

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting at the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Seventh Meeting of 2026-27 - Finance	Monday 20th July 2026
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Cllr Members Present: Ian Jankinson (IJ), Ian Selwood (IS) Jo Barnett (JB), Lesley Elliot (LE), Kingsley Poulton (KP), Vanessa Boyd (VB) & Hazel Wakefield (HW)

Ward Councilors Present: Nick Gardiner (NG)

Members of Public: One

Officers: Debbie Braiden (Clerk) Claire Boles (Deputy Clerk)

Minute Ref No.	MINUTES
26/78	APOLOGIES: Accepted from Peter Hughes (PH), Paul Weston (PW) & Sandra Keates (SK)
26/79	DECLARATIONS – INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS 1. No declarations of interest from councillors for items on the agenda. 2. No written requests prior to the meeting for dispensations of disclosable pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests. (<i>As required by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members and the Localism Act 2011</i>). 3. No dispensations received.
26/80	To note and confirm list of councillor buddies: Lesley with Kingsley, Jo with Ian S, Hazel with Sandra & Vanessa with Nick. All were happy with their partnering.
26/81	PUBLIC RECESS 1. Report from the Ward Councillor: Update from the SBC planning meeting were provided, confirming that the application for the 19 Homes has been approved although not all concerns raised by him were addressed. The 5 Homes at Kingsdown were also approved, noting that the builder stated that this application should not be based on concerns relating to the planning application for 1500 homes. 2. Recess – One member of the public spoke and shared concerns over the last SBC planning committee meeting where only one original person was present, all others were new to the committee and there appeared to be no solicitor present. An office chair has been dumped on High Street near Skylark. The saplings behind the care home need cutting back. The tree that has been cut at the Rec may need additional cutting. A litter pick is taking place on 25/7, organised by Ben at RRT (Plymouth Brethren members). Members of the public and Cllrs are encouraged to participate.
26/82.1	MINUTES 1. The draft minutes for the Finance Council Parish meeting held on 15th June 2026, were RESOLVED: Proposed by Cllr Selwood & seconded by Cllr Barnett. All agreed they be accepted as a true record and the minutes were signed by Cllr Jankinson.
26/82.2	2. ACTION POINTS from the above minutes were reviewed below and further actions required approved.
82/2.1	Community Building: Charger installed, await fixing of rubber and bolt.

	Last reviewed 20/7: SK chasing - Air Con quote Great Indoors - to obtain further servicing costs following first year. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk chasing - To get quotes for timber treatment in outside porch area by entrance doors. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk chasing NEW 20/7: – Clerk to purchase the caging equipment for the AC units.
82.2.2	Water Seepage: bend at Front Lane & Back Lane. Reported to Thames Water twice. JADU Ref: E38045 (Front Lane 20/5) JADU Ref: E38308 (Back Lane 20/5) Last reviewed 20/7: IS reported that the water seepage issue has deteriorated further since the last inspection. Thames Water were on site mid-July, but no repair was carried out. IS to provide updated photographs to NG as the affected area has now doubled in size. NG to contact SBC to request a water sample check.
82.2.3	High Street Path Repairs: Pavement opp 76 High Street, reported E37695 Last reviewed 20/7: NG to chase and ask if it has been included in the repair cycle.
82.2.4	MUGA: - Wi-Fi installation: Last reviewed 20/7, install done but hanging wires to be fixed before invoice paid. NG to chase. Suggested Ferndale aerials to fix. - Gate Access controls: Last reviewed 20/7, Banham to return on 4th August to complete. - Electric Car Charging points: SK to contact Charge My Street to see if they are interested in supplying units. Last reviewed 20/7: IJ in Contact with BE.EV - RING system for CCTV once all Gate access and Wifi complete
82.2.5	Community Building: Quotation required for pipe lagging in roof due to condensation build up. Last reviewed 20/7: Quote approved from Robert Heath £1048.08. Noted: No other quotes received from 4 other contractors.
82.2.6	Traffic/footpaths: SBC expects an increase in funding for cycling and walking schemes. We want the footpaths to be improved for school and the surgery. 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 20/7: IJ informed IJ informed all, we have traffic data and are awaiting discussion with Highways about the Amey consultation report and possible Highways adaptation. LCWIP In North Swindon, the scope would focus on upgrading links between Blunsdon and the Tadpole Garden Village and Abbey Farm developments rather than concentrating wholly on the Tadpole Garden Village development, which was the remit of the original plan.
82.2.7	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 20/7: A compromise 17% affordable housing model was agreed to be run with the adjustments. This resulted in a shortfall in the residual land value relative to the target benchmark value. The Applicant, it is understood, is offering the 17% affordable housing with

