: Christys and Banham will do install in June; Wi-Fi needs to be set up ready before	IJ Clerk D/Clerk Cllr Keates D/Clerk	In Progress In Progress In Progress In Progress

	confirming date. Electric Car Charging points – Osprey/Zest declined. SK to contact Charge My Street to see if they are interested in supplying units. To investigate RING system for CCTV Last reviewed 1.6.26		
5	Community Building: Quotation required for pipe lagging in roof due to condensation build up. Last reviewed 1.6.26	Clerk	
ACTIONS UNDER REVIEW			
6	Traffic/footpaths: SBC expect an increase in funding for cycling & walking schemes. We want the footpaths to be improved for the school and the surgery. Also see AP no. 4 of 1/12/25. An update was provided to IJ to say SBC would allow access to S106 funds for pathways to school, bus stop etc to help with the 80 new homes project currently being reviewed. 2/2/26 IJ emailed SBC manager – no progress to report. 11/5 No updates provided so far awaiting traffic data. 1/6 IJ to chase – CWIP - IS confirmed path resurfacing maybe preparation to adopt? No pathway from village to surgery – NG may be able to assist as now on Highways & Transport committee. Last reviewed 1.6.26	Cllr Jankinson	Ongoing
7	Kingsdown Development: S106 form still to be signed. Current Reserve Matters Plan is not acceptable. 2/2/26 SBC, Tim Thomas and team are still to provide updates. 11/5 Update in April – Reference Reg 19 will be in August C/F 1/6 No reply received IJ wrote to Tim Thomas to confirm, is S106 signed, as there is activity around the development site. 2015 Local Plan, Persimmon and Primegate to fund infrastructure for 1650 houses. This was agreed in principle with Borough & Developers, but document has not been signed. Last reviewed 1.6.26	Cllr Jankinson	Ongoing
8	High Street: The road mirror at the methodist church has lost its reflective coating and will need replacement, IJ to consult with Highways. PAGE 299	IJ	Ongoing
9	Ermin Street:	Clerk	New

	IJ asked Clerk to check if we have received the maintenance schedule from Oliver. IJ asked Clerk to check we have a maintenance fund from the EMR, this should be used to cover the 15-year maintenance programme. IJ confirmed we had agreed to cover 10 years of maintenance of the wildflower maintenance including watering, cutting and seed collection using the funds from the Ermin Street project. The tender for this should show our costs in two parts: GM and Ermin Steet (Oliver) IJ requested that the D/Clerk report dumping of go-kart on Ermin Street. Clerk to confirm for IJ how much is left of the Ermin Street funds to do work on reducing traffic on Ermin Street. IJ asked Clerk to contact Oliver for an update on costings on services so far, we are working retrospectively so need to be kept informed, this is in relation to the supply of a bench and the information board.		
10	Santander – Send a letter to the bank and request closure of account and return of funds via cheque to the Chairman's address for safe delivery.	Clerk	NEW
11	BFC under 7's matches require storage of goals. IJ to speak to BFC at the next BFC meeting regarding spectators' areas.	IJ	NEW
12	Pavilion refurb quotes IJ to obtain 3 non-prejudice quotes to give approx. cost of refurb before putting out tender.	IJ	NEW
	Update on lease with SBC	Clerk	
13	SIDS Update from SBC on supply of SIDS locations	Clerk	NEW
DEFERRED ACTIONS			
	Pavilion – electrical jobs – on hold 1) Pavilion Electrical Building Safety Test Certificate. 2/2/26 JT investigated this – few issues arose and on hold. PAGE 300	Clerk	ON HOLD

	2) Pavilion – PAT testing for appliances. 2/2/26 Cllr Tayler liaising with BFC to remove all own goods that do not require PAT testing first. Clerk to ask Cricket Club.		
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26/58 PLANNING

1) To receive and note planning decisions advised by Swindon BC

S/TWC/26/0492 - DECISION NOTICE. Site: Works to trees within a Conservation Area. At: The Limes, 49 High Street, Blunsdon, Swindon - SBC approved.

2) To consider and agree comments upon new applications deposited from Swindon Borough Council for comment listed:

Application Ref: S/HOU/26/0562

Description: Erection of a two-storey side/rear extension and associated works.

Site Address: Streetside, Front Lane, Blunsdon Swindon SN26 7BJ

Extension granted to 16th June.

Comments: It was noted that no comments had been received from the neighbouring property. BPC has no valid objections but subject to the approval from the conservation's officers report.

3) To receive planning correspondence

None.