	the £17.4m s106 package which exceeds the viability based available package. In conclusion the recommended viability driven scheme is sub 17% affordable housing with a S106 budget of £17,403,634. The Applicant considers it important to deliver affordable housing on site so has offered on a without prejudice basis to maintain the 17% affordable housing offer.
82.2.8	High Street: The road mirror at the methodist church has lost its reflective coating and will need replacement and fixed to existing post. Last reviewed 20/7 IJ suggested 18" road mirror to be purchased to replace existing broken one. To be aligned to improve safety of sharp bend outside ex Methodist Church when turning into Pontings Close. IJ confirmed Highways would not object to a replacement mirror. Approved for Clerk to purchase. NEW 20/7: There is an exposed drain near the sewage pump by The Copse near Burytown Lane, this was historically connected to Thames Water. Clerk to notify TWA.
82.2.9	Ermin Street: - IJ asked Clerk to check if we have received the maintenance schedule from Oliver. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk to arrange GM meeting to discuss - IJ asked Clerk to check we have a maintenance fund from the EMR, this should be used to cover the 15-year maintenance programme. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk to confirm after GM meeting - 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) Last reviewed 20/7: Oliver reported that approximately 80% of small trees would not survive due to hot weather. Clerk to arrange GM meeting to discuss - Clerk to confirm to IJ how much is left of the Ermin Street funds to do work on reducing traffic on Ermin Street. Clerk confirmed £129k (includes the £30k) Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk to confirm after GM meeting - 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. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk to confirm after GM meeting NEW 20/7 – Clerk to arrange a GM on site meeting.
82.2.10	BFC under 7s matches require storage of goals & posts at the MUGA. IJ to speak to BFC at the next BFC meeting regarding spectators' areas. Last reviewed 20/7: Clerk to arrange BFC meeting to discuss
82.2.11	Pavilion: Refurb quotes: Clerk to obtain 3 <u>non-prejudice</u> quotes to give approx. cost of refurb before putting out tender. Last reviewed 20/7: Kelly's currently collating info to send to contractors. Pavilion lease update required from SBC. Clerk has contacted SBC, but no reply has been received. Last reviewed 20/7: C/Forward
82.2.12	SIDS Update from SBC on supply of SIDS locations. Last reviewed 20/7: C/Forward - to ask Julie F to come to the village.
82.2.13	NEW ACTIONS from this meeting; Clerk to arrange a Staffing meeting to review RFO contract and 3-month review stage. Clerk to purchase equipment for caretaker & PPE Clerk to purchase Notice board for cemetery
82.2.14	DEFERRED ACTIONS Pavilion – electrical jobs – on hold Pavilion Electrical Building Safety Test Certificate. 2/2/26 JT investigated this – few

	issues arose and on hold. 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.
82.2.15	CLOSED ACTIONS from this meeting: Community Building: Quote received from Shop Electrician for installation of AC. Once the 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. 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. 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. Ermin Street: IJ requested that the D/Clerk report dumping of go-kart on Ermin Street.
26/83	PLANNING 1. To receive and note planning decisions by Swindon BC GRANTED - S/HOU/26/0562/BURGESS Erection of a two-storey side/rear extension and associated works Site Address: Streetside, Front Lane Blunsdon Swindon SN26 7BJ GRANTED - S/HOU/26/0603/WOODCL Erection of detached garage to rear garden. Site Address: Land Adjacent to Fairview Plot 3, Kingsdown Lane, Blunsdon Swindon SN25 5DL 2. To consider and agree comments upon NEW applications deposited from Swindon Borough Council for comment listed: NONE 3. To receive and discuss Planning Correspondence SBC advised on 20.7.26 the breach of planning on application EN/25/0003 at Coome Rise, Broadbush, Blunsdon SN25 7DH. A discharge of condition application was approved under S/COND/25/0560 on 14.7.25, the granting of this condition means that there is no longer a breach of planning control. 4. SBC Planning Committee Meetings – To discuss any upcoming applications going to committee. Subject: S/25/1072 Proposal: Erection of 1 no. self-build dwelling with associated external works including new driveway off the existing access, erection of garage with home office accommodation. Location: Land Adjacent to Bluebells, Kingsdown Lane, Blunsdon, Swindon Planning Committee meeting was held on 14th July – SBC approved.
26/84	PROJECTS - To receive updates from working groups for the following sites and operations. To approve any further actions required: (note project works will be discussed at the next finance meeting) <u>1 GROUNDS MAINTENANCE</u> – Meeting to be arranged by Clerk for Lee, Oliver, IS & IJ <u>2 ERMIN STREET</u> –

- a. Update for the collection of wildflower seeds & bench project to be discussed at the above meeting.
- b. Quote from GM (1261) for cutting back wildflower with tractor and flail, collect all arisings from areas, collect seeds & dispose of waste. £1950 plus VAT for each cut and collection.
Clerk to obtain clarification if this includes seed collection.
- c. Quote from GM (1261) to cut all hedging along Ermin Street. £1650 plus VAT, to be discussed at the above meeting.

3 CEMETERIES & ALLOTMENTS

- a. All **approved** purchase of a Stihl leaf blower £300, strimmer £367, shears £30 & PPE for caretaker.
- b. All **approved** Burytown Cemetery Regulations 2026.
- c. All **approved** notice periods for grave conditions & memorials:
28 days – general maintenance
14 days – urgent safety issues
Immediate Action – if a memorial is dangerous
- d. All **approved** that: If families do not respond and a memorial remains unsafe, the Council may lay the memorial flat (face up) or cordon it off to secure non-access.
- e. All **agreed** the purchase of an A1 landscape notice board at a max cost of £800, in green and composite material.
- f. It was noted the replacement bench in the cemetery has already been supplied and installed by a local family.
- g. All **approved** the quote for removing the large pile of rubbish from Minerva Allotment to the cemetery skip £95.

4 PAVILION & REC:

- a. No quotes available currently for pavilion refurb without prejudice.
- b. All **approved** quote from Lee (1260) for removing dead wood branches T2 (4 in total).
To remove large unsafe branch from tree T8 and dispose of all arisings. £750 plus vat.

5 MUGA

- a. Update on WIFI installation provided by Clerk, cabling needs to be fixed to building.
- b. Gate Access system install to be completed on 4th August.
- c. Tennis court relining @ £1995 plus vat was **not approved** as no tennis bookings had been received since opening.
- d. Water station at the MUGA was **not approved** due to costings and low demand.
- e.

6 COMMUNITY BUILDING

- a. All **approved** quote for caging in the AC units on side of building @ £725 from Breeves
- b. All **approved** renewal of Gold Service with Daikin @ £399

7 SIDS:

The Clerk has emailed J Furneal for advice and how to approve sites listed in PH email.

26/85

FINANCE, GOVERNANCE & POLICIES – To discuss & approve the following:

1. All **approved** main current bank account reconciliation as £55,215.34. **Appendix A**
2. All **approved** Batch 6 payments list for paying. £2703.75 **Appendix B**
3. Proposed KP & Seconded JB with **All approving** payments for June – Current account £28,175.46, Ops account £345.94 & DDs £453.98 **TOTAL £28,975.38**
4. Proposed KP & Seconded by NG with **All approving** income for June at **£6,754.00 Appendix C**
5. The forming of a Finance Committee was **not approved**.