26/59 FINANCE – The RFO joined the meeting by Teams from 8pm to 8.30pm

- 1) All received and **approved** the current budget to 31/05/26.
- 2) All received the Finance Officer's budget report; members **approved** delegated authority to Clerk and RFO to make changes as the report suggested to clearly identify funds. Also, the same authority to split the budget between facilities based on the previous year's figures already entered on to Rialtas for the 26/27 budget.
- 3) **All approved** invoices paid and listed in Batch 3 (see attached appendix a). It was agreed that the invoice for the Air Conditioning units although authorised, should not be paid until the installation had been completed/approved. Clerk to send SK the specification to check the installation details. The RFO confirmed that the 50% contribution from the Shop for the purchase of the air conditioning units had been received.
- 4) **All approved** for the payments list of invoices in Batch 4, with the addition of two expenses claims, one for the Clerk & one for Russell, that were added manually to the report and signed by the Chair (see attached appendix b)

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- 5) **All approved** income of £6792.00 received during May
- 6) **All approved** training for new councillors online with WALC £16 per person (x4)
- 7) **All approved** bank reconciliations to 31/5/26 for the current and operations accounts.

- 8) **All approved** a transfer of £40k from Current Account to the 35 Day account to gain interest.
- 9) **Bank Account Closure – Santander**
It was **resolved** to send a letter signed by all three signatories (IJ, DB & CB) to Santander to close the Parish Council's savings account and request that the remaining balance be issued as a cheque noting current funds is £93,777.75, as at statement number 06/2026 in Santander account ****2523, 09-01-28.
The cheque to be made payable to Blunsdon Parish Council and for safety reasons, **sent direct to the Chairman's home address**, 37 High Street, Blunsdon SN26 7AG, as the post box at the parish office is remote.

26/60 POLICIES

- 1) Co-option Policy to be amended to include a buddy scheme so that each new councillor is allocated an existing member to assist with training / questions etc. IJ & Clerk will make allocations and advise at next meeting.

26/61 PROJECTS/FACILITIES

To receive updates, to discuss and to approve next steps for matters raised for the following:

- 1) **MUGA –**
- Banham have a proposed install date for July, subject to Christys agreeing a date for their electrical work. IJ requested that D/Clerk speaks to Banham about CCTV bolt on to Paxton System.
 - DB updated all on the delay with the Wi-Fi system at the MUGA due to a mix-up on the Bank Holiday and the IT contractor instructed not being available – Clerk to chase as a matter of urgency.
 - IJ will provide a video to Hyundai regarding the road sweeper for further advice on the clutch/running issue.
 - BFC have approached IJ regarding storing of smaller goals at the MUGA for under 7's matches. IJ will respond to BFC on this matter at the next BFC meeting and discuss their thoughts on spectator's view and suitable areas.
 - Jim Tayler to meet the Clerk on site to turn on the water to the office building.
- 2) **ERMIN STREET –**
- **All approved** retrospective purchase of £30 for tree guards.

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- IJ asked Clerk to check if we have received the maintenance schedule from Oliver.
- IJ asked Clerk to check we have a maintenance fund from the EMR, this should be used to cover the 10-year maintenance programme, £30k from SBC funding for tree maintenance & watering.
- IJ confirmed we had agreed to cover 10 years of maintenance of the wildflower area including cutting and seed collection using the EMR funds from the Ermin

Street project to create a new £20k EMR for maintenance of Ermin Street. The future tendering for this should show our costs in two parts: GM and Ermin Street (Oliver).

- IJ requested that the D/Clerk report dumping of go-kart on Ermin Street.
- Clerk to confirm to IJ how much is left of the Ermin Street EMR to do work on reducing traffic on Ermin Street.
- IJ asked Clerk to contact Oliver for an update on his costings on services so far, we are working retrospectively so need to be kept informed, this is in relation to the supply of a bench and the information board.
- IJ confirmed that all verges with new planting on Ermin Street were being cut only 75cm maximum as instructed by the Project Manager. This will allow all the newly planted wildflowers time to populate.
- Clerk to arrange meeting with IS, Oliver & IJ to cover all the matters of concern.

3) **CEMETERY DIGITALISING –**

- a) An update for the new system – c/f to next meeting
- b) To approve purchase of leaf blower – c/f to next meeting
- c) The signing of EROB was carried out by the Chair as requested by D/Clerk.
- d) The application for non-resident cremation plot, under the name of 'Tuck' was **approved** by all. The family have two other graves in the cemetery; there is a named family home 'Tuck Cottage' - sufficient evidence was provided to approve.

4) **PAVILION –**

- The caretaker is currently carrying out ad-hoc cleans during the summer months; IJ requested that the Clerk source quotes from outside cleaners to carry out winter cleaning after matches.
- IJ stated that the building was built in 1970s and not DDA compliant, no disabled access or toilet. BFC asked if the Parish Council would lease the building to them and in turn, they would be able to obtain refurbishing funding through the FA. IJ confirmed that the lease with SBC will not allow BPC to sublet the lease to BFC. If SBC agreed for the lease to be transferred to BFC that further discussions would be required to cover all aspects before agreeing. Clerk to enquire to SBC on options for the lease.

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- IJ to contact 3 builders for non-prejudice quotes to get an idea of overall costs for the whole project before putting out to tender.
- Options - Part or Full Refurb depending on funds or ask SBC for permission to sublease to BFC who can then claim funding.

5) **EMAIL CHANGEOVER – c/forward to next meeting**

- 6) **SIDS –** PH has provided locations of proposed sites and photos to confirm. Clerk to submit details to SBC/Highways together with any reports on traffic surveys done over the last year. SID data is automatically shared with the police, and BPC can then share with Highways. IJ shared data that there was a 30% increase in traffic

from 2021-2026 on Blunsdon Hill. Two portable speed devices are required. Clerk to contact Julie Ferneval, Senior Traffic Engineer at SBC.

SK would be liaising with NG regarding the crossing in Sams Lane. Section 106 funds were allocated for speed restriction including a raised table at that crossing.

- 7) **CHURCH YARD** – IJ confirmed responsibility of maintenance for the churchyard rests with the Parish Council. However, responsibility for memorials remained with the PCC Church Wardens but as the PC has a trained member of staff, we are happy to collaborate with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) with this.
- 8) **COMMUNITY BUILDING** – SK and Clerk to check spec on fitted Air Conditioning units before making payment.

26/62 CORRESPONDENCE

D/Clerk to contact Plastic Free Swindon for further information on providing a water fountain at the MUGA.

Resident complaint – Ermin Street

- verge cutting on Ermin Street; and
- pavement conditions and pooling water near the Thames Water reservoir.

The D/Clerk will respond to the residents and report the relevant issues to SBC.

26/63 PARISH MATTERS

HW asked if BPC have any insurance in place to cover Golden Gatherings outings. IJ said there was no insurance to his knowledge, transport insurance should be from Dial A ride, and shops/cafes would provide insurance while on site.

HW asked whether BPC has a volunteer pool for parish jobs. IJ said this had not previously been considered and asked HW to research and report back.

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LE asked to remain in contact with Gerry Prodohl regarding Rivan, as he is a useful contact to keep informed of developments. IJ agreed.

IJ confirmed the BPC wish to fully support Hannington PC in response to the Burytown Lane proposed development addition to the emerging Local Plan. This would be confirmed in the parish magazine; the Clerk should also inform SBC planning department to confirm that BPC wish to be consulted with this application alongside Hannington.

IJ requested that the Clerk respond to Raw Research who carry out government investment in rural communities.

26/64 KEY MESSAGES FOR MAGAZINE/FACEBOOK/WEB

JB to submit Rivan update to magazine.



Welcome new Councillors.

26/65 CLOSE & SUMMONS TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING

The next Full Council Meeting to be held on Monday 6th July.

The next Finance Meeting to be held on Monday 20th July.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

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Signed by Chairman Monday 20th July 2026

APPENDIX A – Batch 3 invoices

Invoice Date	Beneficiary	Purpose of Expenditure	Invoice No	VAT)	Rialtas Code	Pi
Invoices						
Sunday, May 24, 2026	Ab-Fab Loos Ltd	Site toilet consumables and weekly service	59306	127.20	4170/340	
Thursday, May 7, 2026	Allbuild - Building & Landscaping Services	Various Maintenance	3545	3,627.00	various	
Thursday, May 7, 2026	Allbuild - Building & Landscaping Services	Collection of waste from recreation ground	3549	72.00	4135/300	
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Claire Boles	Salary - May		1324.50		
Friday, May 15, 2026	Cotswold Tree Surgeons	Tree works at the Churchyard	1804	1380.00	4118/401	
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Darwin Ecology	Bat survey at the Pavillion	11922	784.80	EMR 321	
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Debbie Braiden	Salary - May		1924.03		
Tuesday, May 12, 2026	ESS Group Services	Padlock	74218	16.68	5020/200	
Tuesday, May 19, 2026	ESS Group Services	Signs	74256	20.40		
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Karen Collins	Wages - May		587.30		
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Kate Egan	Salary - May		991.31		
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Russell Wilson	Wages - May		444.80		
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Swindon Dial a Ride	Golden Gatherings	13453	65.00	EMR 340	
Wednesday, May 27, 2026	Wiltshire Pension	Pension contribution May		1164.94		
#####	PPL PRS	Annual Music Licence	SIN3304877	1,583.61	4125/200	
Total Payments				£14,113.57		

APPENDIX B – Batch 4 invoices

Blunsdon Parish Council Batch Payments 2026-2027

BATCH 4

Invoice Date	Beneficiary	Purpose of Expenditure	Invoice No	Amount (Including VAT)	Rialtas Code
Invoices					
31-May-26	Hayley Seagroatt	Cleaning of the Village Hall	60	630.00	5015/200
28-May-26	Stand-Out Window Cleaning Services	Window Cleaning	282	150.00	5030/200
14-May-26	Parish On-line	Parish Online Mapping	10	270.00	4113/100
Sunday, May 31, 2026	ESS Group Services	Barrel Bolt	74336	17.94	2020/200
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Swindon Dial A Ride	Golden Gatherings	13460	65.00	EMR 340
Sunday, May 31, 2026	Hills Waste Solution Ltd	Collection of waste	P1045814	172.53	5200/200
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Kate Egan	Expenses - ink cartridge		34.99	4055/100