	6. All approved new members (highlighted) on to the following working groups. Planning: Ian J, Paul W, Sandra K & Lesley E Finance: Ian J, Ian S & Kingsley P Facilities, GM and Health & Safety: Ian J, Kingsley P & Ian S Staffing, Governance & Policy: Ian J, Ian S, Kingsley P & Jo B Transport & Highways: Peter H Broadband: Ian S Education: Ian J Outside Representation Community Building: Sandra K Outside Representation Swindon Local Forums: Ian J Outside Representation Golden Gatherings: Hazel W Outside Representation Rivan Action Group: Lesley E & Jo B 7. 'Terms of Reference' for new Finance Committee was not required. 8. The format for meetings would continue as it is.
26/86	CORRESPONDENCE - To note correspondence received & to receive any post-agenda correspondence. To agree on items raised to be added to the next agenda. (To note, decisions cannot be made on matters raised in this section) • Report of a sink hole opposite the Old Police Station house – NG has reported to SBC as urgent. • Manor Close - road closure 12th – 14th August provisionally • Tracker of conditions for the Rivan development is being kept on file. With thanks to Steph for keeping track of the conditions and making comments with the PC approval.
26/87	EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC – To resolve public exclusion from the next Motion, under subsection 2 of Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960. One member of the public left.
26/88	STAFFING – All approved reduction in hours for Finance Officer from 44 to 38, effective from 1st July 2026.
26/89	PARISH MATTERS: To receive and note all other Parish issues raised as items to be added to the next agenda. AL Newman based in Blunsdon was recommended for removal of allotment waste. The updated local plan, for Reg 19 won't be public until at least 1st August with feedback from consultation in December (6 weeks consultation period). It was noted that a 'Travellers Site', has been included and will be situated in Rose Lane. Clerk confirmed that the PC do not have insurance cover for Golden Gathering events as they are not a sub-group of the PC even with a PC councillor representative. Clerk confirmed that there are 6 outstanding invoices from one Village Hall user with a total of £454 outstanding; these are being actively chased. IJ there is an exposed drain near the sewage pump by The Copse near Burytown Lane, this was historically connected to Thames Water, Clerk to report. HW, there is a raised slab with soil pipe underneath on the Hayfield Estate. It is a current trip hazard, HW to report to Hayfield Estate Management. LE confirmed that the Rivan traffic control is being monitored and acknowledged that the fallen tree in the area was quickly moved by SBC.

	IJ requested that the manual workers' wages be raised at a future meeting. JB reported that the yellow signpost opposite The Church on the triangle verge had been damaged and now only displays Backhouse. Caretaker to make edges safe.
26/90	KEY MESSAGES & MAGAZINE CONTENT: To receive and note all suggestions received as key messages.
26/91	CLOSE OF BUSINESS & NEXT MEETING There being no further business the Chairman declare the meeting closed at 9.45pm. The next FULL COUNCIL meeting will be on Monday 3rd August with the next Finance Meeting to be held on Monday 17th August. Signed by Chairman on Monday 17th August 2026

Appendix A

Date: 02/07/2026	Blunsdon Parish Council Current Year	Page 1
Time: 11:32	Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30/06/2026 for Cashbook 1 - Current Bank A/c	User: KATE

<u>Bank Statement Account Name (s)</u>	<u>Statement Date</u>	<u>Page No</u>	<u>Balances</u>
Current Account	30/06/2026		55,215.34
			<u>55,215.34</u>
<u>Unpresented Payments (Minus)</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			55,215.34
<u>Unpresented Receipts (Plus)</u>			
		0.00	
			<u>0.00</u>
			55,215.34
		Balance per Cash Book is :-	55,215.34
		Difference is :-	0.00

Appendix B

Blunsdon Parish Council

keeping it clean, keeping it safe, keeping it beautiful

Blunsdon Parish Council Batch Payments 2026-2027					
BATCH 6					
Invoice Date	Beneficiary	Purpose of Expenditure	Invoice No	Amount (Including VAT)	Rialtas Code
Invoices					
30-Apr-26	A J Stone Cemetery Services	Cremated remains plot	3421	115.00	5210/100
10-Jul-26	CloudUni (Starlink)	Starlink Installation	5A72E976-0374	300.00	4115/341
10-Jul-26	CloudUni (Starlink)	Monthly payment for broadband	5A72E976-0375	48.00	EMR 327
9-Jul-26	Glasdon	Bench for Ermin Street	590158456	752.46	4115/341
30-Jun-26	Hills	Collection of waste	P1052842	163.94	4119/360
8-May-26	Lincoln Gas	Preparation of trench for water	12248	731.02	EMR 336
10-Jul-26	Saunders Waste Management	Skip for the Cemetery	22905	324.00	5200/200
12-Jun-26	Spot On Supplies	Purchase of mop	12275623	2.02	4140/341
1-Jul-26	Spot on Supplies	Cleaning Products	12277421	135.11	EMR 327
16-Jul-26	Swindon Dial a Ride	Blunsdon Golden Gatherings	13491	65.00	5200/400
29-Jun-26	WALC	Training course for Councillors	1292	67.20	4051/200
Total Payments				2703.75	

Appendix C

TOTAL INCOME FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2026				
		Bank Interest		130.00
		MUGA		365.00
		Allotment Income		
		Village Hall Income		2,679.00
		Recreation Field Income		
		Other Income		2,500.00
		Pavilion Income		
		Burial Ground		1,080.00
	Total Income			£6,754.00